



Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

1-11-2022

Executive Board Members

President - Doug Saint-Denis - Present

Vice President - Bob Kratzer - Present

Secretary - Ryan Gausman - Present

Treasurer - Jon Blank - Present

Member at Large A - Marc Bush - Present

Advisory Member - Greg Kain - Present

Advisory Member - Cameron Black – Present

Advisory Member - Camrin Johnson – Present

Advisory Member - Eric Linde – Present

Advisory Member - Mark Coleman – Present

Advisory Member - Cary Hoffman – Present

Members present: Ravae O’leary, Erik Brigham, Bill Meyer

Meeting opened 1736 hrs

Treasurer Report: Checking \$7384.29 PayPal \$2344.56

Old Business: none

2021 Activity:

The Executive Board met each month in 2021.

2021 Accomplishments

- Six eboard members are also members of the WDFW Guide Advisory Committee, which WSGA was instrumental in the organization and approval of the WDFW guides Advisory Committee.

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- Part of Steelhead working group consisting of 6 other major groups in an attempt to address this coastal steelheading with WDFW. Managed to get a legislative hearing in January 2021, as well as a budget proviso for WDFW.
- WSGA attended numerous coastal steelhead group meetings as well as all WDFW town halls for this issue.
- WSGA was instrumental in getting WDFW to create an ad-hoc Coastal Steelhead Advisory Group.
- WSGA has been invited and attended all three 2021 Recreational Fishing Stakeholder Meetings with WDFW.
- WSGA Board members attending multiple North of Falcon meetings for 2021.
- Members of the executive board have consistently communicated with legislators and senators on fishing issues which affect sport anglers and ultimately our industry.
- WSGA has started the process to create a stewardship plan. This is currently in the works and should be completed by first quarter of 2022.
- WSGA has been discussing the change in party fishing on rivers, which is legal on salt water. We thought we were making progress on this issue, but it looks like it won't happen.
- Worked on CARES act funding to get fishing guides included in the second round of funding, which had been excluded in the first round of funding. We attended multiple meetings and pushed for this, but in the way the federal language was written, we were unsuccessful.
- WSGA board members met with the region 3 enforcement, fish program biologists, and lands manager from WDFW to discuss some of the questions and issues in the Yakima River area. It was productive and more communication will occur.
- Presented Guides Mike Salazar and Phil Stephens with posthumous lifetime memberships.
- Presented Donny Glazer with posthumous lifetime sport angler membership.
- Donated \$1,000.00 to Hatchery Wild Coexist.

Marc Bush: Asked if there was any resolution reached regarding launching at state parks. Doug replied that there was an effort to clarify this started but it got sidetracked. Doug will look into continuing it

Coastal Steelhead Update: Bob Kratzer

Things haven't gone the way we hoped they would. We are still working on it, currently waiting for the coastal steelhead ad hoc committee to meet. So far this year our steelhead run looks strong.

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Stewardship Plan:

Cary Hoffman and Doug are working on a stewardship plan and are hopeful it will be done before summer. This will allow the guide association to give back to the resource. We hope to be finished before summer. We are looking at planning some events, work party type settings, which will open up some opportunities to apply for some grants to assist. We want to be finding ways to be giving back to the resource, to contribute to rebuilding fish runs. The activities will be promoted through social media.

An example is the Lewis Street boat launch in Monroe on the Skykomish River. It was a mess, eroded and difficult to use. WSGA member Matthew Kennedy got involved and has done a lot of work to repair it and make it useable again.

Sponsorship Plan:

Bob Kratzer has been working on a joint effort with Addicted Fishing and with Fish Hunt Northwest. These organizations are interested in partnering with us on some cooperative efforts. They would promote WSGA on their programs and we would do the same on our media. Bob is asking for input from the board regarding continuing to move forward with this. Addicted Fishing is going to start featuring more local fishing content. They will also focus more on local fishing political issues.

Marc Bush likes the idea, said continue working on it., Ryan Gausman supports the idea, Eric Linde supports it, Camrin Johnson and Cameron Black agree.

Doug moved that we move forward with these efforts, Marc Bush seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

E Board Elections:

Subsequent to 2 years of service on the board position, each even year, Vice-President, Treasurer, Advisory Member 1, Advisory Member 3, Advisory Member 5 will be nominated by membership during the Annual General Membership Meeting.

