

The Aquatic Plant Management Society



**Midyear Board Meeting
Virtual Meeting Platform
March 18, 2021**

APMS Board Book – March 2021

Table of Contents	Chair/Contact	Noticed?	Received?
Board Book Cover	Giannotti	--	complete
Contents	Giannotti	--	
Agenda	Wersal/Giannotti	--	complete
BOD Chairs & Contact Info	Giannotti	--	complete
Minutes			
Approved	ALG	yes	complete
Draft	ALG	yes	complete
Officer Reports			
President	Wersal	yes	yes
Treasurer	Nawrocki	yes	yes
Secretary	ALG	yes	yes
Editor	Ferrell	yes	yes
Committee Reports			
Awards	Madsen	yes	--
Bylaws	Leary	yes	--
Education/Outreach/Website	Hartis	yes	yes
Exhibits	Jones	yes	--
Finance	Fuhrman	yes	yes
Legislative	Richardson	yes	yes
Meeting Planning	Richardson	yes	yes
Membership	Bellaud	yes	yes
Nominating	Heilman	yes	--
Past Presidents' Advisory	Heilman	yes	--
Program	Thum	yes	yes
Proposal Review	Heilman	yes	--
Publications	Ferrell	yes	yes
Regional Chapters	Turnage	yes	yes
Scholastic Endowment	Warmuth	yes	--
Strategic Planning	Heilman	yes	yes
Student Affairs	Sardes	yes	yes

Special Representatives

AERF	Layne	yes	--
BASS	Slade	yes	yes
CAST	Gettys	yes	yes
NALMS	McNabb	yes	yes
RISE	Barrick	yes	--
WOA	Kay	yes	yes
WSSA	Richardson	yes	yes
Science Policy	Van Wychen	yes	yes

-- = No report at this time....but may present in the meeting.

AGENDA
Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
Virtual Meeting Platform
March 18, 2021
10 am – 4 pm EST

10:00 am Call to Order
12:00 pm Break
12:30 pm Reconvene Board Meeting
2:00 pm Afternoon Break
4:00 pm Adjourn

10:00 am CALL TO ORDER - President Ryan Wersal

ROLL CALL - Secretary Amy Giannotti

- Recognition of Visitors

MINUTES - Approval of Minutes:

- October 8, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting
- October 14, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting
- November 6, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT – Ryan Wersal

REPORT OF THE TREASURER – Justin Nawrocki

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY – Amy Giannotti

REPORT OF THE EDITOR - Jay Ferrell

Approval of Officer Reports

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards – John Madsen*

Bylaws and Resolutions – James Leary – no report

Education Outreach and Website - Brett Hartis

Exhibits - Dean Jones – no report

Finance - Andy Fuhrman
Legislative - Rob Richardson
Meeting Planning - Rob Richardson*
Membership – Marc Bellaud*
Nominating – Mark Heilman*
Past President’s Advisory – Mark Heilman – no report
Program - Ryan Thum
Proposal Review – Mark Heilman – no report
Publications - Jay Ferrell
Regional Chapters – Gray Turnage – no report
Scholastic Endowment - Tom Warmuth*
Strategic Planning - Mark Heilman*
Student Affairs - Samantha Sardes

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

AERF - Carlton Layne*
BASS - Jeremy Slade
CAST - Lyn Gettys*
NALMS - Terry McNabb
RISE - Sam Barrick – no report
Women of Aquatics - Amy Kay*
WSSA - Rob Richardson
Science Policy Director - Lee Van Wychen

Approval of Committee and Special Representative Reports

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

These topics may be addressed during committee report process or tabled to this point as New Business

- Strategic partnerships for APMS

- WSSA – asking for input on how to better interact with regional chapters (APMS is a regional chapter)
- NISAW and NAISMA
- NALMS
- How can we promote APMS to a wider audience?

ADJOURN - President Ryan Wersal

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.
100 Winterberry Lane
Holly Springs, NC 27540
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2020 - 2021 Board, Committee Chairs, and Special Representatives

Officers

President

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Immediate Past President

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Dr. Erika Haug (1/3)

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2020 - 2021 Committee Chairs and Special Representatives

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Phone and E-mail</u>
Awards	John Madsen	530-752-7870 jmadsen@ucdavis.edu
Bylaws and Resolutions	James Leary	808-352-8774 learyj@ufl.edu
Education and Outreach	Brett Hartis	256-426-3117 brett.hartis@duke-energy.com
Exhibits	Dean Jones	863-514-6934 dean.jones@upl-ltd.com
Finance	Andy Fuhrman	954-661-4015 afuhrman@allstatemanagement.com
Legislative	Rob Richardson	919-515-5653 rob_richardson@ncsu.edu
Meeting Planning	Rob Richardson	919-515-5653 rob_richardson@ncsu.edu
Membership	Marc Bellaud	508-865-1000 mbellaud@solitudelake.com
Nominating	Mark Heilman	317-388-3336 markh@sepro.com
Past President's Advisory	Mark Heilman	317-388-3336 markh@sepro.com
Program	Ryan Thum	406-994-4039 ryan.thum@montana.edu
Proposal Review	Mark Heilman	317-388-3336 markh@sepro.com
Publications	Jay Ferrell	352-392-7512 jferrell@ufl.edu
Regional Chapters	Gray Turnage	662-325-7527 gturnage@gri.msstate.edu
Scholastic Endowment	Tom Warmuth	336-402-4449 twarmuth@biosafesystems.com
Strategic Planning	Mark Heilman	317-388-3336 markh@sepro.com

Student Affairs	Sam Sardes	561-201-0713 sam.sardes@solitudelake.com
Website	Brett Hartis	828-442-7339 brett.hartis@duke-energy.com

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AERF	Carlton Layne	678-773-1364 layn1111@bellsouth.net
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CAST	Lyn Gettys	954-577-6331 lgettys@ufl.edu
NALMS	Terry McNabb	360-527-1271 tmcnabb@aquatechnex.com
RISE	Sam Barrick	317-216-8073 samb@sepro.com
Women of Aquatics	Amy Kay	715-891-6798 akay@cleanlakesmidwest.com
WSSA	Rob Richardson	919-515-5653 rob_richardson@ncsu.edu
Science Policy Director	Lee Van Wychen	202-746-4686 lee.vanwychen@wssa.net

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

July 20, 2020

Approved: October 8, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. met via Zoom teleconference on Monday, July 20, 2020. The meeting was held online in response to cancelation of the APMS Annual Meeting, prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This is the first regularly scheduled APMS Board meeting held online as well as the first cancelation of the Annual Meeting in the Society's 60-year history.

President Mark Heilman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. EDT.

Officers and Directors present during the meeting were:

Mark Heilman, President
Ryan Wersal, President Elect
Ryan Thum, Vice President
Craig Aguillard, Immediate Past President
Jeremy Slade, Treasurer
Jeffrey Schardt, Secretary
Jason Ferrell, Editor
Deborah Hofstra, Director
Amy Kay, Director
Marc Bellaud, Director
Amy Ferriter, Director
Lyn Gettys, Director
Chris Mudge, Director
Jens Beets, Student Director

Others in attendance during all or portions of the meeting:

Andy Fuhrman, Finance Committee Chair
Brett Hartis, Education and Outreach & Website Committee Chair
Justin Nawrocki, UPL NA
Rob Richardson, Legislative & Meeting Planning Committee Chair, WSSA Special Representative
Sam Sardes, Student Affairs Committee Chair
Lee Van Wychen, Science Policy Director

MINUTES

After Roll Call, President Heilman asked for approval of the draft Minutes from the January 28, 2020 Board Meeting held in Orlando, Florida, and subsequent online issues managed by the Board prior to the July 20, 2020 Board meeting. The online draft Minutes include a chronology of the steps leading to the unprecedented cancelation of the 2020 Annual Meeting. Jeremy Slade had several administrative corrections to the draft Minutes then motioned the Board for their approval.

Jeremy Slade motioned the Board to approve the draft Minutes as amended from the January 28, 2020 Midyear Board Meeting and subsequent online issues. Jay Ferrell seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Mark Heilman began with remarks about the unprecedented year with the COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts on the APMS Annual Meeting and other functions. Heilman thanked the Board, Meeting Planning Committee, Texas APMS Chapter (TAPMS) and especially Bill Torres for their work with the Hyatt San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel in canceling the Annual Meeting at no cost to APMS. APMS was under contract with the Hyatt for about \$82,000. Heilman attended all Chapter annual meetings until March 2020 and introduced initiatives he would like the Society to pursue including expanding the Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant (GSRG), improved interactions with Chapters, and the importance of highlighting benefits of aquatic plant control.

President Heilman collaborated with other societies, notably the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) to share expertise and perhaps memberships. NALMS provided input on technical content for a webinar on harmful algal bloom (HAB) management presented by NEAPMS Past President and NALMS Past President, Dr. Ken Wagner. This event was sponsored by WSSA and hosted by the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR) and facilitated by APMS. Rob Richardson presented aquatic plant management issues online during National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW). An APMS ad hoc committee is working on ways to provide online scientific and management content to members and the public.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jeremy Slade provided the following summary of General and Scholastic Accounts as of July 7, 2020 (below). The General Investment Account includes \$120,000 in emergency funds that are not available for general business of the Society. The Scholastic Account is only available for the GSRG and not general or other scholastic expenditures.

General and Scholastic Accounts (as of July 7, 2020)

General Accounts

Checking (general operating)	\$8,605.18
Investment (including \$120,000 reserve)	\$269,518.72
Total General Accounts	\$278,123.90

Scholastic Accounts

Checking	\$49,474.28
Investment	\$151,648.49
Total Scholastic Accounts	\$201,122.77

Total General and Scholastic Accounts **\$479,246.67**

Slade advised that APMS investments had lost nearly \$50,000 after the market initially turned down in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The market has recovered somewhat. After reconciling expenses, cash incomes, and investments, APMS had a net negative income for the year of \$22,894.87. Slade also advised that he did not have a full audit done this year. The cost for a full

audit is about \$6,000-\$6,500. Instead, he worked with the auditing company to file a Form 990 at a cost of about \$1,500. Slade suggested conducting full audits every third year in the future and filing the federal 990 tax return on the interim years.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Jeff Schardt began with a report on Membership. Schardt sent letters to Sustaining Members on January 2 for 2020, thanking them for their support and soliciting 2020 dues. APMS posted Sustaining Member logos and company statements in the June 2020 Newsletter in the absence of a 2020 Annual Meeting Program. There are 25 Sustaining Members for 2020. Sustaining Membership dues are \$500 per year, half of which is deposited into the Scholastic Endowment Fund.

