



**Executive Board Meeting Minutes**  
**11-9-2020**

**Executive Board Members**

- President - Doug Saint-Denis - Present
- Vice President - Bob Kratzer - Present
- Secretary - Ryan Gausman - Present
- Treasurer – Randy Lato - Present
- Member at Large A - Marc Bush - Excused
- Advisory Member - Greg Kain - Present
- Advisory Member - Cameron Black – Present
- Advisory Member – Camrin Johnson – Present
- Advisory Member – Eric Linde – Present
- Advisory Member – Mark Coleman – Present
- Advisory Member – Cary Hoffman – Present

**Meeting begin:** 5:35pm

**Old Business:**

**Treasurer Report:** (Randy Lato) \$783.19 Pay Pal, \$2848.55 Bank \$3631.84 Total

**Membership Report:** (Doug) Currently 42 members total, 2 new members this month

**Annual membership meeting** - O’Laughlin believes they will have a trade show in Puyallup in 2021. Based upon the current situation there is some question whether that will actually happen. The question was raised, based on the way things appear at this time, should we just begin planning to do a virtual meeting instead of an in-person meeting to allow us to communicate the information early enough to get the message out to all members.

Mark Coleman reported that, according to what he is hearing, many vendors and others are not planning to attend so it may be a small, poorly attended show. It was decided to schedule an online virtual meeting on a day, other than during the show dates, during an evening when it is most convenient for the most members to be available. Board positions coming up for reelection in 2022 will be communicated at the 2021 meeting to allow members who are interested in being on the board time to prepare for the voting. More information will follow...

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Vice President  
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**Guide Advisory Update:** (GAC E-board Members) Code of Conduct, Developing Professional Standards (Survey for membership), Logbook reports, Logbook enforcement.

Logbooks: According to WDFW reports only 41% of licensed guides provided logbook information in 2020. WDFW plans to begin logbook enforcement in 2021.

Creel surveys do not substitute for logbook entries, there was some misinformation going around about that. The Yakima river data appears to be combined with the Columbia River system data. It was suggested that, due to the high volume of guiding activity on the Yakima River, it would make sense to report its stats separately. Doug will discuss this possibility with WDFW.

The idea of limiting annual retention of salmon was brought up with WDFW. The purpose would be to limit salmon take and to extend the fishing season. WDFW has expressed resistance to the idea stating the concept of Foregone Opportunity as the reason. This is related to the practice of making fish not harvested as per the quota by sport fishing available for tribal harvest instead. WDFW states there is no conservation benefit, so they don't favor instituting a policy of harvest retention as a result.

**Code of Conduct/Professional Standards...**

The WDFW guides advisory committee is discussing the development of a code of conduct and professional standards for WA State Guides. At this point it's all still in the discussion stage. Doug suggested our association should consider what input we would like to add to this process.

The code of conduct would essentially be a guideline with no enforcement provision  
As for professional standards, there would be a professional standards board created to oversee matters related to the standards and there would enforcement provisions.

This would provide an enforcement mechanism allowing a process to review complaints regarding unethical, unprofessional, or illegal behavior by guides. Violations defined as significant may result in sanctions or punishment options. The professional standards board would be tasked with handling this process. Doug prepared a survey to be sent out to our WSGA membership to gather input regarding how our guide community feels about these subjects. The survey was reviewed by board members and approved for distribution to the membership. Doug will send it out and the results will be discussed when they are received.

The WDFW Guides Advisory Committee has also at least mentioned the idea of possible random drug testing for all Washington State guides, not just those who require federal USCG Captains Licenses.

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**Membership Committee Updates – (Bob, Greg, Eric) – Flyers, Sponsors, Sport anglers?**

We still need more members in order to provide an accurate representation of the opinions of the overall professional guides community in Washington.

WSGA promotional flyers were sent out this week. They contain information useful in educating prospective members about the benefits of joining WSGA.

We currently have some business or angler supporting members. We could use more of these to help support the association. They will be featured as the featured business of the month in our newsletter. The annual fee for a business support member is \$100, which is very inexpensive advertising. They are featured on our website and in our literature. If a business should decide to offer a discount for WSGA members we would promote them for that as well. It seems likely that there are many more businesses out there who would be interested in this, we need to offer it to those with whom we deal.

**For the Good of the Order –**

Camrin will speak to Steve Joyce at Reds regarding his views on random drug testing for all licensed guides.

Mark Coleman held a membership recruitment get together and meal for the Grays Harbor guides. There was a good turnout and the response from the attendees was promising. He is waiting to see how many new members we receive as a result. If others in other areas are interested in doing something similar contact Mark or Doug for information and recommendations.

Cary Hoffman discussed information he received regarding the Chehalis tribe proposing a permit system for guides who fish on the Chehalis river within their tribal boundaries. This is still an ongoing discussion with more information to follow.

**Meeting End: 1828 hrs**

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