

April 6, 2006
Held at Campbell's Resort in Chelan, WA
Executive Committee of the
Washington State Society of American Foresters

SUMMARY of ACTIONS

- 1 Action – Dues increase for WS SAF from \$25 to \$30 to be effective starting in 2007, pending getting through the approval process at national.
 - 2 Action - Dollars shifted to take care of deficit, comprised of \$395 from Jocko's Arboretum Fund and \$2,922.28 from the Dues Reserve into the general operating fund.
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I. Opening

- A. Chair Don Hanley called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.
- B. Attendees introduced themselves. Attendees: Chair Don Hanley; Treasurer Zoanne Aylesworth; Region 1 Council Representative, Kirk David; Bert Ausland; John Bergvall; John Gross; Jerry Gutzwiler; Joe Heller; Dick Hopkins; Bill Horn; Ellie Lathrop; Chuck Lorenz; George McFadden; Lori Rasor; Rob Sjogren; Scott Swanson; Don Theoe, Jenny Wren; and Doug Rushton.
- C. Approval of minutes for February 17, 2006 meeting. Scott Swanson moved to accept, seconded by Don Theoe. Motion passed.

II. Chapter Updates

- A. Central Washington – Bart Ausland
 1. Have 23 members of which about 10 are active.
 2. About 3 meetings per year.
 3. Support various causes financially.
- B. South Puget – Scott Swanson
 1. Calling on those who are late with dues.
 2. Recent meeting topics have been LIDAR and development rights. Upcoming meetings have been Mount St. Helens and geology.
- C. Green River - Kyle Meier
 1. They had a 5 acre timber harvest on campus and used it as an educational tool and for revenue.
 2. Brainstorming for new members.
 3. South Puget Sound arboretum – getting volunteers.
 4. 16 students attending the 2006 annual meeting.
 5. Preparing for the Fall South Puget Chapter "Mentoring Night".
 6. Partnered with WSU extension on a small landowners workshop.
 7. Future – focus on membership and keeping people involved.
- D. Longview – Zoanne Aylesworth
 1. 5th grade forestry event starting May 15 for 4 days. John Gross is organizing. They generally have about 600 students with 50-60 foresters involved. It started in 1983.
 2. Membership meeting May 19th in conjunction with the 5th grade forestry event and will have a BBQ.
- E. Mid-Columbia – Jerry Gutzwiler
 1. Focus has been on the annual meeting which they are doing this year. Fire is the theme.

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2. Green River CC folks have been especially helpful.
3. Consult you folder for the schedule of events and the field trip starts promptly at 10 am from the dock and will be narrated by a USFS fire expert as we cruise up Lake Chelan.

III. Council Update – Kirk David

- A. Reports – Kirk gets quarterly reports from each state and gives to Council. They are to be formatted consistent with the strategic plan format, which will be distributed.
- B. Fellow Committee – Both members from Washington state have been designated and 2 from Inland Empire. Alaska is having their executive committee meeting today and should make their single nomination. Deadline for nominations for 2006 from WA in July 1. Need to give the committee enough time to review nominations. The nomination packets go to the committee and Kirk takes to Council. Council does the actual election of the fellows.

IV. House of Society Delegates – Chuck Lorenz, HSD chair.

- A. HSD is comprised of the chairs from each society (32 in all) and national student congress. HSD has a face-to-face meeting at the national convention and 4 convener calls, plus e-mails and telephone conference calls.
- B. Concern has been expressed about the change in the fellows selection process as it removes locals from the process to a degree.
- C. Members were pleased with the HSD response to the VOS report. Council will work with student members partly to increase involvement and partly to make sure of representation.