Schardt sent three due notices to Individual and Student Members from January through June to renew memberships. APMS has benefitted from including a one-year membership in Annual Meeting registration; however, it has been difficult to retain many of these members beyond the one inclusive year. Recent membership totals are presented below.

2020 Total	Type	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
235 USA	Individual	223	265	248	244	213	205	220	180	169
5 International	Honorary	16	17	19	19	21	223	24	26	25
240 Total	Student	26	33	25	30	32	33	38	32	21
+	Sustaining	17	16	16	18	21	26	27	25	25
26 Subscription	Total	282	331	308	311	287	286	308	263	240

The 2020 officer and director slate and two proposed Bylaws amendments were published in the June Newsletter which was posted on the APMS web site and members notified by email on June 15; more than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. APEX set up an online voting platform for the proposed 2020-2021 slate and Bylaws amendments. Fifty-two members participated in the vote. Results are presented in the Committee Reports.

Schardt received four boxes of information from Bill Haller, donated by members over 60 years. Information was collated and scanned. APMS now has the complete set of Journals and Newsletters posted on the web site along with a complete file of paper copies of these documents. Minutes, documenting the business of the Society, are posted on the web site under Members Only / Documents from 1982 to 2020, with a few intermittent years prior to 1982. APMS also has paper or electronic files of Board Books from 1982 to present. Other documents scanned and posted under the Documents and Archives tab on the web site include Articles of Incorporation and a dozen iterations of the Bylaws, Operating Manuals (dating to the first OP Manual in 1986), Strategic Plans, Membership Lists, and Directories (dating to 1966).

Schardt concluded by thanking the APMS Membership for the honor to serve on the Board for 19 years as Director, President, and Secretary. "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the Board and am honored to have worked with friends and colleagues providing information to APMS members and others interested in aquatic plant management." President Heilman thanked Schardt for his service and presented a gift from members; a photograph of an open marsh (without invasive plants) at sunset in the Everglades.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Editor Jay Ferrell advised that the supplemental Journal on the Delta Region Areawide Aquatic Weed Research Program is being organized by John Madsen and should be available in January 2021. Chapters of the supplemental publication *Research Methods in Aquatic Plant Management* are now available on the APMS website. Submissions to the regular Journal remain at about 35 annually with a high acceptance rate of about 70%.

Ferrell summarized his effort to explore savings if the *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management* was published online vs. mailing paper copies. Ferrell indicated that the cost savings may be as much as 50% per issue to produce the JAPM as an online version only; saving about \$7,000-\$9,000 per year. Discussion included the need for APMS to conserve as much funding as possible. Ferrell will work with Allen Press to see if there are any contractual obligations that need to be addressed. If none, he will pursue moving the JAPM to online only upon approval of the Board.

Ryan Wersal motioned the Board to move the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management to an online platform in January 2021 if contractual obligations allow. Amy Ferriter seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

Ryan Thum motioned the Board to accept the Officer Reports. Jay Ferrell seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Awards: Chair Jay Ferrell pointed out that awards are traditionally presented at the Annual Meeting Banquet. 2020 recipients will be announced during the Zoom Annual Business Meeting and are listed below. A write-up for awards winners will be posted in the October Newsletter. Plaques will be presented to the 2020 Award winners in person at the Presidents' Reception at the 2021 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, provided there will be a meeting. Awards for 2021 will be presented at the Awards Banquet.

2020 Award	Recipient
Outstanding Graduate Student	Gray Turnage - Mississippi State University
Max McCowen Friendship	Tom Warmuth - Biosafe Systems, LLC
T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service	Jeremy Slade - UPL NA
Outstanding Research/Technical Achievement	Patrick J. Moran - USDA-ARS
	<i>Delta Region Areawide Aquatic Weed Project</i>
Outstanding JAPM Article	Melaney A. Dunne & Raymond M. Newman - University of Minnesota
	<i>Effect of light on macrophyte sprouting and assessment of viable seedbank to predict community composition</i>
President's Award	Dave Petty - NDR Research
	Bill Torres - Florida Event Planning & Meeting Service
	Rob Richardson - North Carolina State University
Honorary Members	Linda Nelson - USACE (retired)
	Steve Brewer - Brewer International (posthumous)
	Ken Manuel - Duke Energy (retired) (award in 2019 - not yet presented)

Bylaws and Resolutions Committee: Mark Heilman addressed the Committee activity to confirm Honorary Member eligibility for Steve Brewer and two proposed amendments that were approved

via the online membership vote. Text of the amendments and vote tabulation for each are presented below. (underline = new language / ~~striketrough~~ = deleted language)

Proposed Bylaws Amendment #1

Passed Yes = 51 / No = 1

ARTICLE XIII. COMMITTEES and REPRESENTATIVES

12. Proposal Review Committee. This Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the Board for all proposals externally submitted funding requests / proposals ~~to the Society equal to or in excess of \$5,000, regardless of the funding amount,~~ excluding proposals for the Society's Graduate Student Research Grant. The Committee shall consist of the Immediate Past President, President Elect, Treasurer, one Director, and one member at-large. The Committee will be chaired by the Immediate Past President who will appoint the Director and member at-large. Upon review of each proposal, the Committee will submit a written recommendation with justification to the Board for final decision.

Proposed Bylaws Amendment #2

Passed Yes = 50 / No = 2

ARTICLE XIII. COMMITTEES and REPRESENTATIVES

14. Regional Chapters Committee. This committee shall be responsible for promoting and forming regional chapters of the Society. It shall evaluate requests from groups wishing to affiliate with the Society as regional chapters. The committee shall be responsible for enhancing communications and coordination among the regional chapters and the Society. The committee shall be responsible for collecting and displaying information about job opportunities in the field of aquatic plant management. Appropriate information should be made available at the annual meeting and in the Newsletter. The committee shall consist of at least one representative of each recognized regional chapter and include the Vice President of the Society ~~who shall be Chair~~.

Education and Outreach Committee: Chair Brett Hartis discussed the committee's task to review content in the APMS archival document *Understanding Invasive Aquatic Weeds*. The background information is still relevant and valuable. It needs to be converted to a format compatible with today's online learning. Plant and management examples and activities need to be broadened for national/international use. Hartis also addressed the review of analytics provided by APMS Social Media Editor, Amy Giannotti. The social media program is posting new information 3-5 times per week and continues to grow in the number of shares and comments.

Exhibits Committee: No report. President Heilman discussed looking into interim sponsorship ideas leading up to the 2021 Annual Meeting. Jeremy Slade mentioned FAMPS ideas to develop an online training platform and seek sponsorship for the program. Andy Fuhrman put forth asking traditional sponsors of the APMS Annual Meeting for sponsorship to the Society in return for some sort of benefit. Scharadt suggested a "menu" of APMS activities or online information programs that need funding to develop or distribute. Sponsors could contribute to an item on the menu.

Finance Committee: Chair Andy Fuhrman reported on APMS investments for the year. At the start of the year APMS had ~\$428,000 total for the General and Scholastic investment accounts. That number is ~\$421,000 as of July 2020. In March, the investment accounts were down to about \$360,000. Much of that has increased. APMS is not aggressively invested; approximately 50:50 in

fixed income:mutual funds. The balanced portfolio benefitted during the COVID-19 year. The Committee will monitor investments as the year proceeds through the pandemic and the 2020 election.

Legislative Committee: Chair Rob Richardson provided comments related to glyphosate. Bayer announced a \$10.9 billion settlement of most Roundup litigation (~100,000 lawsuits); however, the settlement is now under review. Also in California, a federal judge says Prop 65 cancer warning on herbicide labels for glyphosate is unconstitutional.

Meeting Planning Committee: Chair Rob Richardson reported that Bill Torres was able to move the 2021 and 2022 Annual Meeting dates from the traditional Sunday-Wednesday format to the new Monday-Thursday conference format approved by the Board during the 2020 Midyear Board meeting. The revised dates for the meetings are as follows:

Year	Site	Dates
2021	New Orleans, LA - Hilton	July 12-15
2020	Greenville, SC - Hyatt	July 18-21

There was much discussion about signing a contract with the Indianapolis Hyatt for the 2023 Annual Meeting. With so much uncertainty about travel, indoor meetings, and ability to meet room block requirements coupled with the difficulty of modifying or terminating contracts the Board decided waiting to sign this contract may be advisable. Delaying may result in a higher cost for the hotel or moving the meeting to a less desirable venue. Slade pointed out that there is no penalty for cancelling 730 days from the conference date – about seven months from the July 2020 Board meeting. After that, the penalty begins to rise from \$30,000 to \$91,000 as the conference date approaches.

Jeff Schardt motioned the Board to delay the decision on signing the contract for the 2023 annual meeting with the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis. Deborah Hofstra seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

Discussion followed on compensating the APMS Meeting Manager, Bill Torres for his work with the Hyatt San Antonio in setting up and then cancelling the 2020 Annual Meeting. The Meeting Manager Contract is structured to compensate the manager according to the number of room nights sold during the conference. Richardson will explore alternative contract structuring with Bill Torres for compensating the Meeting Manager in the absence of an Annual Meeting.

Membership Committee: Chair Marc Bellaud discussed holding a conference call or poll among Chapters for suggestions to improve APMS membership as well as communication and collaboration among Chapters and APMS.

Nominating Committee: Chair Craig Aguillard reported that the Board-approved 2020-2021 Slate of Officers and Directors was published in the Newsletter, posted on the APMS web site on June 15.

Office	Name	Affiliation	City	State
Vice President	Brett Hartis	Duke Energy Carolinas	Huntersville	North Carolina
Treasurer	Justin Nawrocki	UPL NA	Holly Springs	North Carolina
Secretary	Amy Giannotti	AquaSTEM Consulting LLC	Winter Park	Florida
Director	Michael Greer	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Buffalo	New York
Director	Erika Haug	North Carolina State University	Raleigh	North Carolina

Members approved the slate by a count of 51 Yes : 1 No during online voting from July 1-15, 2020.

Past President's Advisory Committee: No report. There was discussion about limiting discussion items at the Past Presidents' Luncheon to one or two topics and notify Past Presidents of the topics in advance of the luncheon to improve participation and discussion.

Program Committee: Chair Ryan Wersal did not have an update. He thanked those who had worked on subject matter prior to cancelation of the 2020 Annual Meeting. Wersal volunteered to assist Ryan Thum for the 2021 Annual Meeting Program.

Proposal Review Committee: Chair Craig Aguillard reported there were no funding proposals submitted to the Society during the previous six months.

Publications Committee: No report:

Regional Chapters Committee: Chair Ryan Thum acknowledged four Chapters that contributed toward the GSRG in 2020. Others are still considering. Some Chapters think the GSRG is great, others question the benefit vs. relevance to their specific region or needs. Thum shared that if the GSRG were self-sufficient, that would eliminate the need for routinely soliciting Chapter funds and leave the Chapters to sponsor their own initiatives.