Those positions are as follows;

Vice President – Robert Kratzer

Treasurer – Jon Blank

Advisory Member 1 – Greg Kain

Advisory Member 3 – Cary Hoffman

Advisory Member 5 – Eric Linde

Per SECTION 2 of our By-Laws. NUMBER AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

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Eligibility for nomination to the Executive Board requires 1.) the nominee be a current professional member in good standing at the time of nomination and 2.) have maintained a continuous 2 years active membership without lapse in standing. 3.) an endorsement by at least one current Board member. If all three requirements are met, the member shall be eligible for nomination and election to the Executive Board.

A qualification exception may occur if there is a member in good standing who has less than 2 years active membership. The Board must approve the qualification exception prior to nomination. The member seeking the qualification exception must submit the request in writing to all current Board members no less than 5 days from the date of opening nominations. The Board must be in quorum to discuss and vote on the qualification exception no less than 1 day prior to the date of opening nominations for the Board position(s) on the ballot.

Nomination for all elected Directors shall be opened from the floor of the Annual General Membership Meeting. Nominations may be submitted verbally from the floor of the Annual General Meeting or be emailed to the Secretary of the Board within 5 days of opening nominations. Nominations may also be made during the calendar year for special elections. Special elections occur in the event a director resigns or is unable to continue as a board member or the Executive Board is increased in number. A nominee receiving a majority of the number of votes for that office shall be declared elected.

A member in good standing may vote in person or, vote by mail, or by electronic transmission. Nominations for positions will be open for 5 days and will close at midnight on day 5. Voting for elections shall be completed within 15 days after nominations are finalized.

So with that said, We will accept nominees today at this meeting and the nominations will be open until January 16th at Midnight. If you are emailing the nomination, it needs to be submitted to the secretary Ryan Gausman.

The floor is open to nominations.

All current officers who are up for reelection announced that they are planning to run for reelection

There were no nominations at this meeting.

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Note: As of 01-17-2022 there were no additional nominations for candidates for the open board positions. The current board members in those positions will continue to hold their position for another term.

Member Input For 2022 Priorities:

Marc Bush: Increase legislative efforts and increase involvement with the commission. Marc has been having conversations with legislator Andrew Barkis.

Erik Brigham: Continue our efforts related to lower Columbia guide fishing with a guide license in addition to charter licenses.

Cary Hoffman: We need to be at the North of Falcon process. Even the City of Forks sends a representative.

Bob Kratzer: The guide advisory committee put together a list of important meetings for 2022 where we should have a representative in attendance. We need to make a priority of these.

Continue working with Cameron Black to start a Columbia River Regional Chapter of guides who are in that region. Additionally, we should explore the possibility of setting up other regional chapters around the state who can focus on local issues and priorities and report to the main WSGA board regarding their efforts, issues, and needs.

Greg Kain: Stay in conversations with WDFW regarding party fishing and brood stocking programs. We need to get these going somewhere.

Mark Coleman: Focus on attracting and securing corporate sponsors for WSGA. Currently they want to know what we would do with larger contributions. We need to develop a presentation for them and address these questions. We have discussed retaining a lobbyist, there are currently potential lobbyists available.

Bob Kratzer: Knows of potentially available lobbyists, the current CCA lobbyist may become available. Bob has some leads to contact to obtain more information.

Greg Kain: Knows of some fishing lobbyists who may be available to add us in a shared cost type of situation. We need a handout with information for potential corporate sponsors to introduce them to us, our mission, our plans, and how they can become involved.

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Doug St Denis: Will work on ideas for a sponsor handout. Focus will be on upper end elite sponsors.

Mark Coleman: We need to develop our definition of the “benefits” our sponsors will receive in return for their donations.

For The Good Of The Order:

Bob Kratzer: Senators Sullivan and Van De Wege are putting heavy pressure on the governor’s office regarding incompetence and mismanagement by the commission, WDFW, and the governor’s office itself. Bob is the current candidate for a commission position who has been submitted to the governor by the senate. The governor has failed to respond regarding commission appointments during the past year.

Meeting Adjourned 1843 hrs

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