

**Instream Flow Council
Governing Council 2006 Business Meeting
Tigh-Na-Mara Resort
Parksville, British Columbia
April 9, 2006**

The meeting convened at 1320 (local time). President Locke (AB) called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for participating. A total of 29 governing council representatives representing 22 states and provinces and the Executive Director were in attendance.

Note: Decisions are highlighted in red. Action items are highlighted in blue.

Agenda Items (followed by summary of discussion)

1. President's Report – Allan Locke

Agenda approved.

Highlights of the past two years include update and overhaul of the website. Thanks to Andy Hoffman and Kathleen Williams for their work. Also, publishing of Book 2, start of Book 3 and NIFPA 2 were highlights. The hiring of Kathleen Williams has been a great help to the IFC.

2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report – Chris Goudreau

a. 2004 Governing Council Minutes

Goudreau (NC) indicated that Christopher Estes (AK) recommended amending item 4 to add a note that the At-Large members of the Executive Committee were appointed by the Executive Committee subsequent to the 2004 Governing Council Meeting.

Rod Wentworth (VT) moved for approval of the 2004 meeting minutes as amended. Seconded by Estes. **Approved as amended.**

b. Membership

Goudreau reported that at the time of the meeting, there are 39 states, 4 provinces, and 3 general council members. This is very similar to past years. Only two states, both in Region 2, that are regular members of IFC have not renewed membership for 2006. A comparison to previous years, by membership type and region is provided below.

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Region 1	10	10	10	11	10	10	11	10	10	11
Region 2	4	7	6	8	8	8	8	8	9	7
Region 3	8	10	9	11	11	13	13	12	12	12
Region 4	1	7	6	9	10	9	9	8	9	9

Region 5	1	3	3	4	5	5	5	4	4	4
States	23	34	31	39	39	40	41	38	40	39
Provinces	1	3	3	4	5	5	5	4	4	4
General Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	5	3
Grand Total	24	37	34	43	44	45	50	46	49	46

c. Financial Report

Goudreau reported the financial checking account balance as follows:

Date	Account Balance
January 1, 2004	\$49,431.10
January 1, 2005	\$56,181.28
January 1, 2006	\$64,294.61
April 5, 2006	\$82,540.88

Except for reimbursable expenses for the Book 2, Book 3 and NIFPA 2 projects, and the 2004 Biennial Meeting, the income and expenses from 2004 to present are as follows:

	2004	2005	2006 (4/5/06)
<u>Income</u>			
Dues	\$14,550.00	\$6,575.00	\$10,750.00
Book 1	1,128.87	0.00	0.00
Book 2	6,149.67	13,410.18	910.39
Biennial Mtg.	943.00	0.00	0.00
Interest	3.28	152.46	39.19
Total	\$22,774.82	\$20,137.64	\$11,699.58
<u>Expense</u>			
Exec. Comm.	\$5,589.36	\$3,675.77	\$0.00
Biennial Mtg.	7,670.71	755.42	0.00
Book 2	1,062.00	0.00	30.00
Other	3,416.83	1,484.00	237.00
Exec. Director	0.00	10,400.00	5,875.00
Total	\$17,738.90	\$16,315.19	\$6,142.00

3. IFC Book III Project – Allan Locke

Locke gave an overview of the progress of Book 3. The grant from Federal Aid is for \$98,000. Kathleen Williams and Sandra Zellmer (law professor, University of Nebraska) have been added as authors. The book is a case study of eight instream flow studies. The scheduled completion date is December 2007.

4. Organizational Planning (strategic plan, work plan, accomplishments, member survey) – Kathleen Williams

Williams gave a brief overview of her work history and background. She sees her assignment as helping the Excom make decisions and work on tasks to fulfill the annual work plan. The strategic plan drives the annual work plan.

Accomplishments for past 12 months – created first annual work plan, beginning the NIFPA 2 effort, writing Book 3, updated website, provided technical assistance, continuing outreach, implementing funding strategy, promoting Book 2.

Failure limited to lack of regional meetings.

Opened meeting to suggestions to changing the strategic plan.

Del Lobb (MO) asked why the apparent conflict between providing technical assistance but rejecting a technical assistance policy. Williams explained that the policy was specific to formal peer review. It was determined that the original estimate of demand was over estimated, and there are liability issues of the IFC providing formal reviews.

Rick Jacobson (CT) questioned the group on what might occur if the IFC were expanded to include others such as islands/territories, federal agencies, first nations, academics. The inclusion could be membership, partnership, and other means of interaction.

Ron Ahle (SC) thought it would be good to include academics, who are often on leading edge of new science. Also, to replace the IFC members who will be retiring over the next few years.