Scholastic Endowment Committee: No report.

Strategic Planning Committee: President Heilman Commented that APMS has made progress in Goal 1 related to long-term finances. Andy Fuhrman reiterated that APMS needs to be as frugal as possible until the economy levels out or improves again.

Student Affairs Committee: Student Affairs Committee Chair Sam Sardes advised that since there will not be a 2020 Annual Meeting, there is no mechanism for student presenters to receive a complementary one-year APMS membership. Schardt suggested if students present technical information during an APMS online presentation format, they could earn a one-year membership.

Sardes also pointed out that in the absence of the 2020 Annual Meeting, there was no opportunity for students to elect a Student Director for the next year. Sardes will contact students to nominate candidates and select a Director for 2020-2021.

Website Committee: Chair Brett Hartis advised that all three APMS social media outlets (Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook) are now posted on the web site home page and the old APMS blog has been taken down. Hartis said the website needs a redesign, either by APEX or by an APMS volunteer. The site needs to be updated to be visually enticing and easily navigated. Perhaps include videos or slide shows of APMS events or research / management operations. Hartis suggested including APMS Sponsors on the website.

Slade advised that Dave Petty and APEX have cooperative or contractual ties to the APMS website and need to be consulted. There are other components (e.g. credit card payments, online voting) in the current website other than visual or information content. APEX also worked with APMS to streamline the Abstract Submission System for Annual Meeting Programs. A productive route may

be to work with APEX to see what they can provide regarding a rework of the APMS website to improve visual appeal and function.

AERF: Lyn Gettys advised that the 4th Edition of the AERF Best Management Practices manual is now posted on the AERF website.

BASS: Representative Jeremy Slade advised that APMS and BASS have officially cooperated under a signed *Cooperative Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding* since 1995; after an APMS ad hoc committee opened formal dialog in 1992. This is one of the longest standing agreements for each entity to provide information to members. APMS and AERF sponsored and participated in the Conservation Summit Luncheon hosted by BASS at the 2020 Bassmaster's Classic held in Birmingham, Alabama March 6-8, 2020. Drs. Jason Ferrell and Brett Hartis gave excellent presentations that stimulated lots of conversation currently surrounding the topic of Aquatic Plant Management Methods and Perceptions. Slade and Carlton Layne also attended. BASS continues to provide rational assessments to members of the needs and methods for aquatic plant management.

CAST: Representative Lyn Gettys advised the CAST Board has accepted the APMS HAB Commentary Paper proposal. Gettys will be the liaison, Dr. Dail Laughinghouse of Ft. Lauderdale will chair the paper committee. An outline is under development and authors are being selected to address each section of the outline.

NALMS: President Heilman reiterated previous discussion on initiatives to work with NALMS on HAB issues via seminars and presenting information at NALMS and APMS conferences.

RISE: President Heilman advised the new RISE Director, Megan Provost, had been invited to speak at the APMS Annual Meeting. RISE has been active addressing the efforts by Congressman Mast of Florida to exclude herbicide use in Corps of Engineers aquatic plant management programs.

Women of Aquatics: Representative Amy Kay advised WOA is working toward online meetings to share information. Kay estimated 10-15 APMS members are also members of WOA.

WSSA/Science Policy: Representative Rob Richardson advised a new edition of the Herbicide Handbook is under development. Richardson suggested working with WSSA to include information on fate of aquatic use herbicides in aquatic environments. Currently the Handbook addresses fate in terrestrial applications. WSSA approved an aquatic weed symposium proposal submitted by Richardson for 2021.

Science Policy Director Lee Van Wyche updated federal programs. Several Congressional staffers participated in the June 8, 2020 HAB webinar. Rob Richardson presented information via webinar at the May 2020 National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW). While the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) still exists, the Invasive Species Advisory Council (ISAC) has been eliminated as have many advisory bodies under the current administration. APMS members had previously been appointed to and participated on ISAC.

Jeremy Slade motioned the Board to approve the Committee and Special Representative Reports. Jay Ferrell seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

Old Business: President Heilman discussed the review and issuance of the 2020 Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant. The 2020 grant is awarded to the proposal submitted by Rob Richardson, Jens Beets, and Gregory Bugbee of North Carolina State University entitled *Evaluation of effect of biotype on biology and response to herbicides of aquatic macrophyte species*.

New Business:

1. Aquatic Symposium Proposal

WSSA approved a \$5,000 budget for staging a symposium; “Optimizing Invasive Aquatic Plant Management, Monitoring, and Outreach Efforts to Meet Regional Needs”. The symposium may be online, in person, or some hybrid. At this time Richardson did not think APMS funds would be necessary.

2. APMS Ad hoc Committee Considering Online Content Sharing

President Heilman shared discussions to hold online, some level of research or operational information on aquatic plants. Points considered include:

- Many groups are doing similar efforts
- Lengthy efforts can be fatiguing – keep to a half day or less
- May need facilitation for large groups in attendance – work with a university or USACE?
- Hybrid events with some parts recorded and some parts live – record for later use
- Method to interact with authors (recorded and live)
- Method for online CEUs
- How to get information to the public

Board reaction was positive. Suggestions included:

- Regional content may increase participation
- A way to collaborate with Chapters (e.g. FAPMS canceled the 2020 in-person conference)
- Is there a cost to set up a platform to present information – could APMS solicit sponsors

Jay Ferrell mentioned that the USACE (Jeremy Crossland) took the lead to set up a platform for aquatic plant management information sharing. There was good feedback on this and Crossland indicated he was interested in doing more.

3. APMS Ad hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

President Heilman discussed ideas to demonstrate APMS support of equality and diversity. The committee provided the following draft statement to post prominently on the APMS website. Heilman called for a motion for approval.

Deborah Hofstra motioned the Board to approve the following APMS diversity statement. Jeff Schardt seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

Creating an atmosphere of inclusion is vital to the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS). Contributions and perspectives from all members, students, event participants, and our local and international communities are important. Diversity includes age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, color, race, religion, sexual orientation, and diversity of thoughts and ideas. We recognize that embracing and encouraging diversity is critical to fulfilling our mission to ‘Provide a forum for the discovery and dissemination of scientific information that advances aquatic plant and algae management policy and

practice'. APMS will strive to further cultivate a Society built on mentorship, encouragement, tolerance, and mutual respect, and foster a welcoming environment for all.

There was further discussion on developing a Code of Conduct for APMS. Having a Code is reasonable and shows good intention. APMS may need to consult a legal entity regarding liability if APMS appoints contact persons to report and enforce complaints. If a complaint were reported but not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, would that open APMS or the APMS contact/enforcement person to financial liabilities.

Jay Ferrell motioned the Board to adjourn the meeting. Jens Beets seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

The Board meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m., EDT.

Approved: October 8, 2020

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting

July 21, 2020

Approved: October 8, 2020

The Annual Business Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. was held on Monday, July 21, 2020. The meeting was held via Zoom teleconference in response to the cancellation of the in-person Annual Meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. President Mark Heilman called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. EDT. Forty-two members attended the meeting via Zoom.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the 2019 Annual Business Meeting held in San Diego, CA on Monday, July 15, 2019, as well as Board and Annual Business Meeting Minutes dating back to 1982 are available for review and consideration by the general membership. There was no discussion regarding Minutes.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Mark Heilman began with remarks about the unprecedented year with the COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts on the APMS Annual Meeting and other functions. This was the first online APMS Annual Business Meeting. Heilman advised the year began normally with progress made on several fronts including the adoption and posting of the new APMS logo and Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook social media platforms. Heilman attended each Regional Chapter meeting prior to social distancing implementation and worked to enhance collaboration between the Chapters and APMS and further the Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant (GSRG).

President Heilman collaborated with other societies, notably North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) to share expertise and perhaps memberships. NALMS provided an online event on harmful algal blooms (HAB). Rob Richardson presented aquatic plant management issues online during National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW). An APMS ad hoc committee is working on ways to provide online scientific and management content to members and the public.

Heilman thanked the Meeting Planning Committee, the Texas APMS Chapter (TAPMS) and especially Bill Torres for their work with the Hyatt San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel in canceling the Annual Meeting at no cost to APMS. The Society was under contract with the Hyatt for approximately \$82,000.

Another APMS ad hoc committee drafted a statement on equality and diversity in response to recent civil demonstration and conversation. The Board adopted the following statement on July 20, 2020 for posting on the APMS web site.

Creating an atmosphere of inclusion is vital to the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS). Contributions and perspectives from all members, students, event participants, and our local and international communities are important. Diversity includes age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, color, race, religion, sexual orientation, and

diversity of thoughts and ideas. We recognize that embracing and encouraging diversity is critical to fulfilling our mission to ‘Provide a forum for the discovery and dissemination of scientific information that advances aquatic plant and algae management policy and practice’. APMS will strive to further cultivate a Society built on mentorship, encouragement, tolerance, and mutual respect, and foster a welcoming environment for all.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer Jeremy Slade provided APMS financial account explanations and balances as of July 7, 2020 (below). The General Investment Account includes \$120,000 that is set aside exclusively for unforeseen expenses; for example, expenses that may arise due to COVID-19-related issues. The Scholastic Checking and Investment Accounts are used exclusively for the GSRG. The 2020 GSRG will be paid from the Scholastic Checking Account.

General and Scholastic Accounts (as of July 7, 2020)

General Accounts

Checking (general operating)	\$8,605.18
Investment (including \$120,000 reserve)	\$269,518.72
Total General Accounts	\$278,123.90

Scholastic Accounts

Checking (discretionary)	\$49,474.28
Investment (subaccount)	\$151,648.49
Total Scholastic Accounts	\$201,122.77

Total General and Scholastic Accounts	\$479,246.67
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Due to the Annual Meeting cancellation, income is down for 2020 from lack of meeting sponsorship and membership registration and dues. Investments had lost a considerable amount in March due to the Market adjustment but have recovered in recent months – down about \$7,000 for the year.

Slade notified members that this is his last Business meeting after serving six years as Treasurer. He will continue to transition the incoming Treasurer and Secretary and will continue as the BASS Special Representative.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Secretary Jeff Schardt advised he has devoted over 200 hours so far this year collating, scanning, and posting APMS archival documents on the web site. APMS now has the complete set of Journals and Newsletters posted on the web site along with a complete file of paper copies of these documents. Minutes, documenting the business of the Society, are posted on the web site under Members Only / Documents from 1982 to 2020, with a few intermittent years prior to 1982. APMS also has paper or electronic files of Board Books from 1982 to present. Other documents scanned and posted under the Documents and Archives tab on the web site include Articles of Incorporation and a dozen iterations of the Bylaws, Operating Manuals (dating to the first OP Manual in 1986), Strategic Plans, Membership Lists, and Directories (dating to 1966).