V. Financial and Financial Memo Response – Don Hanley and Zoanne Aylesworth

- A. Background. Don sent to members the question about how to deal with financial shortfall and asked for comments. He received two sets of responses – from those with e-mail and those with it.
- B. Expenses discussion.
 1. Northwest Office. Substantial financial support to the NWO. It is the largest component of the budget. Don walked the groups through a NWO financial sheet that Lori Rasor provided.
 2. Additional expenses - Webpage is expensive and need to determine if it is a good deal. We have no contract with Swiftnet. Assess going out for bids.
- C. Finances discussion – Zoanne Aylesworth (hand out).
 1. Leadership conference in Kelso – in the black. Only a couple of small items left to be resolved.
 2. Generally have \$15-18,000 in savings. Zoanne will check on putting those dollars into a money market account for increased interest accrual.
 3. John Bergvall noted a slight discrepancy between the total net worth (\$2,358.56) and projected year end cash balance (\$22,359.34). Zoanne will check and find out the difference.
 4. Dedicated fund detail discussion – Don Hanley
 - a. He talked with Jocko Burke regarding “Jocko’s Arboretum fund” which contains \$395. Jocko said to put it into the general fund.
 - b. Video fund (\$4,191). Don checked with Stan Blinks who was in charge of the fund at one point and he said it was for educational purposes, but that it could be used for other things.
 - c. Don also pointed out we have a “Dues Reserve” of \$2,922.28.

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- D. "Response" discussion – Don Hanley
1. This was the discussion on the responses received to Don's question on financial alternatives and ideas.
 2. Chuck Lorenz pointed out we have until July 1 to make a dues change.
 3. John Bergvall asked if there is a way to avoid burdening chapters to create statewide cash flow that would enhance chapters and membership – maybe by getting greater chapter ownership in the statewide revenue issue. Maybe have "levels" where dues could be paid and get some sort of small product. – like mailing labels.
 4. Don Hanley – raffles with designated recipients for the dollars (e.g. foresters fund, Foundation.)
 5. Don Theoe asked, "When was the last dues increase?" Chuck Lorenz responded it had been 14-15 years when it moved from \$20 to \$25. Don Hanley noted that e had more members then, too.
 6. Jenny Wren – Getting employers to support SAF is an important avenue and they could possible also pay. Give students tools to recruit – fliers, instructions on how to recruit).
 7. Ron Sjogren – We need more members. People say they can't afford it. Need to support students to be members – new members do not generally come from anywhere else. At Green River CC, the mentality is "Students will be SAF members".
 8. Scott Swanson – Don't ask students for dollars. Like society as a whole, we can't expect young members to support retirees.
 9. Ron Sjogren – Green River is trying to "provoke" other schools to get more involved. If SAF put out something like "here's where we go first to recruit" that would entice students because they could possibly get a job through their SAF association. Get employers to post jobs at SAF first to make it more competitive and therefore attract students. Chuck Lorenz pointed out jobs are posted on the SAF website, but the website is open to everyone – members and non-members alike.
 10. Jerry Gutzwiler.
 - a. Maybe time to bring the student leadership together.
 - b. Have a "student" part of the Annual Meeting.
 - c. Get employers to post vacancies at SAF first.
 - d. USFS participation can increase. On a "good" night, maybe 6 show up.
 - e. Putting on the annual meeting actually helped people engage because there was an objective. It energized folks and they got to know each other – simply because they were needed. There's go to be a reason "to be" – more than just a speaker once a month.
 - f. We need yearly objectives.
 - g. It needs to be worth it both to members and to employers.
 11. Scott Swanson – A dues increase every 14 years is too infrequent.
 12. Lori Rasor – Need broader revenue options. Annual meetings generally make money and the split could be adjusted. Inland Empire does 75%to the state and 25% to the hosting chapter. Oregon uses the formula for their budget of 40% from the annual meeting, 30% from dues, and 30% miscellaneous. The Coos Bay chapter, for example, generated about \$18,000. Need to determine the size needed for a rainy day fund and develop a plan to reach it.
 13. John Bergvall – Need to set a goal to reach \$100,000 in 2 years for the Foundation. Get leaders and key individuals trained to sell. Mentoring is needed.
 14. Dick Hopkins – Will Oregon and Washington receive dollars from the 2007 National

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Meeting to be held in Portland in 2007? Lori Rasor responded that each state will get \$10,000 to split plus 25% of profits.

