



**Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
2-11-2020**

**Executive Board Members and Advisors**

President - Doug Saint-Denis - Present  
Vice President - Bob Kratzer - Present  
Secretary - Ryan Gausman - Excused  
Treasurer - Jim Stahl - Excused  
Member at Large A - Marc Bush - Present

Advisory Member - Greg Kain - Present  
Advisory Member - Cameron Black - Present

Meeting began at 1730 hrs

-Members had attended North of Falcon on 02-10 and there was some discussion about that

-Doug presented the treasurers report since Jim Stahl was not able to be a part of the meeting  
There are currently 28 paid members compared to 55 at the end of the year  
Current business members include Silver Horde and Charter Lakes Insurance

We need a new treasurer, suggested we put a notification out to the membership asking for nominations, put a 7 day time limit on it. Then voting opportunities will be sent out with a 15 day limit.  
John Blank is interested in the position, he's well qualified, it's expected he will nominate himself

-There was discussion about advisory positions

There was also discussion regarding whether to keep the board at 9 members or to increase it to 11 members which would allow the addition of more advisory members

Voting status of advisory members was also discussed, the by laws don't clarify voting status currently.

Minimum required meetings to be attended by members to remain eligible to vote was another issue discussed, suggestions were made and a consensus of 8 meetings per year was agreed upon

There was discussion regarding making by law changes to reflect a change in the number of members on the board, voting status of advisory members, and necessary number of meetings to be attended per year.

Several candidates have been identified for advisory positions. Further nominations need to be solicited from the membership and then an election needs to be held.

President Doug Saint-Denis 425.478.9133 waguidesassociation@gmail.com	Vice President Robert Kratzer 360.271.7197 anglersguideservice@gmail.com	Secretary Ryan Gausman 509.607.6962 ironspuroutdoors@gmail.com	Treasurer Jim Stahl 425.344.8716 jim@nwfishingguides.net	Member At Large A Marc Bush 253.468.0610 twistedwaters@gmail.com
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-There was discussion regarding communicating the business and actions of the Board and the Association to the membership. It was suggested that Doug email meeting minutes to the membership. Another suggestion was that monthly meeting minutes be published on the web-site or send it to the Facebook group. This was to serve two purposes, to keep the members informed, and to let those who are considering joining know that we are actually doing good things and that we really are acting as the voice of the guiding industry in our state. There seems to be a question now of what we actually do and why should they join.

There was discussion regarding the pros and cons of only telling members what we are doing vs telling everybody who is interested. Only members can vote or provide input on the issues. Overall we need to increase membership numbers to have a higher percentage of guides involved.

-This led to discussion about having meetings with guides in several areas around the state in an effort to reach out, inform them about the Association, and recruit more membership. Doug suggested two meetings, one in Ellensburg and one in Tri Cities on Saturday, March 7. Sportsman's Warehouse in Kennewick is available, Doug will contact Raquel Crosier regarding using the WDFW office in Ellensburg. Ellensburg guides have requested a "neutral" place for the meeting. If that isn't available, Ryan will work on finding a location.

-The to-do list from the January membership meeting was discussed, Doug has a copy of that list and we will begin addressing the issues identified there.

We need to begin developing proposals on these issues to submit to members for final approval then to be sent the WDFW in an effort to start working on implementation of the needed changes.

-Doug and Bob were invited to meet with Jeff Davis regarding the WDFW 25 year plan. They shared some of the proposals and suggestions developed at our January general membership meeting and received a positive response from Davis and others regarding these suggestions.

-There was discussion regarding Vision, Mission, Core Values, and Ethics for WSGA. It was decided to table the discussion on these issues until an upcoming meeting.

-Under the title of "Good of the Order" the following conversations occurred

Bob requested that any board members who attend functions or meetings related to what we do please communicate the details of those meetings back to the rest of us so we are aware of everything that is happening out there.

Bob suggested we consider Cameron's "Coexist" program as something our association may want to get behind and become a part of, possibly donating to them. He suggested that we have Cameron provide more information about it at an upcoming meeting.

Bob suggested we define what we want to have as a policy for bringing in members from other similar organizations.

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Doug sent out a list of North of Falcon meeting dates and locations, suggested that any of us who is available to attend them please do so and report back.

Ryan discussed an email that was sent to our association from Steve Worley of Worley Bugger fly shop and guide service in Ellensburg. Steve said he was working hard with Kittitas County commissioners, as part of his position on the county recreation and public lands board, to find a way to put an "Outfitter System" in place on the Yakima River and other rivers in Kittitas County. This system would assign guiding rights only to designated outfitters who would then hire guides and control guide activity on the rivers. It would eliminate independent guides and "non designated outfitters" from guiding on the rivers unless they were working under a "designated" outfitter. Worley mentioned they were working with the "agency" on this but the agency has not been identified at this point. Ryan will have more discussions with Worley to clarify what the intent and status of this effort is.

Marc said the Cowlitz River Advisory Board is looking for members, he's considering getting involved with this

Greg discussed negotiating when asked to give something up. Examples offered were in cases like where WDFW wants to limit salmon numbers of fishing days negotiate for something in return such as party fishing opportunities or other options that would offset the loss to us.

Greg discussed the ESA list of fish in Washington saying that nobody has revisited the list for a long time and maybe it's time to take another look at it because a lot has changed in policy, management, and environment since the list was established. It's possible the list should be revised to reflect changes that have occurred.

Greg discussed a meeting which occurred in Tillamook, Justin Crump is attempting to start a guides association there and invited a representative from the Forks Association to give a presentation.

Doug asked Marc to send an email updating the status of the fish with a legislator project. Doug added that he is looking into the cost of some pop up canopies or other equipment with our logo on it that could be used for events. Doug also said he has media contacts that he will reach out to regarding events like this one.

Doug discussed getting involved in other local events as an association, take pictures or shoot video if you do.

Doug said he's working on adding a "donor" button to our website to allow donations to be accepted.

-The meeting was adjourned at 1904 hrs.

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Member At Large A
Doug Saint-Denis	Robert Kratzer	Ryan Gausman	Jim Stahl	Marc Bush
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