Schardt advised that he posted bios for the proposed 2020-2021 slate of officers and directors and information on two proposed Bylaws amendments in the June Newsletter. Schardt worked with President Heilman and APEX webmaster to set up a voting platform on the APMS web site for these issues. Fifty-two members participated in the vote (from July 1-15). Vote results are presented herein during the Committee Reports.

Schardt ended by saying that after 19 years on the Board as Director, President and Secretary, this will be his last meeting as an APMS Board Member. He thanked the Membership for the honor of serving for an extended period and being able to work with friends and colleagues to provide information to APMS members and others interested in aquatic plant management.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Editor Jason Ferrell advised the Membership that the *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management* (JAPM) remains on-time with the July 2020 issue shipped on July 18. The JAPM continues to publish between 20-30 papers per year.

Ferrell advised that the Board decided to move away from paper copies of the JAPM. Beginning with the January 2021 issue, the JAPM will be available online only. This will result in a time savings as well as an annual cost savings to the Society of about \$8,000. All APMS members will have immediate access to articles. There will still be a delay of two years for non-members to access articles that have not been included in Open Access. Members will be notified of article availability via APMS email and social media platforms.

Clyde Smith motioned to accept the Officer Reports. John Madsen seconded the motion. The motion was approved without dissenting vote.

COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Awards: Chair Jay Ferrell thanked the membership for their nominations. Awards are traditionally presented at the Annual Meeting Banquet. 2020 recipients were announced during the Zoom Annual Business Meeting and are listed below. Plaques will be presented in person at the Presidents' Reception at the 2021 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, provided there will be a meeting.

Award	Recipient
Outstanding Graduate Student	Gray Turnage - Mississippi State University
Max McCowen Friendship	Tom Warmuth - Biosafe Systems, LLC
T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service	Jeremy Slade - UPL NA
Outstanding Research/Technical Achievement	Patrick J. Moran - USDA-ARS
	<i>Delta Region Areawide Aquatic Weed Project</i>
Outstanding JAPM Article	Melaney A. Dunne & Raymond M. Newman - University of Minnesota
	<i>Effect of light on macrophyte sprouting and assessment of viable seedbank to predict community composition</i>
President's Award	Dave Petty - NDR Research
	Bill Torres - Florida Event Planning & Meeting Service
	Rob Richardson - North Carolina State University
Honorary Members	Linda Nelson - USACE (retired)
	Steve Brewer - Brewer International (posthumous)

Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant

Dr. Stephen Enloe of the University of Florida administered the 2020 GSRG grant award. The 2020 GSRG is for \$40,000 distributed over two years beginning in January 2021. Criteria for proposals, reviewing, and scoring are established in the APMS Operating Manual. Nine proposals were received from seven universities. Judges voted unanimously to award the 2020 GSRG to:

Evaluation of effect of biotype on biology and response to herbicides of aquatic macrophyte species.

Graduate Student: Jens Beets, North Carolina State University

PI: Dr. Rob Richardson, Crop and Soil Sciences, North Carolina State University

PI: Gregory Bugbee, Associate Scientist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

Bylaws and Resolutions Committee: Mark Heilman reported for Chair James Leary that both proposed Bylaws changes were approved by the membership during the online vote. Text of the amendments and vote tabulation for each are presented below. (underline = new language / strikethrough = deleted language)

Proposed Bylaws Amendment #1

Passed Yes = 51 / No = 1

ARTICLE XIII. COMMITTEES and REPRESENTATIVES

12. Proposal Review Committee. This Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the Board for all proposals externally submitted ~~to the Society equal to or in excess of \$5,000,~~ funding requests / proposals regardless of the funding amount, excluding proposals for the Society's Graduate Student Research Grant. The Committee shall consist of the Immediate Past President, President Elect, Treasurer, one Director, and one member at-large. The Committee will be chaired by the Immediate Past President who will appoint the Director and member at-large. Upon review of each proposal, the Committee will submit a written recommendation with justification to the Board for final decision.

Proposed Bylaws Amendment #2

Passed Yes = 50 / No = 2

ARTICLE XIII. COMMITTEES and REPRESENTATIVES

14. Regional Chapters Committee. This committee shall be responsible for promoting and forming regional chapters of the Society. It shall evaluate requests from groups wishing to affiliate with the Society as regional chapters. The committee shall be responsible for enhancing communications and coordination among the regional chapters and the Society. The committee shall be responsible for collecting and displaying information about job opportunities in the field of aquatic plant management. Appropriate information should be made available at the annual meeting and in the Newsletter. The committee shall consist of at least one representative of each recognized regional chapter and include the Vice President of the ~~Society who shall be Chair.~~

Education and Outreach Committee: Chair Brett Hartis addressed the former APMS E&O project, Understanding Invasive Aquatic Weeds. The information began as a booklet and has undergone three revisions. An interactive version of the booklet was previously posted on the APMS website in Flash format, but that format is no longer supported. The current version is a 12-page paper copy booklet that was produced by the FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and geared to Florida invasive plants. Hartis advised that the basic information is still pertinent. He suggested that content can be broadened using example plants from across the country and presented in an online format. Hartis also discussed that the APMS social media effort continues to grow. Social media coordinator Amy Giannotti provided the Board with analytics for Twitter, Instagram, and Face book.

Exhibits Committee: No report.

Finance Committee: Treasurer Jeremy Slade provided information for Chair Andy Fuhrman. Slade advised that between both APMS Accounts, the Society lost about \$50,000 by early March 2020. In the past three months, that deficit has reduced with a net loss in investments of ~\$7,000 for 2020.

Legislative Committee: Chair Rob Richardson provided comments related to glyphosate. Bayer announced a \$10.9 billion settlement of most Roundup litigation (~100,000 lawsuits); however, the settlement is now under review. Also in California, a federal judge says Prop 65 cancer warning for glyphosate is unconstitutional.

Meeting Planning Committee: Chair Rob Richardson advised that Meeting Manager Bill Torres has renegotiated upcoming Annual Meeting dates with site hotels. The APMS Board voted to move the meeting format from a Sunday – Wednesday event to Monday – Thursday. The Board has decided to postpone signing a contract for the 2023 Annual Meeting until the COVID-19 pandemic plays out.

Richardson provided the revised dates for upcoming Annual Meetings:

Year	Site	Dates
2021	New Orleans, LA - Hilton	July 12-15
2022	Greenville, SC - Hyatt	July 18-21

Membership Committee: Chair Mark Bellaud reported that activity has been minimal due to the pandemic. As conditions change, Bellaud discussed strengthening ties with Chapters and perhaps increase Chapter membership in APMS.

Nominating Committee: Chair Craig Aguillard presented the 2020-2021 slate of Officers and Directors approved by the general membership during the July 1-15 online vote. The slate was approved by a 50 yes – 1 no vote.

Office	Name	Affiliation	City	State
Vice President	Brett Hartis	Duke Energy Carolinas	Huntersville	North Carolina
Treasurer	Justin Nawrocki	UPL NA	Holly Springs	North Carolina
Secretary	Amy Giannotti	AquaSTEM Consulting LLC	Winter Park	Florida
Director	Michael Greer	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Buffalo	New York
Director	Erika Haug	North Carolina State University	Raleigh	North Carolina

Past President's Advisory Committee: No report.

Program Committee: No report.

Proposal Review: No report.

Publications Committee: No report.

Regional Chapters Committee: Chair Ryan Thum thanked the Chapters for contributing to the GSRG. Thum acknowledged that the Bylaws amendment that allows for a more long-term Chair for the Regional Chapters Committee should create a more cohesive relationship between APMS and the Chapters. Thum will work with the Chapters and the Committee Chair to set up a summit among Chapters and APMS to discuss strategic issues vs the brief luncheon at the Annual Meeting.

Scholastic Endowment Committee: Chair Tom Warmuth reported that he is trying to figure a way to develop an online fund-raising event for the GSRG.

Strategic Planning Committee: Chair Mark Heilman reported on the status of goals from the 2017-2021 Strategic Plan. The four goals include financial planning, marketing, membership, and student initiatives. There has been good progress on meeting these goals. APMS is closely monitoring the financial goal. The \$120,000 emergency fund established in the strategic plan is there if the Society needs this insurance. APMS is more closely collaborating with Chapters as well as other societies. APMS is committed to sustaining its support of student initiatives. The next strategic planning cycle will begin in early 2022.

Student Affairs Committee: Chris Mudge reported for Chair Sam Sardes. The committee is working with the LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the New Orleans USACE District to set up student field trips for the 2021 Annual Meeting. Mudge announced plans to select a Student Director for the 2020-2021 APMS Board. An email was sent to student members for volunteers to serve. This will shortly be followed by a vote among the students to select the Student Director.

Website Committee: Chair Brett Hartis reported that the Committee will soon develop plans to revise the APMS website so that it is visually appealing and easy to navigate.

AERF: Representative Carlton Layne reported on several cancelations of meeting and field trips.

BASS: Representative Jeremy Slade advised that APMS and BASS have officially cooperated under a signed agreement since 1995. This is one of the longest standing Memoranda of Understanding for each entity to provide information to members. APMS and AERF sponsored and participated in the Conservation Summit hosted by BASS at the 2020 Bassmaster's Classic held in Birmingham, Alabama March 6-8, 2020. Drs. Jason Ferrell and Brett Hartis gave excellent presentations that stimulated lots of conversation currently surrounding the topic of Aquatic Plant Management Methods and Perceptions. Slade and Carlton Layne also attended.

CAST: No report.

NALMS: No report. President Heilman reiterated that APMS and NALMS are actively collaborating on efforts to present information to members and the public on HAB and aquatic plant management.

RISE: No report.

Women of Aquatics: No report.

WSSA: Chair Rob Richardson announced WSSA intent to hold an aquatic weed symposium that may end up online. Richardson will advise members as the symposium develops.

Science Policy Director: Lee Van Wyche thanked Mark Heilman and Rob Richardson for recent seminars on aquatic plant management and HAB.

Jay Ferrell motioned to accept the Committee and Special Representative Reports. Ryan Thum seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

President Heilman thanked the Board and members for their support and understanding during challenging times with COVID-19. He welcomed the 2020-2021 Board and specifically thanked Jeremy Slade and Jeff Schardt for their service to the Society.

The Society presented Jeff Schardt with a framed aquatic scene photograph for his 19 years on the Board. Schardt expressed his gratitude for the gift and thanked Mark Heilman for his work to navigate the Society through the Annual Meeting cancellation and Hotel contract negotiations. This while working with other Societies and ad hoc committees to move APMS forward on several fronts including: cooperation among APMS, Chapters and other Societies; online information sharing; and an equality and diversity statement as well as a code of ethics for APMS.