15. Bill Horn – Suggested using the \$395 from “Jocko’s Arboretum Fund” to offset some of the shortfall.

MOTION. Bill made the motion to move that \$395 and the dues reserve (\$2,922.28) to the operating fund to take care of the projected deficit. Scott Swanson seconded.

Discussion. A **first amendment** was proposed by Jerry Gutzwiler to maintain reserve for foundation at \$4,960 and have \$5,000 reserve and move the rest to operating. Mr. Horn noted it was a friendly amendment and therefore no second was needed. John Bergvall suggested moving the video fund (\$4,191) to the foundation to start building momentum. Chuck Lorenz said the foundation is for specific purposes and needs to be kept separate from SAF. Foundation dollars are for students and then, after a certain point, for education. Ellie Lathrop asked where the operating expenses for the foundation come from? Chuck Lorenz responded they are from foundation funds. Mr. Gutzwiler withdrew the amendment.

Second amendment was made by Ellie Lathrop to just move the \$395 from Jocko’s Arboretum Fund to Operating John Bergvall seconded. The motion passed.

Third amendment was made by John Bergvall to move the video fund (\$4,191) to the foundation fund. Ellie Lathrop seconded.

Discussion. Scott Swanson said because of our current budget status, we should maybe wait on moving the video dollars.

The **motion failed** (6 yeas and 8 nays).

Final Amendment suggested by Bill Horn to move the dues reserve (\$2,922.28) to operating. Scott Swanson seconded. Motion passed.

MOTION. Bill Horn moved to raise WS SAF state dues from \$25 to \$30 for dues beginning in 2007. Seconded by Scott Swanson.

Discussion. Bart Ausland asked where the 56% increase would go. Bill Horn responded it would go to the general operating account. Don Theoe asked if the WS SAF executive committee make the decision or does it have to go before the entire state membership? Don Hanley had checked the by-laws discussion in article 4 and thought so.

The **motion passed** with 14 yeas, 2 nays, and one abstention.

Additional discussion.

- Scott Swanson said he strongly supports the foundation and long-term funding avenues, in addition to dues.
- Bill Horn. Regarding solvency, because there is a national policy that students and goldens don’t pay dues, but they be asked to contribute – maybe something on the order of \$20 for goldens and \$10 for students. Free items sometimes are not valued.
- Scott Swanson – Why not a general solicitation?

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- John Bergvall suggested a tri-fold brochure with good white space and photos soliciting dollars. Give choices and levels; Give a token for a donation.
- Ellie Lathrop asked if this solicitation could be put with our dues statement we receive from national?
- Chuck Lorenz, responding to Ellie's suggestion, that it probably would be a cumbersome process because other states would be involved and may have different needs and processes.
- Lori Rasor, also responding to Ellie's idea, suggested putting it in with our state election ballots, which are handled out of NWO.
- Lori also suggested a fund strategy group on how to share the dues increase.

VI. SAF Strategic Plan – Don Hanley

- A. It is on the National Website – [SAF - About SAF: 2004 Strategic Plan](#)
- B. Look at the categories (outcomes) as we'll be doing quarterly and annual reports from each chapter.
- C. Reports at the Executive Committee meeting should be outcome format, like in the Strategic Plan. The information will be captured in the meeting minutes and the, when a report is due, we will be ready.
- D. Kirk David noted state and chapter strategic plans can be plagiarized and adapted from the national model.

