



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

4-12-2021

Executive Board Members

President - Doug Saint-Denis - Present

Vice President - Bob Kratzer - Present

Secretary - Ryan Gausman - Present

Treasurer - Jon Blank - Present

Member at Large A - Marc Bush - Present

Advisory Member - Greg Kain - Present

Advisory Member - Cameron Black – Absent

Advisory Member - Camrin Johnson – Present

Advisory Member - Eric Linde – Present

Advisory Member - Mark Coleman – Excused

Advisory Member - Cary Hoffman – Present

Call Meeting to Order: 1734 hours

Old Business: None

Member Report: Doug Saint-Denis No changes since the last meeting

Treasurer’s Report: Jon Blank Checking \$5761.23 Pay Pal \$2027.72

Website Hosting: Doug has been including the WSGA website in his personal hosting plan. His sites are becoming overloaded due to bandwidth requirements so he needs to change something. The suggestion is to set up the WSGA website as a stand-alone site with its own hosting and plan. We are currently with Go Daddy and that seems to be the best option, we will need a WordPress 5 year plan for the best service for the price. A deluxe plan makes the most sense and will cost in the range of \$9.99 per month, \$599.00 for 5 years. We

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will also need a firewall to prevent hacking and malware which can bring down our whole site. The price of the firewall is likely in the range of \$7-10 per month, Doug will confirm that number. Go Daddy provides some advantages over other webhosting companies in the form of redundant servers and prepaid SSC. Their price is competitive as well.

A decision on this issue will be brought up for a vote at the next board meeting.

Bylaw Amendment:

Doug recently sent out a proposed version of the bylaw amendment which has been under discussion for a few months. The amendment is to further define the requirements for prospective e board members for WSGA.

Discussion occurred with the agreed upon requirements that a candidate must have 2 years continuous membership in WSGA, be recommended by a current board member, and be a member in good standing at the time of their nomination. In the event that an exception to this rule is necessary, a candidate may run for election to the board with less than 2 years of membership if approved by a vote of the board.

Doug will clarify and finalize the language to be included in the bylaw for this subject and submit it for a vote.

Corporate or Business Sponsor Membership Plan Status:

Greg Kain: He and Cary are still working on the details. At this point it appears that the levels of membership would have cutoffs at \$5000 or above, \$3000, \$2000, and then some sort of supporting sponsor option for organizations which choose to donate some other amount.

They are also working on a presentation to potential sponsors to help them understand WSGA and why we are a good organization for them to add to their donor list.

They are also proposing a Lifetime Sport Angler membership level of \$1000

Another option will be to offer a conservation or project sponsorship option which would allow donors to contribute to a specific project or a specific need. These would be offered when projects come along.

The subject of what to do for recognition of sponsors was also discussed. Should we have an area on our website where we list their names and logos, should we provide them with a plaque recognizing their

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contribution and partnership with WSGA, should we publicly thank them and recognize them on our social media? These questions will be resolved as the plan is further developed.

Doug suggested that any board members or others with ideas or suggestions for deliverables or “swag” send them to Greg.

Camrin Johnson: Suggested that corporate sponsors would be interested in the public relations benefits of partnering with us. They need to know how we are contributing to their industry, how what we are doing will benefit their industry and their customers. They want their customers to feel that they are contributing to causes that have a positive impact on them or their interests.

Jon Blank: Suggested that some guides may want to offer discounts to sponsor businesses for corporate guide trips. It would benefit the donor companies and the guides as well.

Messaging and Communications:

Doug posed the question, “Are members reading the emails and newsletters”?

Bob Kratzer recently had a conversation with a former member who asked him what does WSGA do and what are they involved with.

Doug currently sends the monthly meeting minutes to all members as an attachment to an email. He also publishes selected items on the facebook page. This meeting was advertised as an all-member meeting but only one non-board member attended. There is also a periodic newsletter sent out to members summarizing our activities.

The question was posed, “what can we do to communicate better with our members? Are people not reading because they don’t see it or are they too busy or not interested in knowing the details of what we are doing?”

Camrin Johnson suggested people these days read social media more than emails or newsletters and that maybe if we have information to pass along it should be headlined on our facebook page.

It was also suggested that maybe the meeting minutes should be included in the body of the email rather than as an attachment. Possibly more people would read it.

Doug also commented that he can add all of the board members as editors on the WSGA facebook page allowing each person the ability to post information.

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Greg also suggested adding photos to the newsletter of social media to catch more interest. Also if someone other than Doug wants to take on the newsletter that would be an option since Doug has so much else going on. He also suggested that if anyone knows of outside writers or contributors who might be willing to contribute short topics to the newsletter that may increase readership as well.

In the end it was suggested that those who are truly interested will read what is sent out and get involved, the others will leave it up to the board to do what seems to be the right thing.

Snake River Dam Removal Proposal:

The question was proposed “Should WSGA take an official position and make an official statement regarding the proposal to remove the dams on the Snake River?”

Much discussion occurred regarding this issue. In the end the board decided that due to the complexity of the issue, the cost of the project, the number of people and communities which would be affected, and the lack of total understanding of all the factors which would come into play if this project were completed, WSGA is not going to make an official statement or take an official position. Everybody wants more fish, it is not clear if, in light of the \$34 billion proposed budget and lack of clear data on the overall economic impact of this project on agricultural and other communities, or on the availability of more fish, this is a good investment or a worthwhile project. If more information becomes available, we will review it at that time.

For now we are taking a neutral position.

For The Good Of The Order

Doug: He has attended several North of Falcon meetings. As for the issue of Puget Sound salmon the Stillaguamish River salmon population affects 5 marine areas. It was negatively affected by the Oso landslide and will take years to rebound. This is having a negative effect on the fishery options in Puget Sound.

Bob: He has also attended North of Falcon meetings for coastal salmon. It appears that the emphasis this year will be on Chinook Salmon and that the wild Coho fishery may be closed. These issues will force a lot of pressure to be placed on the Chinook fishery and to concentrate angling pressure on smaller areas than usual.

Bob was also informed by several senators that his name is their nomination for the fish and wildlife Commission position and that he has been sent to the governor’s office as their nominee.

Cary: He agrees with remaining neutral on the dam issue. He also believes we should be pushing for more predator control to aid in the salmon recovery on the Snake and Columbia systems. He sees very large

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numbers of predatory birds and mammals all along the river. Those along with the pike minnows and smallmouth bass numbers are taking a huge toll on salmon smolts.

Cary has also been involve with several organizations who are looking for guide input for grant funded projects. He will continue to do so and see if there can be any benefit available to WSGA or its projects in the form of grants.

Close Meeting: Meeting adjourned at 1905 hrs

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