



2020 FITS Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Paul Venturelli, Kayla Key, Christine Moffitt, Dan Weaver, Gary Ash, Jeff Fryer, Kathryn Gavira Onell, Wilson Xiong, Jodi Whittier, Ken Cunningham, Sean Simmons, Ed, Colleen Sullivan, Heather Moncrief-Cox, Tiffany, Aaron Lerner, Doug, Benjamin Frey, Daniel Cassidy, Edward D. Entsminger.

1. Call to Order 3:05pm
2. Recognition of Guests
3. AFS Officer and Guest Remarks
4. Determination of Quorum (need 10)
 - a. Met
5. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve Jodi
 - b. Second Julie
6. Approval of Last Year's Minutes ([link](#))
 - a. Motion Julie
 - b. Second Gary Ash
7. Officer Reports
 - a. President
 - i. Thank you to all our members and ExCom
 - ii. Look forward to second year
 - b. Secretary-Treasurer's Report ([link](#))
 - c. President-Elect
 - i. No additional comments
 - d. Past-President
 - i. No additional comments
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Communications Committee (Julie)
 - b. Policy Committee (Jodi)
 - i. Statement from AFS released related to defining fish habitat for the ESA.
 - ii. Aquaculture statement sent to governing board for approval.
 - iii. Call for Volunteers to address the dam removal policy: Contact Jodi for more information
 - iv. Jodi is now chairing the policy committee and is stepping down as FITS representative.
 - v. Soon there will be a call from resource policy committee to provide short list of policy or issues that the committee should focus on this next year
 - c. Electronic Services Advisory Board
 - i. FITS is looking for a new representative for this board!



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- ii. FITS rep to provide a voice to AFS on different ways they can provide quality electronic services to better serve members
 - iii. Gray literature Database supported by AFS
 - 1. Non peer reviewed reports
 - 2. Graylitreports.fisheries.org
 - 3. Working on expanding and getting funding for long-term maintenance
 - 4. Open for submissions
 - iv. Research web tool to provide forum to connect and collaborate on active projects
 - 1. Great home for technical committees
 - 2. Easily share updates and have discussions
9. Old Business
- a. AFS 2020
 - i. Promote FITS related symposia
 - 1. Special thanks to Dan for organizing Big Data symposium
 - ii. Data Management workshop cancelled due to Covid and move to online meeting but hope to offer in Baltimore next year.
 - iii. AFS 150 celebration in Baltimore (Rebecca)
 - 1. Virtual reality experience to “go through time” of the history of fisheries technology.
 - 2. Call for pictures to include in the exhibit and there is a prize for best photo.
 - iv. Tech Talks and Center for Fisheries Technology and Collaboration (Rebecca)
 - 1. Way for vendors to connect with members beyond meeting interactions
 - 2. One-stop shop for your fisheries “stuff”
 - 3. Useful tool for members to easily compare fisheries tech and gear
 - 4. Thank you, Jason, for all your hard work!!
 - 5. Live at <https://units.fisheries.org/fits/solutions/>
 - 6. Daniel Cassidy: What is the business model and how does this impact institutional membership? Vendors are given a certain number of listings and Additional listings will have additional costs. Those profits will go to FITS.
 - b. Partnership Travel Award
 - i. Initially OFWIM conference but extended to any relevant conference
 - ii. But on pause because of pandemic but could be modified to fit future virtual meetings
 - c. Fisheries Data Exchange Standards and Book Chapter
 - i. Standards of data management and sharing
 - ii. Delayed due to Covid
 - d. Advanced Technology Articles



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- i. Thank you, Sarah! We appreciate your hard work!
 - ii. Sarah is stepping down, this position is open for those who are interested.
10. New Business
- a. Bylaws to formalize officer responsibilities as they move through presidency
 - i. Y1- Learning year
 - ii. Y2- additional responsibilities mentored by Past President
 - iii. Y3- 1st year Presidency
 - iv. Y4- 2nd year
 - v. Y5- Heavier responsibilities
 - vi. Y6- Mentor President Elect and shift of responsibilities to President Elect
 - b. Open positions
 - i. ESAB Representative
 - 1. Student or Professional! No experience required
 - ii. Communications coordinator
 - 1. Student or Professional! No experience required
 - iii. Policy Committee Representative
 - c. Citizen Science task force
 - i. Contact: Sean Simmons & Paul Venturelli
 - ii. This is a FITS and Communications Sections Collaboration
 - iii. Webinars for researchers to share research results with Angler community.
 - iv. Close the loop, give anglers feedback
 - v. Sustain angler engagement in Citizen Science
 - d. AFS Baltimore Meeting planning (workshops, symposia)
 - i. TBD based on AFS leadership decisions
 - ii. Planning to offer Data Management Workshop
 - e. Discussion: how can FITS use its income to better serve members?
 - f. Discussion: strategies to recruit more students and young professionals
 - g. Discussion: By-law amendment
11. Other Business?
12. Adjourn 3:48pm