Tom Annear (WY) explained how IFC was formed. It grew out of the NIFPA process. Part of the thoughts at that time were that there was a need to have an organization for frank discussions from a state and provincial perspective. Discussions at that time included membership being open to other instream flow practitioners.

Mark Woythal (NY) agreed we need new inputs, but it doesn't have to be only through membership.

Robert Metcalfe (ON) has thought about this as well. One way to increase information flow is through symposia held in his province. Explain what his agency is doing and vise-versa.

Kevin Mayes (TX) thinks the IFC meeting provides a unique forum focused on instream flows and also allows for more open dialogue. It is also the responsibility of member representatives to mentor others in their agency.

Locke explained that we also need to remember there are the other aspects of instream flow work – the other riverine components, legal/institutional elements, etc.

Todd Richards (MA) said that IFC is unique, not just another meeting of the same. We need to work within our agencies to bring staff geomorphologists, lawyers, etc. to bring other aspects.

Jacobson explained that IFC is set up to allow for those others through the general council memberships.

Chuck Coomer (GA) mentioned that the original NIFPA included the US Fish and Wildlife Service and native tribes, but we have lost those perspectives. Another example of expansion is the evolution of the southeast fish chief's meeting into Southeastern Aquatics R P. IFC should consider becoming more involved with these other entities.

Christopher Estes asked why the other participants in NIFPA didn't form their own organizations? IFC is still evolving and we don't yet have all potential states/provinces as members. We have more work to do before opening up IFC too quickly. However, we can do more to bridge with others.

Rod Wentworth thought it better to leave IFC alone, but find other avenues to interact with others. NIFPA 2 and the 2008 conference will hopefully provide those opportunities.

Bob Nishimoto (HI) expressed thought that island issues and biota are completely different. Why are we preaching to the choir? Agencies must realize we are managing the bad behaviors of people, more than managing fish.

Nishimoto proposed writing a white paper proposal on how to address island issues in IFC.

Ian Chisholm (MN) stated that we should not feel guilty about "playing with ourselves", and we don't want to open the floodgates. **Moved to approve Nishimoto's proposal to create a new IFC Region for island states and US island protectorates. Seconded by Ron Ptolemy (BC).**

Annear agreed with Chisholm and Nishimoto's proposal. IFC organizers always interested in including islands, but didn't know how to deal with federal protectorate status, as opposed to public trust mandate. While the science is different among states, provinces and regions, the commonality is public trust and legal/institutional aspects.

Locke asked to amend the motion so that Nishimoto work with Williams. Seconded by Estes. Williams said that details of the proposal need to be worked out.

Larry Hutchinson (NE) asked if the proposal would be to add a Region to the Bylaws.

Jacobson questioned if the bylaws allowed for such action. Moved to amend the motion to agree in concept, but that we can't act today.

Estes doesn't want to wait for two years to make a decision. Allow Excom to work on it and bring back to full membership before the next biennial meeting.

Estes made a motion to amend Chisholm's motion to create a sixth IFC Region based on a white paper that will be crafted by Robert Nishimoto and Kathleen Williams. The IFC Excom will also review the bylaws and recommend any necessary changes required to formally create this new region. All of these actions, including a vote to approve or

disapprove the new region will be completed prior to and no later than one year from this date. Jacobson seconded. **Approved.**

5. NIFPA II – Tom Annear

Annear reviewed the NIFPA 1 project and gave an overview of NIFPA 2. N-2 grant from Federal Aid is for \$238,000. Objectives are to improve agency effectiveness, compare results to NIFPA 1, chart the course for the future, and base the evaluation on science, law, and public involvement. It will use a survey format (email or web-based) and a three-day workshop to be held in second quarter of 2007. Location will probably be Denver. Encouraged all members to participate in the surveys and workshop. The grant will pay for travel expenses for one representative from each state and provincial fish and wildlife agency, as well as invited speakers, meeting facilities and reporting results.

Pete Arrestad (CT) suggested that the islands be included in the survey.

6. 2008 Biennial Meeting

Williams informed the group that the Excom has approved a conference in conjunction with the 2008 biennial meeting. The conference would be open to other instream flow practitioners including federal agencies, academics, attorneys, tribes, industry, NGOs, etc. The IFC meeting would take place just before or after the conference. IFC would look to involve other sponsors and or partners to implement the conference. In addition to the Excom members who volunteered, Eric Nagid (FL) and Bob Nishimoto agreed to assist in putting the conference together. Other suggestions for partners/sponsors include River Management Society and American Rivers.

