



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

09-19-2022

Call to order 1733 hrs

Present: Doug St Denis, Ryan Gausman, Bob Kratzer, Greg Kain, Cameron Black, Eric Linde

Treasurer Report, Doug St Denis for Jon Blank: \$8866.88 Checking \$1826.30 PayPal

August Minutes: Passed Unanimously

Cary is unable to attend because of a boat problem, excused.

Old Business: Yakima River, Kittitas County Commissioners have joined the conversation about adding river access in the county. This will be a long-term process but it's good news that they listened to our emails and got on board. They have been working with the Sheriff's boat unit too. Ryan had a good conversation with Commissioner Cory Wright about the Yakima River guiding industry and its impact on the tourism dollars in the county.

Doug has received documents from hatchery studies in Canada and Idaho and is drafting a letter to the commission and WDFW as well

Coastal Steelhead Ad Hoc Committee Update, Bob Kratzer: Meeting last week, the hatchery discussion appears to be completed. The current discussion is about habitat and economic issues. The want to scale back hatcheries. Socio-economic issues are critical to this discussion but so far, the group does not seem interested in the subject. A plan will eventually be sent to the legislators for review and approval. Those folks are very dependent upon satisfying the constituents in their region, economics is a really big deal to them because the local economies depend on the tourist dollars generated by the fishing industry and hatchery fish are part of that equation. The predominant opinion of the folks on the committee is that economics and local issues should be ignored in favor of saving the wild fish. So far the co-managers, tribes, have not been involved in any of the discussion nor have they been made aware of the opinions of the committee. The opinions proposed by members of the committee will seriously restrict co-manager harvest of steelhead. This will be an issue when the plan is submitted and must go through the channels of approval.

January Elections: Several positions are up for election in January including President, Secretary, a Member at Large, and Advisory Members. An email will come out with more details. Anybody interested in being on the eboard, or who knows someone who would be great on the eboard should let us know.

The candidate requirements are detailed in the by-laws. Anyone who needs more information is welcome to contact the eboard for more explanation.

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FGOTO: Bob. The Dept wants to do some test fishing with some guides from Dec 1 to March 31. This will be on the coast, around once a week. This is a chance to put a person in the boat and help them understand the fishery.

The open commission position is still there. Kevin Van De Wege met with the governor’s office who asked if Bob Kratzer is still interested in that position.

Greg: Asked where we are in the process of reorganizing to allow donors to write off their donations as charitable contributions. Doug advised it’s in process, not completed

Eric: Asked if the Hatchery Wild coalition is involved with the Ad Hoc Steelhead Committee. Bob advised there have been conversations with them about what is happening. Bob and Cameron are on the board of Hatchery Wild so there is definite information exchange.

Doug: Doug has started a pod cast about fishing in Washington and fishing in general. If anybody is interested in appearing on it to discuss your favorite fishing subject let him know.

Meeting adjourned: 1823

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