Heilman handed the gavel virtually to incoming President Ryan Wersal.

John Madsen motioned to adjourn the 2020 Annual Business Meeting. Jeremy Slade seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m. EDT.

Approved: October 8, 2020

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

Minutes of the Pre-Midyear Board of Directors Meeting

July 27, 2020 – via email

Approved: October 8, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc., met via email on July 27, 2020, after an urgent and time-sensitive request was presented by President Ryan Wersal regarding a proposed amendment slated for presentation to the House Rules Committee on July 28, 2020. President Ryan Wersal called the meeting to order at 9:22 p.m., EDT via email to the Board of Directors asking for discussion and vote.

Representative Brian Mast (R, Florida's 18th Congressional District) proposed Amendment 43 of HR 7617 - **Defense, Commerce, Justice, Science, Energy and Water Development, Financial Services and General Government, Homeland Security, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2021** prohibiting the United States Army Corps of Engineers from using approved aquatic herbicides in Florida's waters for the management of invasive aquatic plants.

Motion: Vice President Brett Hartis motioned to accept the language presented by Mark Heilman opposing the proposed amendment at 9:26 p.m., EDT.

Second: Amy Ferriter 9:30 p.m., EDT.

The motion passed without dissenting vote. President Wersal closed the period of discussion upon receipt of majority vote at 10:28 p.m., EDT.

The Board meeting adjourned at 10:28 p.m., EDT. Ryan Wersal presented a letter on behalf of APMS to Chairman Jim McGovern and Ranking Member Tom Cole of the House Rules Committee on July 28, 2020, in opposition of this proposed amendment, prior to the Committee vote on July 28, 2020, at 11 a.m., EDT.

Attachments:

- *Letter from APMS*
- *Proposed amendment 43 language*

Approved: October 8, 2020

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

Minutes of the Pre-Midyear Board of Directors Meeting

August 6, 2020 – August 10, 2020 – via email

Approved: October 8, 2020

Background: Amy Giannotti has been providing social media management of APMS platforms on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter since October 1, of 2019, under an annual agreement (\$2,000.00/year). This activity falls under the Education and Outreach Committee.

Motion: Vice President Brett Hartis motioned via email on 8/6/2020 at 11:54 a.m., EDT requesting discussion and offering support for renewing the social media management contract for \$2,000.00 for period October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021, with Amy Giannotti of AquaSTEM Consulting, LLC.

Second: Lyn Gettys, 11:56 p.m., EDT.

President Ryan Wersal called for discussion at 12:21 p.m., EDT via email to the Board of Directors. Period of discussion closed August 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., EDT.

The motion passed without dissenting vote.

The Board meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m., EDT, on August 10, 2020.

Date called for vote: 8/10/2020

Attachments:

- *Email communications (digital)*

Approved: October 8, 2020

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

Minutes of the Pre-Midyear Board of Directors Meeting

August 31, 2020 – September 4, 2020 – via email

Approved: October 8, 2020

Background: Lee Van Wychen emailed the following to the Science Policy Committee on August 28, which was forwarded to the APMS BOD for discussion.

“Legislation was introduced by Tom Udall (NM) in the Senate (S. 4406) and Rep. Joe Neguse (CO) in the House (H.R. 7940). The bills would ban organophosphate, neonicotinoid and paraquat pesticides, create a petition process to EPA for individual citizens, and alter the process for emergency exemptions. In addition, the bills would enable local communities to enact policies without being vetoed or preempted by state law and would suspend the use of pesticides deemed unsafe by the European Union and Canada, pending EPA review, and would require the EPA administrator to make a finding within 90 days on petitions filed to designate chemicals as “dangerous.””

There is a large coalition of registrants, commodity groups and other pesticide stakeholders who are strongly opposed to this legislation as it potentially sets a dangerous precedent for changing how FIFRA works and for ignoring the scientific findings of the EPA

Motion: Editor Jay Ferrell motioned via email on 8/31/2020 at 1:02 p.m., EDT suggesting APMS sign the letter authored by RISE to support continued FIFRA authority.

Second: Lyn Gettys, 1:10 p.m., EDT.

President Ryan Wersal called for discussion at 1:12 p.m., EDT via email to the Board of Directors. Period of discussion closed September 4, 2020 at 12:00 p.m., EDT with call for a vote.

The Board meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m., EDT on September 4, 2020.

Date called for vote: 9/4/2020

The motion passed without dissenting vote.

Attachments:

- Letter offering continued support of FIFRA authority
- Letter from CropLife America – FIFRA Rebuttal

Approved: October 8, 2020

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

October 8, 2020

Virtual Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc., met on Thursday, October 8, 2020 over virtual platform. President Ryan Wersal called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m., CDT.

Officers and Directors present at roll call were:

Ryan Wersal, President
Ryan Thum, President Elect
Brett Hartis, Vice-President
Mark Heilman, Immediate Past President
Justin Nawrocki, Treasurer
Amy Giannotti, Secretary
Jason Ferrell, Editor
Marc Bellaud, Director
Amy Ferriter, Director
Chris Mudge, Director
Erika Haug, Director
Gregory Chorak, Student Director

There were no Proxies.

Others in attendance during all or portions of the meeting:

John Madsen, Awards Committee Chair
James Leary, Bylaws & Resolutions Committee Chair
Sam Sardes, Student Affairs Committee Chair
Amy Kay, Women of Aquatics Representative
Carlton Layne, AERF Representative
Tom Warmuth, Scholastic Endowment Committee Chair
Lee Van Wyche, WSSA Science Policy Director
Jeremy Slade, BASS Representative
Gray Turnage, Regional Chapters Committee Chair

MINUTES

After Roll Call, President Wersal asked for approval of the two sets of Minutes from the July 2020 Board Meeting and the Annual Business Meeting held via virtual platform.

Marc Bellaud motioned the Board to approve the Minutes as submitted. Amy Ferriter seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATES

President Wersal asked for an update on the letter sent to Representative Brian Mast and the situation in Florida. Editor Jason Ferrell explained that the Moorehaven Canal has 2+ miles of aquatic plants restricting flow and impacted structures. He indicated Representative Greg Steube and Representative Brian Mast plan to submit another proposal, and it seems the APMS letter had no impact.

President Wersal asked for an update on the letter regarding FIFRA that APMS sent. Science Policy Director Lee Van Wychen will forward the letter from CropLife America to the BOD for APMS to use. This “action alert” provides a rapid way for APMS to provide support for FIFRA.

President Wersal mentioned the request from Secretary Amy Giannotti to combine the invoicing for secretary duties and social media management into one itemized invoice to be submitted two times per year. Treasurer Justin Nawrocki offered his support, and this was approved.

President Wersal indicated the mid-winter BOD meeting will likely take place in a virtual platform on a Thursday in January or February. He will be sending out a Doodle poll in the coming weeks to select a date.

President Wersal asked Mark Heilman to provide an update on the USACE & APMS webinar series that launched yesterday featuring management of monoecious hydrilla. Mark reported that the first seminar was well attended with 140-150 attendees. Seminars are planned for Wednesdays through November with content including HABs, floating plants/giant Salvinia, flowering rush, and invasive watermilfoils. Seminars last 60-75 minutes. James Leary commended the presenters from yesterday, Rob Richardson and Brett Hartis.

President Wersal asked for a discussion of archival storage of APMS files and what was most appropriate as Jeff Schardt prepares to transfer historical files to Secretary Giannotti. John Madsen encouraged the society to get a cloud-based service for digitized storage of files. Treasurer Nawrocki confirmed he has all financial files back to 2009, and Secretary Giannotti has electronic files for Secretary duties dating back to 2007ish. Treasurer Nawrocki offered that those in academia have access to large digital storage platforms if needed. Vice-President Brett Hartis offered to check with APEX on storage on the website as part of the planned website redesign and overhaul. The BOD agreed that there is no reason to keep hardcopies of JAPM, newsletters, Board Books, etc., but that Awards and pertinent documentation should be retained. Secretary Giannotti will send the inventory list of items from Jeff Schardt to the BOD for review.

President Ryan Wersal asked for an update on the JAPM Special Issue on the Delta Project. Editor Ferrell said the JAPM will be moving online in January 2021 and will feature 11 papers. The Special Issue on the Delta Project features 14 papers and John Madsen was recognized for his coordination and hard work on this project. The USDA is covering all printing costs, and 30 print copies will be requested for authors and USDA personnel. The Editorial Committee suggested that this Issue be made available via open access (free and available to the public in January 2021).

Jason Ferrell motioned to allow open access (no fee) for the upcoming Delta Project Issue as costs are covered by the USDA. Amy Ferriter seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

President Wersal asked for discussion on moving the JAPM to online publication database services that provide access to university libraries, public libraries, etc. Editor Ferrell and Secretary Giannotti have been working with Proquest and Gale/Cengage to learn more. Secretary Giannotti presented summary of process – JAPM access (or .pdf) is provided to the database companies and a 20% royalty is generated for APMS each time a ‘search’, ‘download’, or ‘hit’ is made on JAPM content. Licensing agreements need to be addressed prior to APMS participating. President Wersal recommended sending back to the Editorial Committee to find someone qualified to review the licensing agreements provided by both companies, and to determine best way to provide access to JAPM issues for company that requires access to JAPM on our website (behind secure login). Vice-President Hartis offered to inquire about this with the plans for the website redesign. John Madsen offered that the APMS President should have some discretionary monies to spend on licensing/contract evaluation should that be needed.

President Wersal called for a discussion on the consolidation of APMS Committees as was suggested by Jeff Schardt, prior to his resignation from the BOD in July 2020. John Madsen commented that the problem isn’t too many committees, but rather the committees are not doing their job – which should be to come to the BOD with motions and recommendations to facilitate discussion and progress. Mark Heilman agrees with John Madsen, with the exception of the Science Policy Director covering the job of the Legislative Committee. Since these committees are laid out as part of the bylaws, a change in the committee organization would require a change to bylaws. Ryan Thum suggested an action item for each Committee to meet before January and discuss if consolidation is warranted and remind members about facilitating discussion and motions.

Old Business:

None at this time.

New Business:

1. **Vice-President Hartis secured a quote from APEX for redesign and overhaul of the website.** He will send the proposal to the BOD for review and ask the Website Committee to submit a recommendation to the BOD.
2. **Vice-President Hartis suggested modifying the newsletter to be delivered in a more user-friendly and upscale platform.** Secretary Giannotti had offered several examples of other similar organizations that use MailChimp to deliver their newsletter content via email with clickable links, etc. Editor Ferrell supported the idea to streamline content and delivery. Secretary Giannotti will submit prices to the BOD for options to move newsletter in this direction.

