



AFS-Fish Health Section Business Meeting

Eccles Convention Center, Ogden, Utah

Wednesday June 19, 2019 12:13-12:30 pm

Members attending

The Business meeting was held during the lunch session and many members were in attendance; specific individuals were not recorded.

Updates (shared by the President, Marilyn Blair unless noted otherwise)

Financial Report

The Section is in good shape due to gains during recent meetings. Members were referred to the listserv for the Financial Report and further information.

Dues increase in 2020

At last year's ExCom and Business meetings it was voted to increase membership dues. The change was not in time for 2019 but will be implemented in 2020; general membership will increase by \$5 from \$15 to \$20 and student membership increase by \$3 from \$7 to \$10.

2020 FHS Annual Meeting

The next annual meeting will take place June 22-26 at the Hilton on Lake Champlain in Burlington, Vermont in conjunction with the NEFHC.

AFS Infographic for the FHS

There is a new effort by the Parent society to inform others about our activities. Therefore there is a draft infographic in progress.

AFS FHS and TWS Wildlife Disease Working Group Joint Workshop at 2019 AFS Annual Meeting

The annual AFS meeting is combined with the Wildlife Society in Reno. The FHS will be holding a joint workshop with Ben LaFrentz and Nora Hickey in the workgroup, titled: Keepin' It Clean: Biosecurity & Biosafety for Biologists and Scientists.

150th Anniversary of the AFS

To help celebrate, the parent society requested that we contributed. Current Vice President, Tom Loch is leading that effort. Members were encouraged to let Tom know if they wished to help.

Nominating and Balloting Committee election results

Vice President - Gary Marty, Nominations - Jayde Ferguson, Professional Standards - Brandon Taro, Policy - Gael Kurath, Technical standards - Kathleen Hartmann.

Chairs will rotate off and new committee members on at this meeting. Marilyn will leave after this meeting and Ben LaFrentz will be our new President.

Section Communications Committee

There was a call out for anyone interested in serving on this committee.

Policy and Position Development Committee's Blue Book Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Background on this committee was shared with members, including that this new committee was formed in response to a proposal for its establishment to evaluate the recommended role and needed changes to the Blue Book. Items raised included: the need to update; the need for it to be relevant; the need for it to be expanded to include other species; the structure of the committee responsible; and the process. Incoming President, Ben LaFrentz has been chairing this committee and with AFS President, Jesse Trushenski, and AFS Executive Director, Doug Austen, have applied for funding to support this effort. Initial notification will occur this Fall with the outcome to be received next Spring.

Ben LaFrentz provided additional background. This process has been undergoing for the past 4-5 months. Additional concerns included: limited aquacultural representation on the Blue Book oversight committee; a lack of molluscan pathogens; possible liability risk associated the Blue Book since it is listed in law in 35 states. Therefore a 10-person committee was formed with representation from agencies, diagnostic labs and the Technical Standards Committee. The three goals of the committee were: 1. Evaluate the structure and function of the oversight committee; 2. Evaluate and determine what needs to be updated (pathogen, host, screening and inspection); and 3. Evaluate the current revision process. There will be a final meeting to concrete the recommendations which will be brought forward to the ExCom.

Jesse Trushenski provided an AFS perspective and explained that the AFS is interested in standardizing methods in fisheries science. They have reached out to the various disciplines and begun an internal discussion about the Parent society supporting these efforts and evaluating the methodology. They will bring momentum and resources to make that happen. Fisheries and Wildlife funds are earmarked; Jesse and Doug Austen sat with the FW committee and improved awareness. Jesse reiterated that a preproposal has been submitted and that they hope to receive a full proposal request.

Marilyn Blair added that we have received letters of support from several agencies to request that the FHS retain the Blue Book.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Submitted,

/s/ Sascha Hallett

Fish Health Section Committee Member, on behalf of Carolyn Richards, Secretary-Treasurer.