7. Regional Meetings

a. Region 1

Attended by AK, CO, HI, ID, MT, WA and WY. Jay Skinner (CO) reported that the new Regional Director is Paul Dey (WY) and Regional Director-Elect is Terra Hegy (WA). Will hold 2007 regional meeting in conjunction with N-2. Want to focus IFC more on legal/institutional and public involvement aspects. There was discussion of changing or eliminating regional concept to deal with these other aspects. Will help Bob Nishimoto to flesh out the membership issue for islands. Will look into opportunities to hold meetings jointly with other organizations, such as AFS. Bob Vadas (WA) added that there could be break out sessions instead of another structure to deal with the other aspects.

b. Region 2

Attended by NE, MO and MN. Ian Chisholm reported that 2007 would be held in concert with N-2. Discussed how Missouri River issues have moved out of science/biology into political arena. Basic issues – large reservoirs and hydro operations, groundwater/surfacewater interactions, invasives, need for outreach, evaluation of

resources (products vs. systems management), public education, farm policy. New Regional Director is Gary Whelan (MI) and Regional Director-Elect is Del Lobb.

c. Region 3

Attended by FL, GA, NC, SC, TX and VA. Ron Ahle reported the group is recommending to move away from meeting with SDAFS. 2007 meeting to be held with N-2. 2009 plan is to hold it jointly with a training session. Training would be decided after getting feedback from IFC survey, N-2 and 2008 Conference. Discussed measures to get inactive states involved again. Also, want 2008 conference to deal with regulated riparianism. The new Regional Director is Ron Ahle and Regional Director-Elect is Eric Nagid.

d. Region 4

Attended by CT, MA, NY and VT. Rick Jacobson report the 2007 meeting will be in conjunction with a regional cooperative project (Northeast Instream Flow Collaborative) with The Nature Conservancy. Currently, 7/11 of the states are currently involved and expect 9/11. Want to bring in Maryland, Delaware. Members of the Northeast Region are working collaboratively to develop a regional instream flow program as part of the comprehensive wildlife action strategies. New Regional Director is Mark Woythall and Regional Director-Elect is Todd Richards.

e. Region 5

Attended by AB, BC and ON. Ron Ptolemy reported to hold 2007 with a training workshop focused on biological effectiveness. Look to get funding from water users industries to put on the workshop. If that effort doesn't pan out, they will hold a conference call. New Regional Director is Ron Ptolemy and Regional Director-Elect is Andy Paul (AB).

8. Election Results and Installation of Officers – Allan Locke

Chris Goudreau is staying on as Secretary-Treasurer for another two years and Pete Aarrestad is the President-Elect. Allan Locke then passed the (phantom) gavel to Hal Beecher (WA). [Note: Upon hearing of the handing over of the phantom gavel, the kind and professional staff at Tigh-Na-Mara sent one of their employees to the Canada Post office who applied sufficient pressure until such time that the Post Office located the box containing the gavel. Tigh-Na-Mara secured the precious parcel containing the gavel and gave it to Beecher.]

9. New President's Remarks – Hal Beecher

Despite initial caution in becoming involved with IFC, Beecher expressed delight over how IFC has made his job more effective and has increased instream flow understanding in general. Initiatives of previous Presidents have been tremendous and he is expecting more great things with another book and NIFPA 2.

Thanks were expressed for Beecher's and Ptolemy's efforts in handling the local arrangements.

Beecher presented Allan Locke with a fly-tying vise in appreciation for his service as President.

Meeting adjourned at 1755 local time.

Prepared by:
Chris Goudreau, Secretary-Treasurer
April 9, 2006
Finalized DATE

Appendix A. 2006 Biennial Meeting Attendees

Executive Director	Kathleen Williams
Alaska	Christopher Estes, Joe Klein (after item 6)
Alberta	Allan Locke, Andrew Paul
British Columbia	Ron Ptolemy, Steve McAdam
Colorado	Jay Skinner
Connecticut	Rick Jacobson, Pete Aarrestad
Florida	Eric Nagid
Georgia	Chuck Coomer
Hawaii	Robert Nishimoto
Idaho	Cindy Robertson
Massachusetts	Todd Richards
Missouri	Del Lobb, Jason Persinger (after item 6)
Montana	Bill Schenk, Andy Brummond
Nebraska	Larry Hutchinson
New York	Mark Woythal
North Carolina	Chris Goudreau
Ontario	Robert Metcalfe
South Carolina	Ron Ahle
Texas	Kevin Mayes
Vermont	Rod Wentworth
Virginia	John Kauffman
Washington	Hal Beecher, Terra Hegy, Gary Sprague, Jonathan Kohr (after item 4), Steve Boessow (after item 6), Carl Samuelson (after item 6), Bob Vadas (after item 6)
Wyoming	Tom Annear, Paul Dey
General Council	Andy Hoffman (after item 4)