



Eboard Meeting Minutes

August 18th, 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

Meeting Begin: 5:30pm

Monthly meeting of the Washington State Guides Association to discuss ongoing initiatives and updates.

Key Takeaways

- WSGA to draft letter supporting Kelly Susswind's position as WDFW director
- Skagit River fishery initiative progressing; \$341,126 needed for biological opinion
- New Fish & Wildlife Commission chair appointed: Jim Anderson
- Charter stamps temporarily out of stock; Doug to follow up with Kelly Cunningham

Topics

Support for WDFW Director Kelly Susswind

- WSGA to draft letter supporting Susewind against removal attempts
- Consensus reached on supporting Susewind due to established relationship and communication

Skagit River Fishery Initiative

- Updated cost estimate: \$341,126 for biological opinion through NOAA
- Targeting Spring 2026 opening; fundraising and swift action needed

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Advisory Member 6
Camrin Johnson
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- Caution advised in collaborations with groups like CCA, NMTA, and Fish Northwest due to strained relationships with WDFW

Legislative Outreach

- "Take Your Legislator Fishing" event on August 22nd with 14 representatives
- Cary to connect with Jay Belazbas (NMTA lobbyist) during the event
- Mark Coleman arranging fishing trip with District 19 legislators in late September/early October

Washington Anglers Coalition

- LLC formation in progress; Tim Klontz overseeing legal aspects
- Board of directors being established (Cary, Joey Pyburn, Tim Klontz, Brandon Wedam confirmed)

Fish & Wildlife Commission Update

- Jim Anderson appointed as new commission chair
- Sportsman's Alliance pushing against alleged collusion by Barbara Baker

Enforcement of Guide Logbooks

- Increased checks reported on the Cowlitz River

Charter Stamp Shortage

- Doug to follow up with Kelly Cunningham about temporary stock outage

Next Steps

- Doug to draft and send letter supporting Kelly Susewind tomorrow
- Cary to follow up with Kelly Cunningham on deadline for Skagit River fishery funding
- Cary to arrange photographer for "Take Your Legislator Fishing" event
- Cary to send follow-up email after August 22nd legislative fishing event
- Doug to investigate charter stamp shortage and update board
- Doug to email financial report to board members tomorrow

Meeting End: 6:03 pm