



**BBRSDA Board Meeting Minutes**

November 7, 2022 – 9:00 am PST

Silver Cloud Hotel – Avenue One Ballroom, Seattle, WA

**1. Call to Order/Establishment of Quorum**

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:18am PST. Present were board members DeWitte, Sabo, Schonberg, Andrew, Morgan and Niver; guests Mike LaRussa, Janis Harsila, Michael Jackson, and Luke Peterson; and staff members Bursch, Dunn, Machain, McNeil and Wink. **A QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED.**

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

**a. October 10, 2023**

Andrew moved and Morgan seconded to approve the minutes from October 10, 2023. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

**3. Member Comments**

Member Jackson thanked Wink and staff for their work. He mentioned his proposal requesting a way to allow the fleet to hold a vote to remove a sitting director. His idea would be to allow the fleet to hold the board accountable and use the same voting threshold as the BBRSDA bylaws.

Member LaRussa reiterated the importance of the BBRSDA and that he would like to see it continue and for the board to stick together. He gave his vote of confidence in Andy Wink's leadership.

Member representative Harsila asked for the board to consider moving executive sessions to either the beginning or end of meetings instead of in the middle.

Wink shared 2 member comments provided in the meeting packet and read aloud for the board.

**4. Executive Director Report**

Wink gave a verbal update on the executive director report highlighting notable items, including:

- Participated in the UFA fall board meeting including time with senators Sullivan and Murkowski
- Welcome and onboarding of new board member Matt DeWitte
- Created an online member comment form
- Marine mammal predation op ed in Anchorage Daily News
- Attended AMSI All Hands meetings in Anchorage
- Seattle Salmon Week – close to 50 participating restaurants and Bristol Bay fishermen helping with demos at Whole Foods

Bursch spoke about an Oregon State University study on frozen vs not frozen fish. There was no distinction between the tastes for frozen vs not, supporting the value and quality of a well frozen product.

Niver gave an update on his cruise ship presentation experience, overall, he felt it was a huge success.

Schonberg asked about the Co-Op working group. Wink clarified that he hasn't yet gotten people together, the plan is to get a working group together to find out their vision for a Co-Op. Sabo clarified that this is a new venture and not a negotiating Co-op.

Andrew moved and Niver seconded to approve the executive director report.  
**MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

## 5. Approval of Agenda

Sabo moved to approve the agenda with the recommended revisions of discussing the setnet group under 8e and moving executive session to the end of the meeting. Seconded by Schonberg. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

## 6. Program Updates & Committee Business

### a. Finance

#### i. 2022 990 Tax Return

The 2022 form 990 tax return was prepared by THG and was reviewed and recommended by the finance committee.

Morgan moved and Andrew seconded to approve the 2022 990 Tax Return for final filing. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

Director Morgan asked about the income listed for previous director Jackson. Sabo asked for clarification on meeting fees and timing. Wink explained the timeline of when fees were incorporated and the various events and activities that contributed to the meeting fee income for director Jackson in 2022. Wink agreed to provide a written summary of director Jackson's meeting fees to the board.

**b. Sustainability**

Niver gave a verbal update on a few sustainability highlights, including use of drones for fish tickets, proposals for chinook in the Nush are now on the table, Port Moller fishery continuation, a brief update on Pebble Mine and potential legal budget that might be needed in the future and the poor results of the king salmon mapping project.

Wink will get a better idea for how frequent the sustainability committee would like to meet and he can add these topics to a future agenda.

**c. Quality**

Bursch gave an update on the 2023 projects including the RSW training classes and the RSW apprentice program. For 2024, the focus can move back to quality handling practices. We will be putting out an RFP for the RSW apprentice program in 2024. Staff is thinking of best ways to implement any CQR data into the quality messaging.

**d. Marketing**

Dunn gave a verbal update on some recent program highlights: current retail promotion with Wegmans highlighting their key supplier Tony Wood, retail promotion with Haagen's, global efforts are still piggybacking with ASMI, and in foodservice the Seahawks will be consuming Bristol Bay Sockeye Salmon after their next game and the Climate Pledge Arena Wild Market has moved to a more prime location across from the team store. There is also a satellite media tour happening through the efforts of Edelman.

#### **e. Outreach**

Committee chair Schonberg recently hosted the Advisory Panel and gave an update on the discussions including how to fill the open seat and other tasks delegated to AP members. He pointed out the outreach opportunity with PME, the fleet and member meeting, and our booth.

The board discussed the recent setnet vote that narrowly failed. It was noted that about 35% participated. The committee discussed how to proceed with current setnet members on committees.

Sabo moved and Niver seconded to allow setnetters on committees at the discretion of each respective committee chair, but with no voting capacity. **The motion carried 3-2 with Andrew abstaining.**

Bursch clarified that the setnet vote cost was around \$25K for 2022 and \$30K for 2023.

### **7. FY24 Budget Review & Approval**

The Finance Committee recommended that staff prepare a “balanced budget option” for Board consideration and this was provided along with the committee recommended program budgets for 2024. The board discussed the priorities for the 2024 budget and the consensus was that a break-even budget was a priority for starting out the year, with reserves in the bank available if valuable opportunities arise.

Dunn shared a presentation of marketing program options with varying price points and opportunities. The board was in favor of the balanced-budget option that included more in-house work and less consultant and agency spend.

Morgan moved and DeWitte seconded to approve a budget of \$1,613,722 for FY 24. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

The board discussed the reserve balances including the \$2.5M baseline reserve and the additional \$1.9M projected operating reserves that can be used with board approval as opportunities arise.

### **8. Miscellaneous Business**

**a. PME & Member Meeting Luncheon**

Wink gave a rundown of what to expect at the PME booth including the information we have available to handout and the booth duty schedule. The board discussed the agenda for the upcoming member meeting.

**b. 403b Employer Match**

Morgan moved and Andrew seconded to approve an employer matching contribution of 6% for all eligible employees, effective January 1, 2024 for the 403b plan. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

**c. Committee Appointments for Matt DeWitte**

President Johnson appointed DeWitte to the Finance, Sustainability, and Marketing committees. DeWitte replaced Schonberg on the Finance committee and Andrew was added to Sustainability committee.

**d. Ability for Members to Recall BBRSDA Board Members**

Member Michael Jackson requested that BBRSDA consider allowing for the fleet to call for the removal of Board Director(s). Jackson suggests adopting the same voting threshold used to rescind the BBRSDA to initiate a recall vote. The board discussed and confirmed that there are already ways for members to express their opinions and/or concerns of board members through the regular channels. Morgan noted that he is offended by the accusations presented in the email from Jackson. Sabo echoed these sentiments. Schonberg was offended that this email from Jackson bypassed the normal proposal procedures and was still submitted to the board for review.

**No action was taken.**

**9. Future Agenda Items, Events & Meeting Dates**

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2023, 9am AKT via zoom.

**10. Executive Session**

Sabo moved and Niver seconded to enter executive session at 1:58pm PST. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

Sabo moved and Andrew seconded to exit executive session at 4:49pm PST.  
**MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

**11. Adjourn**

Sabo moved and Andrew seconded to adjourn at 4:50pm PST. **MOTION CARRIED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

*Total meeting time: 7 hours, 31 minutes*

*Board members in attendance: Andrew, DeWitte, Johnson, Morgan, Niver, Sabo, Schonberg*