VII. Northwest Office Report - Lori Rasor (handout)

- A. Have Six strategic outcomes (see website – [Welcome to the Oregon Society and Washington State Society of American Foresters](#))
- B. *Western Forester* is a big part of what NWO does.
- C. The role of the NWO in SAF in May/June issue; "Dues" likely later. Issues are theme-oriented.
- D. Experts data base – A 4/10 meeting coming up. About 80 listings so far; mostly from Oregon. Searchable by topic or region. Would give journalists access. Media training for "experts" on May 23 in Roseburg and May 24 in Salem.
- E. WA membership dues sees \$19/member go to the NWO which provides 16% of the budget.
- F. NWO meeting scheduled for June 22 and is focused on the strategic plan. The budget will be derived from the strategic plan.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Foundation – Dave Yates would like some help.
- B. Membership – Ron Sjogren. Basically, SAF members need to recruit others professionals. Bart Ausland volunteered to check with Central Washington University regarding their natural resources program, for potential student members.
- C. Awards – Don Hanley sent a letter to all the goldens and fellows inviting them to this annual meeting. Many attend and received their awards. A group photograph was taken.
- D. Policy - Chair Hanley noted there was not much to report.
- E. Foresters Fund – Joe Heller.
 - 1. There are three grant periods at national this year (Feb., June with a \$5,000 limit, and September with a \$1,500 limit). We have not asked for much in the past and we do have worthy projects. Information is on the national website (or contact Joe).
 - 2. Auction. Tables for auction items will be totally separate for the Foundation and the Foresters Fund.

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3. Chuck Lorenz said that Council in December of 2005 decided to allocate \$40,000 for distribution.
- F. History – Don Theoe. He has had a conference call with Oregon and they are interested in archiving their records. Bob Diehl will be at our meeting. For Tree Farms, Duane Weston was at their national meeting.
- G. Science - George McFadden has been circulating reforestation information and information related to the Biscuit fire reforestation controversy. Need ideas relative to old publications that are hard to find that we would like to make electronic versions – operations, equipments, etc – that we could post on the website.
- H. Continuing Education – Ellie Lathrop. (handout)
 1. National is redrafting the state coordinator's handbook.
 2. Signing an attendance sheet is proof of attendance so you can get CE credit.
 3. Calendar of events is on the national website.
- I. Education – John Bergvall.
 1. Natural resources Youth Camp brochures are out.
 2. County Fairs are coming up.
 3. Hood Canal information soon to be out.
 4. Puyallup Fair in September – Bill Horn will represent SAF.
 5. John Gross (Forester and Longview school teacher) on "Hands on Environmental Education".

What can foresters do to reach kids (and their teachers and parents)?

- Forestry Days. Be aware of the focus – sit down with teachers to see if your curriculum meets their needs and mandates. Enhance their curriculum and meet grade level expectations. Maybe single out an individual teacher. Make it more important than other things they could be doing.
- Schools have career developmental events at their high schools. (like Envirothon). Maybe you could teach/coach on one of these teams for the various events – like the "forestry team". Simply call the school and ask who is teaching natural resources. If they do not have a program, maybe help set one up.
- Don't be afraid of kindergartners or 1st graders.

IX. Miscellaneous

- A. Don Theoe – for Washington Farm Forestry Association, it appears Don will be president starting in June. WFFA has about 1,500 members. He would like to see an agreement between them and SAF.
- B. John Gross made a post meeting powerpoint presentation on his work in the Longview school district for their "Forestry Days" for 5th graders.
- C. The 2007 National Convention will be in Portland and will be co-hosted by Oregon and Washington.
- D. University of Washington, College of Forest Resources, Dean Bruce Bare will host an alumni breakfast starting at 7 a.m. on April 7.

X. Chair Don Hanley adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

XI. Calendar of Meetings

- A. Tentative Executive meetings left in 2006:
 1. July 12 – all day
 2. October 11

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- 3. December 6
- B. 2006 National Convention is in Pittsburgh, October 25-29, 2006.
- C. Northwest Office strategic Planning meeting on June 22 at the World Forestry Center

Minutes respectfully submitted by Doug Rushton, secretary.

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