



BRISTOL BAY

Regional Seafood Development Association

BBRSDA Board Meeting Minutes FINAL

April 19, 2022 - 9:00am AKT

Teleconferenced

1. Call to Order/Establishment of Quorum

President Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:00am AKT. Present were board members Johnson, Niver, Temple, and Ure; incoming board members Morgan, Sabo, and Schonberg; members Verner Stor III and John Webb; and staff members Bursch, Dunn, Machain, and Wink. **A QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED.**

Nicholas Dowie joined the call shortly after the meeting began. Patrick O'Neill briefly joined the call after item 8b.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ure moved and Niver seconded to approve the agenda. Jackson requested to add item 9b. Committee Assignments, the motion makers accepted the amendment. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

a. March 9, 2022

Johnson moved and Niver seconded to approve the minutes from March 9, 2022. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

4. Seating of New Board Members

Jackson opened the floor for any comments to outgoing board members Temple, Ure, and O'Neill. The board and staff thanked them all for their service and Jackson cited specific accomplishments that were achieved with their vision and support.

Jackson welcomed the newly seated board members Sabo, Schonberg, and Morgan. Today is their first day of service and their term will expire at the board meeting following the 2025 board election.

5. Election of BBRSDA Officers

Jackson opened the floor for nominations for President. Johnson nominated Jackson for President. This was seconded by Niver. There were no other

nominations. Johnson moved to close nominations, seconded by Niver. **JACKSON CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE JACKSON AS PRESIDENT.**

Jackson opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. Johnson nominated Wilson, who had previously acknowledged he would accept a nomination. This was seconded by Niver. There were no other nominations. Jackson moved and Sabo seconded to close nominations. **JACKSON CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE WILSON AS VICE PRESIDENT.**

Jackson opened the floor for nominations for the joint position of Secretary/Treasurer. Johnson nominated Sabo for Secretary/Treasurer. This was seconded by Niver. Sabo accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. Johnson moved to close nominations, seconded by Niver. **JACKSON CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE SABO AS SECRETARY/TREASURER.**

By default, these three officers are the members of the Executive Committee.

6. Member Comments

Member Verner Stor III was on the call and asked the board to consider supporting and forming a group to work with Harbor Safety Committee to oversee safety and security in the waterways. He added that their first meeting is on June 18th and he will include pertinent dates and information in a proposal.

7. Executive Director Report

The meeting packet included the Executive Director Report. Johnson asked for a quick update on the setnet inclusion efforts and Sabo added he was impressed with the amount of work put into the meeting packet and ED report itself. Schonberg was supportive of collaborations with social influencer Modern Proper and liked the direction it was going. Wink thanked staff for their support.

Sabo moved to accept the Executive Director report as submitted. Seconded by Niver. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

8. Program Updates & Committee Business

a. Finance

Machain walked through the Financial Snapshot as of 4/11/22 and funds transfer request, highlighting notable items. There were no questions.

b. Marketing

Dunn gave a brief update directing the Board to the meeting packet and ED report list for Marketing to see everything that has happened in the past month, including an update on the Boston Seafood Expo North America trade show. She invited all board members to join the upcoming Marketing Committee meeting where she will walk through the Marketing program for new board members.

c. Quality

i. Fleet Scholarships for RSW Courses

In discussing the provided proposal, the board asked whether this certification would also work in refrigerates, but Bursch and Schonberg clarified that it would not translate over. Wink clarified the issue of inurement and why this would not run us afoul of those IRS regulations.

Jackson asked if the board should have a standard for these courses to ensure it meets minimum requirements. The board was comfortable moving forward with the submitted proposal at this time, since that is our normal process and the reimbursement is an incentive for the attending member and not directly for the company providing the training.

Bursch added that there are some funds remaining from the RSW apprenticeship program (approximately \$10K) that could potentially be re-assigned if so desired.

Johnson moved and Niver seconded to approve the proposal for funding of \$27,000 to cover a 50% tuition reimbursement of \$600/student for 45 fishermen.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Niver, Sabo, Schonberg, Morgan, Johnson

Nay: none

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ii. Seafood Analytics – Certified Quality Reader Proposal

Chuck Anderson and Keith Cox from Seafood Analytics joined the call at 9:50am AKT.

Bursch gave a brief introduction of the proposal. We funded similar programs in 2020 and 2021 where they collected correlated data with the Certified Quality Reader (CQR) which gives a non-invasive measurement of cell quality of the fish. The funding request is to increase the existing budget to be a total of up to \$35,000. Ideally, some of the increased funding could be offset by participating processors.

Chuck Anderson updated the board on interested or participating processors who are willing to provide at least the labor for the measurements. They are working to get more processors on board and eventually expand to processing plants on top of already being on tenders.

The board discussed whether this could be used against fishermen. Anderson stated that the CQR can identify that “something” has happened to fish quality throughout the cycle, but it cannot identify “what” happened. Morgan asked about calibration for the CQR machine and Anderson affirmed that it was not an issue and devices are pre-calibrated.

The board discussed the benefits and concerns of this type of research, some topics included:

- Could be used to identify where any loss of quality or breakdown are happening
- Seafood Analytics is offering a sticker for companies to put on their fish to show they participated in the quality monitoring program.
- How will companies implement and use this data and will it ensure fishermen are receiving their quality incentive pricing?

- This can be an alternative measurement of quality if fish do not meet temperature requirements at time of measurement.

