

**1007 W. Third Avenue, Suite 100**

**Anchorage, AK 99501**

**907.644.6703 – phone**

**907.644.6780 – fax**

[**www.aoos.org**](http://www.aoos.org)

**AOOS Executive Committee Meeting Summary**

Friday, January 6 2012

Attending in Anchorage: Molly McCammon (AOOS staff) and Amy Holman (Treasurer)

Attending by phone: Ed Page (Chair), Ed Fogels (Vice Chair) and Tara Jones (ex officio)

1. AOOS Executive Director McCammon updated the committee on recent AOOS activities:

* The national IOOS program Executive Director Zdenka Willis will be in Anchorage for 3 days during the Alaska Marine Science Symposium. Molly is organizing a lunch for her with board members in town.
* Although the regional IOOS programs received a funding increase from Congress, due to unspecified cuts to the NOAA budget, it is likely that the regions will receive level funding for FY 12. This is a topic we will want to discuss with the IOOS director. We should get our final number some time in late January/early February. The Executive Committee will likely need to meet to approve our final budget allocation.
* Molly will be sending out a doodle poll soon to schedule the AOOS Board winter meeting – some time in February/March.
* The next NFRA Board meeting is scheduled for Washington DC area February 28 – March 1. We’re trying to schedule some congressional briefings that would highlight stakeholder uses of ocean observations and hope we can get at least one Alaskan to attend. The last time we did this, Richard Glenn from Barrow participated, and he was a very good spokesman for both oil and gas development and Native subsistence users.
* AOOS staff are gearing up for the week long activities related to the Alaska Marine Science Symposium, as well as a meeting January 23 with ADF&G relating to the data sharing partnership we have going.

2. Executive Director signature authority policy

* E. Fogels moved, and second by E. Page to adopt the draft policy. Motion passed unanimously.
* Discussion: policy mirrors current activities, and will be incorporated into AOOS Standard Operating Procedures.

3. Acceptance of Regional Ocean Planning grant

* E. Fogels moved, with second by E. Page to formally accept the NOAA award of $760k to fund a data visualization project for potential Arctic fisheries. Potential conflict of interest noted by A. Holman, who will be the program officer for the grant, and T. Jones, representing the fiscal agent for AOOS on the grant.
* McCammon noted that the descoped proposal had been reviewed by state partners and had their support.
* Motion passed unanimously.

4. Acceptance of Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Long Term Monitoring Program grant

* A. Holman moved to approve AOOS participation in this project and receipt of any funding. T. Jones second. Motion passed unanimously.
* It was noted that at this time AOOS would not be receiving any funding directly from the project (although that may change), but the AOOS data management contractor – Axiom – would be providing data management services on behalf of AOOS to the program and would receive funding directly. Axiom, as the AOOS data manager, also received the contract to provide data management services for the Herring Research and Monitoring Program.

5. Approval of AOOS comments on draft IOOS certification criteria

* E. Fogels moved and second by A. Holman to approve a letter from the AOOS Executive Committee endorsing the NFRA comments on draft IOOS certification.
* Holman noted that she had done some checking with our Northwest counterpart, NANOOS, and they were providing a similar letter of support. In addition, others involved in the process also agreed that the draft criteria were overly complex and went beyond the scope of the requirements in the IOOS authorizing legislation.
* Motion passed unanimously.