3. **Mark Heilman summarized the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion.** Committee members include Deb Hofstra, Amy Ferriter, Brett Hartis, Chris Mudge, Ryan Thum, and Mark Heilman. The Committee feels an expert consultant or experienced facilitator would be useful for APMS to engage. Ryan Thum identified several resources and cost could be considerable. James Leary offered support for this as it is priority for academic institutions and would help APMS have a long-term direction for steering growth for and membership to APMS. He also suggested that perhaps universities could play a role in development here.
4. **Mark Heilman announced plans for NALMS meeting in November.** It will be held on a virtual platform and he suggested that there will likely be a joint session with APMS on HABs on November 9. Mark was also asked to speak on behalf of APMS for a session on collaboration of science societies.

Jason Ferrell motioned the Board to adjourn the meeting. Ryan Thum seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.

The Board meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m., CDT.

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

**Minutes of the Pre-Midyear Board of Directors Meeting
October 14, 2020 – via email**

Background: Support APMS continued participation in CAST for \$1,500.00

Motion: *Brett Hartis*

Second: *Amy Ferriter*

President Ryan Wersal called for discussion via email to the Board of Directors. Period of discussion closed October 14, 2020 with call for a vote.

Date called for vote: 10/14/2020

The motion passed without dissenting vote.

THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

Minutes of the Pre-Midyear Board of Directors Meeting via Email November 3, 2020 – via email

Background: The website committee is ready to solicit a motion from the board to approve the attached proposal for redevelopment of the APMS website. This will be completed at a cost of \$7,800 to APMS. This proposal is a revision of the previous proposal, with revision made to provide restricted login access for vendors and libraries to access the JAPM full articles, an increased cost of \$300 from the previous proposal presented to the committee.

Motion: Justin Nawrocki

Second: Jason Ferrell

President Ryan Wersal called for discussion through November 6, 2020, via email to the Publications Committee. Period of discussion closed November 6, 2020 with call for a vote.

Date called for vote: 11/6/2020

The motion passed without dissenting vote.

Attachments: Proposal from APEX

President's Report

Late 2020 saw a flurry of legislation and APMS was asked to be a co-signatory on several letters to Congress.

- Letter to House Rule Committee Chairs opposing Representative Brian Mast's Amendment 43, which suggested prohibiting USACE from using approved aquatic herbicides to protect ecosystems, public safety, and infrastructure - 7/28/2020
- Letter of support for Department of Interior's Invasive Species Strategic Plan, collaboration with other Weed Science Societies - 10/9/2020
- Letter urging APMS members to oppose legislation that would amend FIFRA (CropLife America and other Weed Science Society Chapters supporting as well) - 10/12/2020
- Letter from NALMS encouraging joint collaboration between NALMS and APMS - 11/6/2020
- Urging completion of FY2021 appropriations bills without delay (to Senate and House of Representatives leadership, jointly with LOTS of other scientific organizations) - 12/8/2020

Lee Van Wychen (WSSA Science Policy Director) organized, and led, several virtual meetings with congressional staffers this past November. I along with Past Presidents Heilman, Richardson, and Layne joined the meetings to discuss upcoming legislation that would impact APM activities. Primary topics included support for USACOE APCRP funding at the Senate level, supporting the Senate's version of the 2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), and opposing H.R. 7940 and S. 4406, the Protect America's Children from Toxic Pesticides Act.

The list of staffers is offered below:

Turner Bridgforth, Rep. Jim Hagedorn-R-MN
Dr. Pete Wyckoff, Sen. Tina Smith-D-MN
Brian Werner, Sen. Amy Klobuchar-D-MN
Payne Griffin, Sen. Mike Braun-R-IN
Nancy Martinez, Sen. Todd Young-R-IN
Cory Harris, Rep. Jim Baird-R-IN
Leigh Whittaker, Rep. David Price-D-NC
Josh Bowlen, Sen. Richard Burr-R-NC
Corey Weber, Sen. Thom Tillis-R-NC

I would like to thank Erika Haug and John Madsen for giving the APMS update presentation at the NEAPMS and WAPMS meetings respectively. I would also like to thank Jason Ferrell, Mark Heilman, and anyone else that contributed content to those presentations; the help is greatly appreciated.

Lastly, Amy Giannotti developed a membership survey regarding interest in attending the upcoming meeting (thank you Erika for recommending the poll). Results from the poll (n=59) were not very conclusive so the poll was sent out again in early March.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. M. Wersal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ryan" and last name "Wersal" clearly legible.

Ryan M. Wersal, Ph.D.
APMS President

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.

2020 Income and Expense Report

Cash Basis

	Jan - Dec 20
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Annual Meeting Income	
Delegate Pre-Registration	0.00
Total Annual Meeting Income	0.00
Journal Income	
Page Fees	6,680.00
Subscriptions	4,400.00
Total Journal Income	11,080.00
Membership Income	
Individual	6,462.00
Student	100.00
Sustaining	12,095.00
Total Membership Income	18,657.00
Miscellaneous Income	2.00
Scholastic Endowment Income	
Graduate Assistantship	11,100.00
Netherland Memorial	2,200.00
Total Scholastic Endowment Income	13,300.00
Secretary Award	86.46
Total Income	43,125.46
Expense	
American Express Annual Fee	140.00
Corporation Annual Report Fee	61.25
Credit Card Merchant Processing	
Card Fees	1,186.93
Credit Card Merchant Processing - Other	376.82
Total Credit Card Merchant Processing	1,563.75
Dues	
CAST	1,500.00
RISE	575.00
WSSA	6,565.00
Total Dues	8,640.00
Education/Outreach	8,500.00
Efax Subscription	60.85
Fiduciary Fees	896.81
Insurance	
Board of Dir. & Gen. Liability	509.00
Board of Directors Liability	828.00
General Liability	514.32
Total Insurance	1,851.32
Interest Expense	
Loan Interest	50,440.70
Total Interest Expense	50,440.70
Journal Expense	
Editor Stipend	6,000.00
Manuscripts	16,987.77
Printing & Postage	22.45
Total Journal Expense	23,010.22
Meeting Planner	
Meeting 3 years out	750.00
Total Meeting Planner	750.00

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.

2020 Income and Expense Report

Cash Basis

	Jan - Dec 20
Postal Service	
Postage	7.75
Total Postal Service	7.75
Printing and Reproduction	268.75
Professional Fees	
Accounting	1,500.00
Total Professional Fees	1,500.00
Scholastic Endowment Expense	
Graduate Assistantship	20,000.00
Total Scholastic Endowment Expense	20,000.00
Secretary Stipend	10,000.00
Supplies	39.14
Website	
Administration	3,975.00
Website - Other	174.00
Total Website	4,149.00
Winter Board Meeting	
Audio Visual Equipment	200.00
BOD Hotel Rooms	840.27
Meals	449.29
Travel	147.40
Total Winter Board Meeting	1,636.96
Total Expense	133,516.50
Net Ordinary Income	-90,391.04
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	
General	26,155.15
Scholastic	16,923.55
Total Interest Income	43,078.70
Total Other Income	43,078.70
Net Other Income	43,078.70
Net Income	-47,312.34

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.

2021 Income and Expense Report

Cash Basis

	<u>Jan 1 - Feb 26, 21</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Investment Income	53,390.48
Journal Income	
Page Fees	2,605.00
Royalties	2,800.00
Total Journal Income	5,405.00
Membership Income	
Individual	1,330.00
Student	20.00
Sustaining	2,000.00
Total Membership Income	3,350.00
Refund	-200.00
Total Income	61,945.48
Expense	
American Express Annual Fee	35.00
Corporation Annual Report Fee	61.25
Credit Card Merchant Processing	
Card Fees	168.58
Credit Card Merchant Processing - Other	3.93
Total Credit Card Merchant Processing	172.51
Efax Subscription	16.95
Fiduciary Fees	381.00
Interest Expense	
Finance Charge	0.04
Total Interest Expense	0.04
Journal Expense	
Editor Stipend	3,000.00
Printing & Postage	3,690.76
Total Journal Expense	6,690.76
List Server Services	51.99
Supplies	29.24
Website	
Administration	7,240.00
Total Website	7,240.00
Total Expense	14,678.74
Net Ordinary Income	47,266.74
Net Income	<u><u>47,266.74</u></u>

Aquatic Plant Management Society
Midyear Board of Directors Meeting
March 18, 2021 - Virtual

Secretary Report

Submitted by: Amy L. Giannotti

The following tasks have been completed since the 2020 Conference Board Meeting.

Minutes: Approved Minutes from previous Board Meetings are posted on the APMS web site under Members Only / Documents.

Membership & Membership Invoices: Renewal notices and invoices were sent to the Sustaining Members in early 2021. As of February 27, 12 Sustaining Members have renewed and 20 Individual/Students.

Dues notifications reminders for Individual and Student renewals will wait until a decision is made regarding the Annual Meeting as the BOD voted a few years ago to include the cost of membership dues in the cost of meeting registrations. Since the 2020 Annual Meeting did not happen in person, this has not yet been implemented.

APMS recognizes Sustaining Members in the APMS Newsletter, links Sustaining Member companies with the APMS webpage, and recognizes Sustaining Members in the Annual Meeting Program. Half of Sustaining Membership dues are deposited in the Scholastic Endowment Account that funds the Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant.

2021 Annual Meeting Survey: An electronic survey regarding anticipated attendance for the Annual Meeting in 2021 was conducted, and 59 respondents answered. Results from the initial survey were inconclusive, so it was administered again in March to gauge travel authorizations, expectations, etc. If the Annual Meeting cannot be held in person, 80% of respondents (n=59) supported a one-day virtual conference be held.

2020-2021 Expenditures: As outlined in the APMS Operating Manual, I have included a breakdown of AMEX credit card expenditures so far for APMS year 2020-2021 for the Office of the Secretary.

	Date	Expense	Amount
Hootsuite	January 2021	Social Media Management	\$174/year
MailChimp	January 2021	MailChimp service to send JAPM until website is ready	\$51.99
MailChimp	February 2021	MailChimp service to send JAPM until website is ready	\$51.99

Below the budget estimating expenditures for the Office of the Secretary for 2021-2022.

Proposed Budget for 2021-2022 - Office of the Secretary

<u>Item</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Social Media Scheduling Software	\$174
Secretary Travel Expenses: hotel, gasoline, airfare to New Orleans	\$1,800
Total	\$1,974

APMS Newsletter:

The APMS Newsletter (Issue no. 125) was published in November 2020. A decision was made to wait on the spring issue since it is historically dedicated to the Annual Meeting. The spring issue will be published once meeting details are finalized for Summer 2021. You can view the full Newsletter on the web site at <http://www.apms.org/newsletters/>. If you have ideas or suggestions for articles, please let me know.



