

OLA Board Meeting 19 May 2021 4 pm
Agenda

Zoom meeting: see email for connection details

Known absences: Lara, Toni; minutes by Theo

Agenda (approx. times)

I. Attendance (Theo): 4:00 Dreher, Eilers, Larson, Miller, Schaadel, Sobota, Tullos, Wille

II. Approval of April Minutes (): 4:03 accepted, motion: Schaadel, second: Sobota. Unanimous.

IIa. Treasurer's report (Andy): most required reports are up to date; Wild Apricot web service annual fee, a major cost for us, has been paid. There were \$380 donations this month to Scholarship & Outreach Fund, which stands at \$24,508 from \$19,524 in deposits. Almost \$5000 has been earned over 3 years from investment: great performance, thanks Andy!

III. Fall conference sessions: Invitation for abstracts (Rich): 4:05

Rich floated initial invitation for talks or session concepts before general abstract invitation.

After discussion, it was decided that Rich and Theo will send a single invitation for abstracts by end of first week of June, inviting abstracts for 15 minute talks or posters/5-min flash talks. Deadline end of July. The invitation will include possible or past session topics for guidance. During August we will use abstracts and other ideas such as invited talks to craft conference sessions. If there are enough student applications, we will have a best talk/poster competition. We will invite scholarship recipient talks from Lindsay Collart (2020) and probably also Jamilla Baig (2021), who will likely soon finish her PhD and leave the US. Final or near-final program will be announced in the September newsletter.

Rich recently contacted a former colleague (Jim Harbeck) with the Nez Perce Tribe and sketched out talks for a session on salmon regeneration in Wallowa Lake. The concept was keenly accepted and the board asked Rich to firm up the session, which might be co-sponsored by the Nez Perce Tribe. Possible Umatilla Tribe, Oregon AFS involvement? Other potential conference sessions: CyanoHABs (Dan, Desiree, Theo); lake/stream management (Desiree).

IV. DEI (Diversity, equity, inclusion) and tribal recognition statement (Theo): 4:15

The DEI statement is now on our website.

The close involvement by the Nez Perce in the conference session Rich is organizing meets our goal to address issues of tribal concern in one of our sessions.

Lara, Dan and Desiree will plan an approach to the Commission on Indian Services in Salem for advice concerning a statement of tribal land ownership and other potential interactions with tribes. They will touch base with the board before going ahead.

V. Legislative contact regarding HABs bills HB3093 and HB3102 (Theo): 4:30

Theo has heard from Rep. Ken Helm on the status of the above bills. It appears that HB3102 for DEQ purchase of a second cyanotoxin analyzer will go ahead, though perhaps in a different format than as HB3102. Passing HB3093 is now the high priority. The bill closely resembles the OLA plan circulated in 2018 and Dan with DEQ colleagues was heavily involved in shaping the bill through several variations. It is now an excellent bill with support for DEQ and OHA, recognizing drinking water, recreational and agricultural potential modes of exposure to cyanotoxins. OLA should strongly support this bill. Theo went over two proposed letters: one to key legislators and another to OLA members, asking to contact their local reps. Theo will finalize

the letters after editorial input by 21st May. Around 10 June, Theo will ask Ken Helm if it would be helpful to contact key legislators in person: Desiree will coordinate such contacts.

VI. Summer Lake wildlife area plan review (Theo): 4:45

Ron spoke critically about Wildlife Refuge management actions and plans not taking into account Summer Lake itself, diverting water to habitats aimed at supporting huntable birds. Summer Lake might in the future provide alternative habitat to Lake Abert, but only if it has water to inundate the current dry and dusty playa areas. Steve reached the same conclusion. The board agreed to this opinion. Ron and Steve will write a critique and pass it to the board for any edits prior to submission mid-June.

VII. Advocacy status: 4:50

Lake Abert: Theo said a letter has been sent to Simplot requesting contact regarding the Chewaucan valley: no reply yet. There have been discussions (Trish, Theo) with The Nature Conservancy (Bend office; Zach Freed) about water trading strategies.

A request was sent to Senator Wyden for inclusion of upper Chewaucan tributaries to Wild & Scenic River list.

Steve mentioned the lead sinker issue recently raised by OLA member Ray Kinney. Steve and Theo will brainstorm a simple study concept to look at Pb levels in fishermen's tackle boxes and Theo will see if an OSU colleague could be interested in a formal study. Studying Pb levels in fishermen's blood would be confounded by Pb exposures from leaded gasoline and leaded paint.

VI. New business: 4:55

Rich has raised the issue that we have various membership categories that are not fully described. Being out of time, Rich, Andy and Theo will tackle this online and communicate with the board.

Adjourned 5:17 pm

The Board of Directors (terms run conference to conference, ~Oct/Sept)

1. Theo Dreher – President (2020-2022)
2. Andy Schaedel – Treasurer (2020-2022)
3. Rich Miller (2019-2021)
4. Toni Pennington (2020-2022)
5. Ron Larson (2019-2021)
6. Stephen Wille (2019-2021)
7. Dan Sobota (2019-2021)
8. Desiree Tullos (2020-2022)
9. Lara Jansen (2020-2021)
10. Joe Eilers (2020-2022)