



Executive Board Meeting Minutes 3-2-2020

Executive Board Members and Advisors

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

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

Call meeting to order 5:33pm

Recognize members who are in on the call. Randy Lato, Aaron O'Leary, Caine Brand,

Increase the Executive Board Discussion

Doug said currently we are allowed by our bylaws to have 9 members on the board. If we want to add additional advisors the bylaws will have to be changed to allow 11.

The question was asked, "If we change the advisory members to voting status and add additional advisors do we just absorb the current advisory members or do they have to be elected by the membership like the rest of the board?" The general consensus of the board was that they should be elected by the membership.

Doug moved to amend the bylaws to allow up to 11 E-board members. Seconded by Ryan, the motion passed unanimously.

Amend By-laws for Mandatory Meetings

Doug moved to draft language requiring e-board members to attend at least 8 meetings annually. Marc seconded; the motion passed unanimously. There was additional discussion regarding excused absences in the case that the president or vice president was notified of the absence in advance.

New Mission & Vision

Doug had previously sent out proposed Mission, Vision, and Core Value statements for WSGA. There was discussion and some minor changes were proposed to the wording, the statements were approved for addition to the website.

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
--	---	---	---	---



**New
Mission**

WSGA is the voice of the sport fishing guide and charter industry in Washington State. Fishing Guides provide access to public resources for the general public. Through integrity and professionalism, we strive to help WDFW improve and maintain healthy sport-fisheries for all anglers.

“We recognize necessary restrictions that promote conservation, stewardship and sustainable use of our fisheries. It is also important we are not regulated out of our workplace and fisheries now and in the future.”

Vision

Have a positive working relationship with WDFW, legislation and fellow anglers in an effort to see a strong and stable sport fishing guide and charter industry and abundant fish populations for all to enjoy, both today and in the future.

“We represent the professional guiding and charter operator industry in Washington State, to ensure we are represented at the State level to achieve our vision.”

WSGA Core Values

Professionalism – competency and maintaining the highest standards in our engagements with membership, the public and government

Integrity – adherence to moral and ethical principles

Passion – we eat, sleep and breathe our livelihood

Anglers – anglers are the heart and soul of sport fishing

Eastside Meetings

There will be eastside meetings this Saturday, March 7, in Kennewick at 0900 hrs and in Ellensburg at 1400. The goal is to introduce WSGA to local guides and to provide an opportunity for them to join. There was discussion that the Ellensburg meeting time may not work out for quite a few of the are guides and it may be a good idea to schedule another meeting at a later date on a different day and time.

For the Good of the Order

Doug discussed an email from Puget Sound Anglers describing a legislatively proposed new oversight group to become involved hatchery policy. Doug also contacted WDFW for additional clarification regarding the proposal. We will determine our involvement and position on this upon clarification of the proposal.

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
--	---	---	---	---



Doug stated that we need to increase membership. He requested that the WSGA facebook posts be shared to spread the information.

Bob suggested that all members solicit client and businesses to purchase Angler sponsorships to support WSGA. These would be non-voting but supporting members would receive quarterly. Doug will create a form that will be on the website and also emailed to members to provide to clients to use for signing up these supporting members.

Doug and Bob were asked to meet with most of the heads of WDFW fisheries to discuss the meeting topics which came out of our January general membership meeting in Puyallup. WDFW is interested in considering their adoption. Greg suggested we ask for concessions in return for giving up ground on some of these issues.

Greg suggested the state should adopt professional standards for guides. Additional discussion on this issue suggested that it's a good subject to send to the guides advisory committee to the commission. Doug stated that he believed WSGA should announce that we support creation of professional standards for guides.

Greg discussed the Chehalis basin closures and that in cases like this it would be good if there were creative options to address the problems that still allowed some fishing for guides and anglers. He described an example of Idaho's response to shortages of returns by limiting fishing days and hours but still offering opportunity while addressing the problem

Ryan discussed an email from Steve Worley, owner of Worley Bugger Fly Shop in Ellensburg. Worley suggested that Kittitas County should adopt an outfitter system for guided fishing in the county in which only Outfitters would be able to schedule fishing on the rivers and guides would have to work for an outfitter. In a followup discussion Worley stated that, in his opinion, the Yakima river and other county outdoor resources are over used by multiple user groups and he feels limiting the number of flyfishing trips would be an answer to help. He has no plan to address the rafting, tubing, public angling groups which contribute greatly to the amount of river use. There are no statistics or studies to determine what a reasonable usage level would be or to determine how much use there currently is on the Yakima. The board is not taking any action on this information at this time.

Marc suggested it would be good to hear more from WDFW and Kelly Cunningham regarding information they need. He hasn't heard anything for quite a while. Doug will address it with WDFW.

Close Meeting – 6:27pm

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
--	---	---	---	---