JAPM Moving Online and Open Access: The libraries and subscribers were contacted and notified via email of the JAPM moving online. They were each provided with a login access. The remainder of the membership will be provided access credentials once the new website is launched. Until then, JAPM access will be shared via MailChimp.



Aquatic Plant News

The Newsletter of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.

November, 2020 – Issue 125



CONTENTS:

- APMS President's Update
- APMS 60th Annual Meeting Summary
- 2020 APMS Awards
- APMS Chapter and Related Meetings
- 2021 APMS Conference "Save The Date"
- What's New for 2021?
- News Alert: Elephant Ear / Taro
- 2020-2021 APMS Roster
- General Membership Info
- Regional Chapter Updates

APMS President's Update

I hope this email finds you and your families well during this time of quarantine, masks, and social distancing. COVID-19 has taken its toll on society during the past eight months in countless ways, and I would imagine many of our members have felt the pain of loss, financial burdens, and increased stress as we continually adapt to life with this virus. I am sure we all could dwell on the negatives, though there has been some good that has come out of all of this, well good from my perspective. In my corner of the world, life has slowed just a little and schedules have opened up due to cancelations, postponements, etc. You may have to put down your phones or turn off your computers to realize it, but for most people it has allowed greater time with family and loved ones. It has been a time for me to reflect on what is important.

As such, APMS will also need to reflect on where it has been so we can chart a course for the future. The current Strategic Plan ends in 2021 so a thoughtful assessment of the current plan by the board of directors will need to occur with feedback from the membership. Over the next year I will be working with Drs. Heilman (Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee), Thum (President Elect, and Hartis (Vice President) to establish the next strategic planning cycle and discuss how we may want to focus our efforts. If you have specific input regarding the strategic plan or other society business, please reach out to me or another board member. One important aspect of the plan will be the financial stability of the society for the coming years ahead.

As you all know we did not have our annual meeting in Texas this past July. The annual meeting is the most important source of revenue (outside of memberships) for the society and not having the meeting puts some financial burden on our operating expenditures. Fortunately, the board of directors established an emergency fund several years ago that would cover operating expenses for two years. We were fortunate this past summer that we

did not have to cover any contractual meeting costs from the emergency fund due to our cancellation, but it would be prudent given the current uncertainties to do everything possible to avoid utilizing those funds. In light of this, expenditures are being reviewed and ways to achieve cost savings are being sought. One such cost savings will be realized by moving the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management from print to an online platform. The board understands that this move may not be popular with everyone as the hard copy of the journal is a welcome site for many of our members. The board also realizes that besides the annual meeting, JAPM is our best product. However, the move to an online platform should be beneficial from a cost savings and visibility point of view.

During the July board meeting Editor Dr. Ferrell proposed moving the journal online as it would result in approximately a 50% cost savings each year. So beginning with the January 2021 issue, members will not be receiving a printed copy of the journal. In order to help transition the journal online and to bring awareness to the journal, plans are being made to send out member directed emails alerting when a new issue is available. The emails will contain a table of contents for each issue with hyperlinks to the articles. Articles will also be available on the APMS website as they have been for many years. Social media platforms will also be used to bring attention to the journal and new issues. Members will have access to all of the latest issues and articles and non-members can search the issues that are two years old or older. Additionally, the decision to move the journal online has led to the society has been contacted since by a few large database companies. These companies have royalty payment structures in place that would pay APMS each time these articles are viewed or downloaded.

The online journal has many benefits as outlined above, however it has raised some concerns with how we handle member vs. non-member journal



subscriptions; and how those large database companies gain access to issues and articles. It was brought to our attention this past summer that our website is woefully obsolete and needs to be upgraded for security reasons and to address the needed functionality. Dr. Hartis and the website committee is pursuing cost estimates with our current web designer APEX Web Studio to re-design and re-launch the website. So keep an eye out for a new website, maybe by next summer.

Looking to the future, I would challenge all of us to find new opportunities to engage folks who manage aquatic resources and invite them to get involved and work with APMS. There are some efforts underway to work more closely with the North American Lake Management Society, but other strategic partnerships are needed to grow APMS and our reach. A recent good example of society outreach is the co-sponsored webinars offered by APMS and the US Army Corps Engineers. Topics included monococious hydrilla, harmful algal blooms, giant salvinia, tough emergent, flowering rush, and invasive watermilfoils. The webinars to-date have been well attended with over 140 participants at each talk. Thank you to Dr. Heilman, the ad-hoc committee, and speakers of the webinars.

Lastly, I would also challenge the membership to volunteer and serve on committees or the Board of Directors. We are constantly looking for new faces and new ideas to make the Society better. Ultimately, this is your Society, your Profession, and it will be as good as the people who lead. So please get involved. It is a good thing to do and, trust me, you will enjoy the time spent and the friendships made.

Sincerely,

Ryan M. Wersal, Ph.D.
President – APMS

APMS 60th Annual Meeting

...From A Distance.

Although the year started off normally, APMS quickly had to pivot to accommodate the annual meeting which is usually held over a week in July. This disruption to in-person conferences and meetings necessitated the first-ever APMS Annual Meeting which was held online on July 21, 2020.

The meeting began with a summary of notable events, including highlighting an increased collaboration with other societies, most notably the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) to share expertise and promote memberships in both APMS and NALMS. A coordinated effort to increase online learning opportunities via scientific webinars was also made a priority, and featured NEAPMS Past President and NALMS Past President, Dr. Ken Wagner talking about harmful algal blooms. Dr. Rob Richardson of North Carolina State University presented about aquatic plant management issues during the National Invasive Species Awareness Week.

For the past year, an APMS ad-hoc committee worked to draft a statement on equality and diversity in line with many of our affiliated organizations. The Board adopted the following statement on July 20, 2020, during the annual meeting, and it is posted on the APMS website:

Creating an atmosphere of inclusion is vital to the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS). Contributions and perspectives from all members, students, event participants, and our local and international communities are important. Diversity includes age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, color, race, religion, sexual orientation, and diversity of thoughts and ideas. We recognize that embracing and encouraging diversity is critical to fulfilling our mission to ‘Provide a forum for the discovery and dissemination of scientific information that advances aquatic plant and algae management policy and practice’. APMS will strive to further cultivate a Society built on mentorship, encouragement, tolerance, and mutual respect, and foster a welcoming environment for all.

The slate of officers for 2020-2021 was presented and installed and includes the following persons:

Office	Name	Affiliation	City	State
President	Ryan Wersal	Minnesota State University	Mankato	MN
Vice President	Brett Hartis	Duke Energy Carolinas	Huntersville	NC
Treasurer	Justin Nawrocki	UPL NA	Holly Springs	NC
Secretary	Amy Giannotti	AquaSTEM Consulting	Winter Park	FL
Director	Michael Greer	US Army Corps of Engineers	Buffalo	NY
Director	Erika Haug	North Carolina State University	Raleigh	NC
Student Director	Gregory Chorak	Montana State University	Bozeman	MT

A big thank you to APMS Past Secretary, Jeff Schardt, for his 19 years of service to APMS and for his dedication to gathering, collating, scanning, and posting APMS archival documents on the website. APMS now has a complete set of Journals and Newsletters posted on the website, as well as Meeting Minutes, a variety of other pertinent documents, and a photo gallery from past meetings. Thank you for all of your hard work, Jeff!

2020 APMS Awards

Under normal meeting circumstances, the highlight of the APMS Annual Meeting is the Tuesday evening Awards Banquet. APMS honors long-term achievements in aquatic plant and algae management, as well as ongoing and recently completed research at this event. The 2020 recipients were announced during the Annual Business Meeting via Zoom and are listed below. The plaques will be presented in person during the Presidents' Reception at the 2021 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, provided in-person meetings are possible by July. [Congratulations to the 2020 Award Recipients!](#)

Outstanding Research / Technical Achievement

Dr. Patrick J. Moran



The Delta Region Area-wide Aquatic Weed Project (DRAAWP) was awarded the 2020 Outstanding Research/Technical Achievement Award. Dr. Patrick J. Moran of the United States Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service, Invasive Species and Pollinator Health Research Unit, is the lead Co-Director on the DRAAWP, which developed and implemented new and improved technology for integrated management of water hyacinth, Brazilian waterweed, and other floating and submersed aquatic weed species in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta of northern California.

Honorary Membership

Linda Nelson, Steve Brewer

APMS Honorary Membership is presented to persons who are retired, have been voting members of the Society for at least ten years, and have provided significant contributions to APMS or to the field of aquatic vegetation management. Thirty-seven Honorary Memberships have been issued during the Society's 60 years. For 2020, Honorary Memberships were granted to Linda Nelson (USACE, retired) and to Steve Brewer (Brewer International, posthumously awarded).

Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Gray Turnage

Gray Turnage from Mississippi State University was honored with the Outstanding Graduate Student Award for 2020.

Max McCowen Friendship Award

Mr. Tom Warmuth



The 2020 Max McCowen Friendship Award was presented to Mr. Tom Warmuth of BioSafe Systems and current president of the WAPMS. This award is a special recognition given to an APMS member whose demeanor and actions displace sincerity and friendship in the spirit of being an ambassador for APMS. Criteria for selection include warmth and outgoing friendship, sincerity and genuine concern, gracious hospitality, and positive attitude. Tom is the national Lake, Pond and Municipal representative for BioSafe Systems, focusing primarily on peroxide-based chemistries for treating Algae, Cyanobacteria and Human Health Pathogens for surface water, potable and wastewater. He has been involved with several regional chapters and national APMS chapters in varying roles on boards and committees over the past 12 years. He currently resides in Kure Beach, North Carolina with his wife of 15 years, Sara.

T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service Award

Mr. Jeremy Slade



Mr. Jeremy Slade of UPL NA Inc received the 2020 T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service Award. This award is presented to an individual to recognize "Service to the Society and the Profession." Jeremy has been active in APMS since 2005, serving as Treasurer for the last six years, and is currently the BASS Special Representative. He is the Business Lead for Aquatics at UPL and is an advocate for science-based aquatic plant management strategies.

Outstanding Journal Article

Melaney A. Dunne &
Raymond M. Newman

Melaney A. Dunne and Raymond M. Newman of the University of Minnesota received the Outstanding Journal Article for their publication – Effect of light on macrophyte sprouting and assessment of viable seedbank to predict community composition. The Outstanding Journal Article Award is presented to an author and co-authors, recognizing research published in the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management during the previous year that is unique and will further the science of aquatic plant management. The recipient(s) for this award is/are selected by the APMS Editor and Associate Editors. The award-winning publication can be found in July 2019 issue of JAPM.

