



## **Board of Directors Meeting Montana Academy of Sciences**

Pintler Room

Student Union Building, Montana Tech, Butte, MT

7:30 A.M., Saturday, April 8, 2017

### **Minutes**

#### **Call to Order 7:45 AM**

#### **Roll Call – Jim Berardinelli**

Present were: James Barron, James Berardinelli, Dan Gretch, Matt Queen, Jessica Tuberty, Tom Lewis, Brandon Sheafor, Rick Douglas, Chrissie Carpenter, Jennifer Swanson, Mike Gilbert, Jim Battisti

#### **Approval of the Agenda – Jim Berardinelli**

The agenda was amended by unanimous consent to move other business to the beginning of the meeting.

#### **Other Business:**

**Intermountain Journal of Sciences:** Rick Douglas provided an overview. The journal is now available online. Updating efforts are underway to bring older issues online. Discussion occurred as to the best way to facilitate easy abstract publication. Rick encouraged submission from all relevant disciplines and not just biology.

**Newsletter:** Jim Barron reported that the newsletter will be occurring as it currently is.

**Speaker Honorarium:** Jim Barron moved and Mike Gilbert seconded that a \$150.00 honorarium be provided to the keynote speaker for the meeting banquet (Andy Karplus). The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Review and Approval of the Minutes from September 24, 2016 BOD Meeting:**

Jim Barron moved and Mike Gilbert seconded that the minutes be approved as submitted. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **Finance Report – Matt Queen, Treasurer**

The Board discussed a \$156.81 expenditure for Blue Pay to facilitate our electronic money transfers.

Matt is looking into online access to the trust account.

The submitted Treasury Report included:

Checking account balance 9/24/2016    \$2,793.14

Total Credits: \$10,745.00

Total expenditures: \$3,196.31

Checking account balance (4/7/2017) \$10,431.83

A motion to accept the report was made by Chrissie Carpenter and seconded by Jennifer Swanson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Executive Director's Report – Jim Barron**

Jim Barron provided an overview of the trust. Fred Stewart had recently recommended a re-balancing of the trust. Jim had sent the recommendation to the Board via email.

The balance has grown consistently and is currently in excess of \$141,000.

Jim summarized donations from Deans from various institutions as meeting sponsors.

### **Board of Directors: Terms and Membership**

Jim Berardinelli and Jim Barron are considering stepping down from their current positions, providing opportunities for other Board members to assume leadership roles. They encouraged Board members to consider these opportunities.

Jim Barron moved that Brandon Sheafor from Carroll College be added to the Board as an at large member. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Swanson and passed unanimously.

The Board briefly discussed the value of including as many disciplines as possible to broaden membership and participation.

### **Website:**

Jim Barron and Jim Berardinelli reported that the website appears to be working well.

Jim Barron reported that upon meeting registration, receipts appear automatically for registrants

**Abstract Submission** – A discussion regarding abstract submission was tabled until the fall meeting to give time to consult with Shortgrass about their ability to facilitate this.

### **New Business:**

**Setting Date of 2017 Fall Board Meeting** – A motion was made by Mike Gilbert and seconded by Jim Barron to select the date of 9/30/17 for the fall meeting. The motion passed unanimously. (Note – this date was later revised to 10/7/17 via email vote.)

**2018 Annual Meeting** – Jim Barron moved and Tom Lewis seconded that the dates of April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> be set as the dates for the 2018 Annual Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Gilbert agreed to lead the planning effort for the 2018 Annual Meeting.

**Junior Academy Business** – Jessica Tuberty led discussion of the Jr. Academy. Jessica stressed the need for expansion of participation beyond Missoula County. Jessica also suggested that the website be expanded to be more inclusive to the MJAS. This may increase visibility. It was suggested that science fairs might be a good place to advertise the MJAS.

Jessica will work with Shortgrass on modifying the website to benefit the MJAS.

Discussion ensued regarding elimination of fees for MJAS members. The discussion was tabled to allow time to contact the national AJAS to see if they may be able to supplement membership fees.

**Method for Increasing Participation in Annual Meetings** – There was a brief discussion about the value of increased participation in the Annual Meeting. The consensus opinion was that more participation by MSU and UM flagship campuses and a broader discipline representation would strengthen the meeting.

### **2017 Annual Meeting**

Grant program: there are 33 submissions for grant funding. The awards will be discussed via email.

Best oral and poster presentations: The Board agreed by acclamation that \$50.00 awards would be appropriate for best poster and oral presentations.

Keynote speaker: Jim Berardinelli suggested that a keynote speaker may be one way to generate enhanced interest in the meeting. The idea was tabled for later discussion.

Grant reviews: The approach taken this year has worked well in the review of submitted grants.

### **Adjourn:**

Jim Barron moved, and Chrissie Carpenter seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously at 8:59 AM

### **Business via email:**

4/27/17 The Board voted unanimously to allocate \$100.00 to be paid to as an award to the person who designs a winning logo for the MJAS logo contest.

5/11/17 Jim Barron announced via email the winners of the Annual Meeting poster and oral presentation awards. They were:

Best Undergraduate Poster – Joseph Walters, Montana State University – Billings; “Does the Misregulation of Codon-Biased Genes in the Anterior Pituitary Contribute to Familial Dysautonomia?”

Best Undergraduate Oral Presentation – Alex Kurtz, Carroll College; “Amphibian Risk Assessment in Montana”

Best Graduate Oral Presentation – Shannon Dillard, MSU-Bozeman; “Eight Years Later: time to look to soils to improve Yellowstone National Park’s restoration goals”.

5/18/17 Jim Berardinelli emailed to the Board an update on the work of Jessica Tuberty with Shortgrass Web Development on the possibility of upgrading our website to more fully represent the MJAS. Shortgrass proposed a \$2,000 upfront cost and an additional annual fee of \$238.00. Jim Barron is in support of the expenditures.

5/18/17 - 5/24/17 Jim Berardinelli emailed the Board membership with the results of the grant competition. The Board voted on a proposal to fund 9 students at a total amount of \$8,580.00. The membership approved two motions: 1) To accept the priority rankings from the grant competition, and 2) To approve allocation of an additional \$1,080.00 to the already allocated \$7,500.00.

5/22/17 - 6/5/17 Carmen Hauck resigned her position as the Director of the Junior Academy. Carmen Nominated Jessica Tuberty as the new Director. Jim Berardinelli seconded the nomination. Jim Berardinelli nominated Carmen Hauck as a Board Member at-large. Dan Gretch seconded the nomination. Via electronic vote, both Jessica Tuberty and Carmen Hauck were elected to their respective Board positions.