



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

05-16-2022

Meeting called to order 1733 hrs

Present: Doug St Denis, Ryan Gausman, Marc Bush, Cary Hoffman, Bob Kratzer, Eric Linde, Mark Coleman, Camrin Johnson

Sponsor Items: Greg spent some money up front for photos , we need to reimburse him for that. Doug moved to reimburse Greg. Ryan seconded Doug’s motion, passed unanimously

Treasurer Report: \$9334.36 Bank \$1754.41 PayPal

April Minutes: Doug moved to approve, Bob seconded, Passed

Old Business: Our zoom account has been renewed

Stakeholder meetings. Last meeting we discussed trying to find a common theme or goal, that all stakeholders in our state could agree upon that we could present to WDFW.

This is still in the works. Mark asked if TU should be on our list for this. The consensus of the discussion was that, based upon the positions TU has taken in the past relative to our core goals, no they should not be included in our efforts. Cary suggested that we include Amy Grondin, President of the WA State Trollers Association, and she is also involved in “Save our wild salmon”.

Coastal Steelhead Advisory Board: Bob said that, at the last meeting, it was asked that each participant come up with 2 things they would like to see come from this effort. Monitoring and Regulations were the most common items. There was a “homework” assignment asking each to pick a river system and develop proposed regulations for that system. Bob added that there are groups trying to initiate a limited entry permit system. He said it seems as if the plan is already written by WDFW and they are using this as a process to maybe just check off the boxes and say they got user group input. There is a lot of contention among members of the Advisory Group due to different approaches to developing solutions. The next meeting is 06-16 1600-1900 hrs, if anyone is available to “tune’ in.

Yakima River Access: Camrin Johnson, Ryan Gausman Camrin recently heard back from the Wallace family who are the developers of the Bristol Flats property where the access has been closed. Initially the family indicated they would work with our guides to develop an access plan. There has been no progress whatsoever to date and , recently, Camrin received a text from Kevin Wallace in which he said this issue is not a priority for them. Ryan spoke briefly in person to

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WA State Guides Association

Representing WA State Sport Fishing Guides & Charters

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Kittitas County Commissioner, Laura Osiadacz, about the issue and sent her a follow-up email explaining the scope of the guiding industry impact to Kittitas County economy. Tourism is the largest industry in the county and this is hitting the economy hard. He has received no response from her. Camrin plans to speak to Commissioner Cory Wright at the suggestion of Bryan Elliott, county co-chair for the republican party. Elliott said he has spoken to Laura and learned she isn't interested in pursuing anything on this issue. Cory is the chairman of the recreation and tourism committee for the county, hopefully he will be more attentive to the access problem. Ryan was on a Yakima River Access Committee for the county in 2018 which was sponsored by the county commissioners. They seem to have forgotten that river access is critical to our tourism. Meanwhile, upper river fishing traffic has shifted to the already overcrowded lower canyon.

Limited Entry: Recently the concept of limited entry for guiding has come up in several contexts. The non-guide member of the state guides' advisory board has tried to bring it up as well as other people. The WSGA board had a long and detailed discussion at this meeting regarding the pros and cons of initiating such a system. We need to understand what our position is going to be on the issue and why we believe what we believe. It appears that this will be an ongoing subject in our state, we will communicate an official position and opinion in the future.

Meeting adjourned 1729 hrs.

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