Johnson moved and Morgan seconded to approve up to \$35,000 for Seafood Analytics Certified Readers conditional on processing partners agreeing to allow for CQR measurements to serve as a secondary metric in determining fish quality for purposes of temperature related quality bonuses.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Shonberg, Johnson, Niver, Sabo, Morgan

Nay: none

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

d. Sustainability

i. Graduate Student Research Proposal

This project would provide funding for graduate student research projects, with topics/goals relevant to the BBRSDA mission. Proposal was recommended by Sustainability Committee. Proposed budget is \$30,000 per year for a period of three (3) years.

Dowie clarified the process of requesting, receiving, reviewing, and approving proposals that come in. Sabo questioned the utility of adding this layer of complexity and additional staff monitoring time to our existing proposal process. He felt that our current process already allows graduate students to submit proposals. Dowie replied that he feels there is significant benefit in getting more bang for your buck with students who are eager and ready to dive into research without limitations of professors. The main objective is to advertise and let students know we are willing to accept proposals from them.

Jackson suggested that we develop an outreach program targeting grad students to encourage their participation in our current system. Wink agreed that we could probably craft a process that works within our current procedures, looking similar to an RFP with specific deadlines, and delegating them to the appropriate committees as they come in. Staff will prepare

something for the next board meeting to mesh this proposal with existing processes.

Sabo moved to table this for a future board meeting after it can go through Sustainability Committee and staff can prepare an updated version of the proposal. Seconded by Johnson.

MOTION TABLED.

e. Outreach

i. AMSEA Safety Trainings Proposal

The outreach committee recommends \$5,485 for the funding of pre-season safety training classes in Naknek and Dillingham. A list of expected expenses is detailed in the meeting packet.

Bursch is working with AMSEA to figure out how to partially or fully reimburse members for their enrollment costs.

Johnson moved and Sabo seconded to approve to fund the AMSEA Safety Trainings at \$5,485.

Roll call vote:

Yea: Schonberg, Johnson, Niver, Morgan, Sabo

Nay: none

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ii. Advisory Panel Proposal

The board discussed the proposal and John Webb was available to answer questions. Some topics of discussion included:

- Some board members were concerned that members of this panel would be perceived as speaking on behalf of the board.
- Webb clarified that writing proposals to Board of Fish was scrapped out of this proposal.
- Sabo requested to take this back to the Outreach Committee and work on how to get more involvement with the fleet and come up with a strategy to solicit more input.
- Webb clarified that the proposal includes options to end the panel if it ends up not working. He requested the board to read the newest version of the proposal and the various options it provides.

- The board was in general favor of this idea, but wanted to flesh it out more at the committee level.

Johnson moved to table this topic to a future board meeting after it can go through the Outreach Committee. Seconded by Sabo. **MOTION TABLED.**

Jackson called a recess until 11:35am AKT.

9. Miscellaneous Business

a. Meshik Seafoods (Port Heiden) Proposal

John Christensen joined the call to ask the board to consider sending a letter of support to processors for finding an industry partner to join forces with Port Heiden so they can qualify for an infrastructure backing grant from BBEDC.

Johnson requested that Christensen share their business plan with staff for the board to vet the request further.

Sabo moved to table this to a future meeting to allow the request to be more developed and give the board time to vet it and do our due diligence. Johnson seconded. **MOTION TABLED.**

b. Committee assignments

President Jackson shared the following committee assignments:

Marketing: George Wilson, Franz Schonberg, Fritz Johnson

Finance: Erick Sabo, Doug Morgan, Franz Shonberg

Quality: Franz Shonberg, Doug Morgan, Mark Niver

Sustainability: Mark Niver, Erick Sabo, Fritz Johnson

Outreach: George Wilson, Mark Niver, Erick Sabo

Governance: Fritz Johnson, Doug Morgan, George Wilson

Johnson moved to approve the committee assignments, seconded by Sabo. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10. Executive Session

Jackson moved to enter into executive session at 11:49am AKT for the purpose of discussing staff matters, legal matters, and potential activities

which require consideration of proprietary information. Seconded by Johnson. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Sabo moved and Morgan seconded to leave executive session at 1:29pm AKT. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

Sabo moved to approve the promotion of Frances Bursch to the position of Program Manager and increasing her salary by \$10,000 with a corresponding increase made to BBRSDA's FY22 budget for staff salaries and wages. Seconded by Morgan. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

11. Future Meeting/Event Dates & Agenda Items

Sabo moved to set the next board meeting and member meeting for June 7, 2022 in Dillingham, AK. Seconded by Morgan. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

June 7, 2022 – BBRSDA Member Meeting – Dillingham School 12PM

June 7, 2022 – BBRSDA Board Meeting – Dillingham School 2PM

June 7, 2022 – UW Fish Camp Meet-up 4PM

June 8, 2022 – BBRSDA staff & directors(?) boatyard walk-throughs (this would be in Naknek, Directors are optional not required)

Future agenda items:

- Tabled item: Graduate Student Research Proposal
- Tabled item: Advisory Panel Proposal
- Tabled item: Meshik Seafoods (Port Heiden) Proposal
- Slack proposal - Shonberg

12. Adjourn

Morgan moved and Sabo seconded to adjourn at 1:34pm AKT. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

Total meeting time: 4 hours, 34 minutes

Board members in attendance: Jackson, Johnson, Niver, Sabo, Morgan, Schonberg