

waguidesassociation.org

Eboard Meeting Minutes June 09, 2025

Executive Board Members

President - Doug Saint-Denis - Present Vice President - Bob Kratzer - Present Secretary - Patric Gaffney - Present Treasurer - Jon Blank - Present

Member at Large A - Marc Bush - Present

Advisory Member - Greg Kain - Absent

Advisory Member – Brandon Wedam – Present

Advisory Member - Camrin Johnson - Excused

Advisory Member - Eric Linde - Present

Advisory Member - Mark Coleman - Present

Advisory Member - Cary Hoffman - Present

Key Takeaways

- The Guide Advisory Committee is being eliminated by WDFW, raising concerns about future communication and input from guides
- Monitoring funding for steelhead fisheries like the Skagit is a critical issue that may impact future seasons
- The association is working on several letters/initiatives to address concerns with fishery management and regulations

Agenda

Meeting Start: 5:34

Old Business - None

Treasurer Report - Jon Blank

Checking we have \$27,926.60. PayPal, have \$5,503.91 and \$17 in savings

Legislature Day of Fishing Event – Matt Little – Policy Director for Ducks Unlimited.

- Scheduled for September 4th out of Ridgefield
- Seeking ~15 guide boats to take legislators fishing
- Goal is to educate legislators on economic impacts of fisheries

President Doug Saint-Denis waguidesassociation@gmail.com

> Advisory Member 1 Greg Kain greg.kain@me.com

Vice President Robert Kratzer anglers guides er vice @gmail.com

> Advisory Member 2 Brandon Wedam bnrtackle@gmail.com

Secretary Patric Gaffney pgaffney253@gmail.com

Advisory Member 3 Cary Hoffman cnhguideservice@gmail.com

Treasurer Jon Blank jonsnwoutdoors@gmail.com

Advisory Member 4 Mark Coleman mark@allwashingtonfishing.com

Member At Large A Marc Bush twistedwaters@gmail.com

Advisory Member 5 Eric Linde eplinde@comcast.net

Advisory Member 6 Camrin Johnson johnson.camrin@yahoo.com - WSGA will send email to members seeking volunteers

Guide Advisory Committee Elimination – Doug

- WDFW eliminating committee as part of budget cuts
- Major concern about loss of formal communication channel for guides
- WSGA drafting letter to WDFW opposing elimination
- Will send to director, commissioners, legislators

Drano Lake Fishery Issues - Robert

- Ongoing conflicts between bank/boat anglers
- WDFW seeking input on potential regulation changes
- Discussing moving bank anglers to outside of lake
- WSGA drafting letter with recommendations

Steelhead Fishery Monitoring Funding

- Lack of monitoring funds threatens fisheries like Skagit
- Discussing potential legislative solutions like dedicated stamp
- Cary meeting with legislator to discuss funding options

North of Falcon Planning for 2026

- Need to select WSGA title for Cary Hoffman for next year
- Discussing potential compensation for Cary's time
- Dates likely similar to this year, with addition of PFMC1 meeting

Next Steps

- Send email to members about Legislature Day of Fishing volunteers
- Finalize and send letter opposing Guide Advisory Committee elimination
- Draft letters on Drano Lake recommendations and monitoring funding
- Discuss compensation options for North of Falcon representative
- Follow up with Three Rivers Marine on potential sponsorship