Annual Business Meeting
Laramie, Wyoming
3/3/2010
Notes: Diana Sweet

Mark Smith
Opened meeting at 11:40 am. A quorum was established with 58 members present. The agenda was unanimously approved with the addition of a mentoring committee update and an online voting update.

Lori Martin (WD president elect) - "Never underestimate the power of a good laugh."
Lori gave an update about the Western Division and her desire to build strong connectivity between WD and the CO-WY chapter of AFS. The WD is currently seeking to fill openings in committees and looking for nominations for many awards that will be given out at the WD annual meeting in Salt Lake City from April 19th-23rd, 2010. Other information about the WD annual meeting is now available on the WD website. The Adaptive Management Implementation Plan is currently under review and is intended to provide information to the membership about the Biological Opinion in regards to the recovery of salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River Basin. The Governing board of WD will be discussing a resolution regarding the Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay, Alaska during their meeting in early March.

State of the Chapter
Mark reported that the state of the CO-WY AFS chapter is good. There are approximately 30 CSU student sub-unit members, 10 UW student sub-unit members, 70 CO members, and 65 WY members with a total membership of 206. The chapter has achieved financial stability. We have contributed money to the WD student colloquium and our UW and CSU scholarships are fully endowed. Mark encouraged students to attend the upcoming WD meeting and reminded students that travel grants are available through our chapter. Mark emphasized that although the state of the chapter is good, it can get better. The bylaw revisions that will be discussed during the business meeting will put the CO-WY chapter in line with the parent society; members need to capitalize on the annual meeting as an opportunity to exchange information with other professionals; chapter needs to reassess the vision for fundraising and Mark created a committee to brainstorm ideas for generating and spending money. Mark ended with a call for volunteers for the WD 2012 that the CO-WY chapter will be hosting in Jackson, WY.

Treasurer's Report
Diana presented the current treasurers report. There were no comments.

FY11 Proposed Budget
Ann presented the proposed budget for FY11. Most expenses were similar to FY10. An additional $3,000 was added to the budget to pay for upcoming WD meeting expenses. The budget must be given to the Budget Review Committee by June 1st, 2010 and approved by the committee by August 1st, 2010.

Committee Highlights
Mark presented the highlights from the Committee Chairs.

- The Arrangements committee did a great job preparing for the annual meeting this year.
- The Continuing Education committee selected a good topic with broad implications and got very good attendance.
- The Newsletter committee takes dedicated individuals and the Angler is a tribute to their hard work (Beth Bear and Paul Gerrity).

- The Environmental Policy committee drafted a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers about the Green River Pipeline and proposed bylaw and rule revisions to the Chapter.
- The Archive committee continues to strive for a more permanent and accessible system for the Chapters documents.
- The Nominating committee selected two qualified individuals for filling the post of secretary/treasurer during the next term.
- The Fundraising committee gathered $2,500 in donations for the meeting and sold a Wyoming commissioners big game tag for $4,500.
- The Website committee developed online registration for the annual meeting and, along with the Illicit stocking task force, developed the illicit stocking website.
- An additional committee was created this year, the Student Liaison committee, and it was filled with an enthusiastic individual (Michelle McGree).

Student Subunit Reports

- University of Wyoming – Sarah Laske
    - The UW subunit has a small group this year, but they have still achieved great accomplishments. They assisted the Wyoming Game and Fish Department with brown trout redd counts, they sent a representative to the WD AFS Student Colloquium at CSU, and they are sending two individuals to the Western Division meeting in Salt Lake City, UT.
- Colorado State University – Nate Cathcart
    - The Subunit hosted the WD AFS Student Colloquium which was attended by approximately 30 students, they sent three individuals to the Midwest Colloquium, they had bi-weekly meetings (~20 individuals/meeting), they are sending 3 individuals to the WD meeting, they are assisting the city with some fish sampling, and they are once again hosting their annual fishing derby.

No Unfinished Business

Announcement of new Secretary/Treasurer

Diana Sweet announced that Ryan Fitzpatrick will be the new Secretary/Treasurer for FY11.

New Business

- Proposed Rule revision
    - Ann Widmer discussed the proposed rule revision. The rule for advocacy is ambiguous, confusing, and somewhat contradictory to the bylaws of the Chapter. The proposal would make the advocacy rule a step-by-step process (see proposed changes on the website).
    - The Environmental Policy committee moved to adopt Rule 1 as published in the January 2010 edition of the Angler Newsletter and on the website. There was no discussion. Motion passed.
- Proposed Bylaw revision
    - Ann Widmer discussed the proposed bylaw revision. The revision is minor with changes to how the rule for advocacy is reverenced in the bylaws (see proposed changes on the website).
    - The Environmental Policy committee moved to adopt the bylaw revisions as published in the January 2010 edition of the Angler Newsletter and on the website. Darrel Snyder

asked if referencing a Rule in the bylaws is allowed and if changes to the bylaws have to be approved by the Parent Society. Dirk Miller responded that it is allowed and is currently being done and the bylaw changes do have to be approved by the Parent Society. After this discussion, the motion passed.

- Funding Request by the Archive Committee
    - Greg Anderson proposed $2,000 in funding to the archive committee to scan and digitize all of the Chapters records. All scanning would be done by a company in Casper, WY.
    - The Archive committee moved to approve $2,000 to be spent to scan archives. Darrel Snyder asked questions regarding future funding (were their future costs associated with this?) and Greg responded that no future costs would be necessary. Costs to get documents to and from Casper are included in the proposed amount. Dirk Miller discussed organization of the records (how will they be organized, will they be in a useable manner?) Greg responded that records would be named in a manner that was useable but he was unsure exactly how the naming process would occur. After discussion, motion passed.
- Funding Request by the Website Committee
    - Kevin Gelwicks proposed $2,000 in funding for website development. The money would be used to convert the website from an HTML format to a wordpress format. This would allow for a self contained site, easier maintenance, additional components, and individuals could manage certain portions of the website.
    - No discussion, motion passed.
- Taxes Update
    - Ann Widmer discussed the change in tax preparers and the need to instill rules within the Executive Committee on how/who does taxes.
- Scholarship Recipients
    - The CSU scholarship went to Samantha Stiffler and the UW scholarship went to Anna Senecal.
- Mentoring Committee
    - Bobby Compton gave an update on the mentoring committee since it is a new committee. He listed the goals and announced that Wayne Hubert received the 1st annual "Mentor of the Year" award. Bobby would like to establish a message board on the website to connect mentors and mentees but the mentors would need to step up and post on the website first.
- Online Voting
    - Kevin Gelwicks asked for feedback on the idea of online voting. There was concern that there was no way to verify individuals on an online voting system and people could vote more than once and the system could be corrupt. Lots of discussion about the current system and how this isn't a problem and the online system would also not be a problem. It was determined that the person collecting votes (usually the Secretary/Treasurer) could do it however they want. They bylaws actually state that voting can be done by whatever means the Chapter feels is appropriate.

Meeting Adjourned