President's Awards

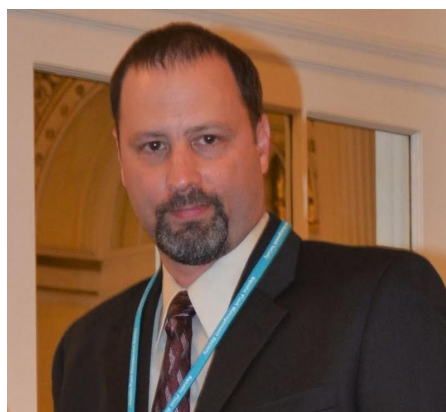
Dave Petty, Bill Torres, and Rob Richardson

Three President Awards were presented in 2020 to Dave Petty (NDR Research), Bill Torres (Florida Event Planning and Meeting Service), and to Rob Richardson (NCSU).

Bill Torres has served many years in aquatic plant management as a biologist and Bureau Chief with FDEP. Most recently, Bill has been instrumental in helping APMS and affiliate regional chapters with securing conference venues and making sure things run smoothly during annual meetings.



David Petty has been a pesticide research consultant for 25 years. His specialty is environmental fate registration studies and registration support. He is also the editor for the AERF.



Rob Richardson is a professor and extension specialist for NCSU. His expertise in invasive plant management and sustainable weed management in a variety of habitats is unmatched. Rob served as the 2016 president of APMS.

Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant

The Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant is awarded to a graduate student conducting research in aquatic plant/algae management techniques or aquatic ecology in the management of nuisance species. The 2020 recipient is Jens Beets of North Carolina State University for his work "Evaluation of effect of biotype on biology and response to herbicides of aquatic macrophyte species." Jens is a graduate student working with Dr. Rob Richardson (NCSU) and Gregory Bugbee (Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station)

APMS Student Director

Gregory Chorak

Gregory Chorak from Montana State University was voted by his peers to serve a one-year term as Student Director on the APMS Board of Directors for 2020-2021. The Student Director represents student issues and is a full voting member on the APMS Board.

APMS Needs You!

There are currently 16 committees active in APMS, and each plays an integral role in moving the Society forward, making sure the annual meeting is a success, and working to grow our organization. Each committee is led by a Chair who organizes the meetings throughout the year and provides direction for the committee members.

New ideas, suggestions for change, and feedback for the Society are important functions of these committees. Members of APMS are encouraged to volunteer to serve on a committee and we would love to have you!

APMS Chapter and Related Meetings

**With the disruption of meetings due to COVID-19, please see links to upcoming meetings and conferences. Some of these may have virtual learning options available and some may change meeting plans entirely, so please check the websites regularly for updated information. Updates and announcements are also made on the various social media channels, so monitor those for information, too.



Northeast APMS
January 12-14, 2021

Online Meeting

<http://www.neapms.org/conference>



Midwest APMS
February 22-25, 2021

Grand Rapids, MI

<https://www.mapms.org/conferences/2021-conference/>



Western APMS
March 1-4, 2021

**Joint meeting with Western Society of
Weed Science**

<https://wapms.org>



SC APMS
October 6-8, 2021

Myrtle Beach, SC

<http://scapms.org/meetings.html>

Save The Date!



Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA

July 11-14, 2021

The 61st Annual Meeting planning is well underway, and we are hoping to be able to gather in person by July. The Program Committee is working on seminar sessions featuring management strategies, ecological challenges, invasion ecology, and other relevant topics for managing aquatic plants and algae. Information will be shared in both oral and poster presentations, and student attendance and participation are encouraged!

Nestled along the banks of the Mississippi River, this venue is sure to be an excellent gathering place. It is an easy walk to the French Quarter, Jackson Square, and not too far from those delicious mouth-watering

beignets. As riverboats sail by on the River and jazz musicians are playing their tunes, conference attendees can explore the history, cuisine, and culture that this beautiful city has to offer.

Here is a link to the hotel:

- <https://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/louisiana/hilton-new-orleans-riverside-MSYNHHH/index.html>

Please find the link to reserve your room for the 2021 APMS Conference here:

- <https://book.passkey.com/go/AquaticPlantManagement2021>

More details are forthcoming! Watch the APMS website and social media channels for further announcements.

What's New for 2021?

APMS is looking at two major improvements for 2021 to help streamline the content we deliver, make member interaction easier, and provide a more relevant framework capable of handling APMS's digital content.

First, the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management (JAPM) will be moving fully online as of January 2021. The JAPM will be published two times per year, approximately January and July, and access to newer journals will be provided for current members. Previous issues (1961 through 2019) are currently available free of charge on the website at <https://www.apms.org/journals/>. As always, each title and abstract are freely accessible to all members of the general public. Full versions are available to members by logging into the Members Only section of the website.

Second, the APMS website will be undergoing a complete redesign and overhaul in the next few months. This will make it more modern looking and will make it easy to use across all digital platforms including mobile devices, tablets, and desktop computers. This effort will include migrating all existing documents, files, photos, and other content from the current site to the new site, and it will include an integrated member management system and meeting management system to streamline member services.

Die-back of elephant ear in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

News Alert

Veronica Manrique¹, Rodrigo Diaz², Rodrigo Valverde³

¹Department of Urban Forestry and Natural Resources, Southern University, ²Department of Entomology, and ³Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center

Elephant ear or taro (*Colocasia esculenta*) is an emergent aquatic weed native from Asia. Natural infestations of taro are present across southeastern United States. Monocultures of taro result in displacement of native vegetation, decrease on water quality, and reduction of habitat for wildlife and recreational activities. Taro is widespread in Louisiana, but it has been particularly problematic at the Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center in Baton Rouge. But in October 2020, park volunteers noticed a rapid decline of taro growth in many sites at the center.

The die-back of taro can be described by yellowing and bending of the leaves, reduction on stem density, and presence of rotten leaves and stems. Field observations suggest that the die-back occurs rapidly based on reduction of taro coverage measured in field plots from October to November 2020. Upon close examination at the die-back site, taro had large infestations of a planthopper and symptoms of plant diseases. The plant hopper was identified as *Tarophagus colocasiae* and is native from Asia. This plant hopper has also been reported in North Florida. Adults and nymphs of the plant hopper feed on the petioles and leaves of taro. In Asia and Hawaii, damage by plant hoppers have been associated with poor performance of cultivated taro. In addition, taro leaves showed a feathering and deformation patterns, which are typical symptoms of viral infections. PCR testing confirmed the presence of the dasheen mosaic virus and we are investigating the possibility of a second virus. Other damage observed was yellow-brown necrotic spots on the leaves probably due to an unknown pathogen. By November, many taro leaves were bended to the ground and tubers were completely rotten.

This new plant hopper and diseases may provide prospects for managing invasive taro in Louisiana, however, the potential impact of this insect and pathogens on ornamental taro remains to be determined. In addition, the extent of this die-back in Southeastern United States is unknown. We invite the APMS audience to help us understanding the distribution of the planthopper. If you find the planthopper on taro leaves, please take a picture and upload it Inaturalist.org. For more information and pictures about the taro die-back, please visit www.lsuagcenter.com/colocasia



2020-2021 APMS Officers, Directors, Committees, and Special Representatives

Office	Name	Affiliation
President	Dr. Ryan Wersal	Minnesota State Univ - Mankato
President-Elect	Dr. Ryan Thum	Montana State University
Vice President	Dr. Brett Hartis	Duke Energy
Immediate Past President	Dr. Mark Heilman	SePRO Corporation
Treasurer	Dr. Justin Nawrocki	UPL North America, Inc.
Secretary	Amy Giannotti	AquaSTEM Consulting
Editor	Dr. Jason Ferrell	University of Florida
Director, 3rd Year	Marc Bellaud	SOLitude Lake Management
Director, 3rd Year	Amy Ferriter	Nutrien Solutions
Director, 2nd Year	Dr. Lynn Gettys	University of Florida
Director, 2nd Year	Dr. Christopher Mudge	USA ERDC-EEA
Director, 1st Year	Michael Greer	US Army Corps of Engineers
Director, 1st Year	Dr. Erika Haug	North Carolina State University
Student Director	Gregory Chorak	Montana State University
Committee	Chair	Affiliation
Awards	Dr. John Madsen	USDA ARS, Davis, CA
Bylaws & Resolutions	Dr. James Leary	University of Florida
Education & Outreach	Dr. Brett Hartis	Duke Energy
Exhibits	Dean Jones	UPL North America, Inc.
Finance	Andy Fuhrman	All State Management
Legislative	Dr. Rob Richardson	North Carolina State University
Meeting Planning	Dr. Rob Richardson	North Carolina State University
Membership	Marc Bellaud	SOLitude Lake Management
Nominating	Dr. Mark Heilman	SePRO Corporation
Past Presidents Advisory	Dr. Mark Heilman	SePRO Corporation
Program	Dr. Ryan Thum	Montana State University
Proposal Review	Dr. Mark Heilman	SePRO Corporation
Publications	Dr. Jason Ferrell	University of Florida
Regional Chapters	Gray Turnage	Mississippi State University
Scholastic Endowment	Tom Warmuth	BioSafe Systems
Student Affairs	Sam Sardes	SOLitude Lake Management
Special Representatives	Name	Affiliation
AERF	Carlton Layne	Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation
BASS	Jeremy Slade	UPL North America, Inc.
CAST	Lynn Gettys	University of Florida
NALMS	Terry McNabb	Aquatechnex
RISE	Sam Barrick	SePRO Corporation
Women of Aquatics	Amy Kay	Clarke
WSSA	Dr. Rob Richardson	North Carolina State University
Science Policy Director	Lee Van Wychen	Nat'l & Regional Weed Science Societies

Incorporated in 1961 as a forum to share water hyacinth control experiences, today APMS and its seven Regional Chapters promote research and outreach to manage all species of aquatic plants and algae.



General Info for Membership, Etc.

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. is an international organization of scientists, educators, students, commercial pesticide applicators, administrators, and concerned individuals interested in the management and study of aquatic plants and algae. The membership reflects a diversity of federal, state, and local agencies, universities and colleges around the world, corporations, and small businesses.

VISION

The Vision of the Aquatic Plant Management Society is to be the leading international organization for scientific information on aquatic plant and algae management.

MISSION

The Mission of the Aquatic Plant Management Society is to provide a forum for the discovery and dissemination of scientific information that advances aquatic plant and algae management policy and practice.

MEMBERSHIP

Individual	\$95.00	Entitles member to vote, hold office, serve on committees, and receive publications
Student	\$20.00	Full time students receive same privileges as Individual member
Sustaining	\$500.00	Membership privileges for one designated representative; subscription to the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management, APMS newsletters, and access to the APMS Blog and social media content; quarterly issues of Aquatics magazine; recognition as a Sustaining Member in newsletters, the Annual Meeting Program, and on the APMS website

To join, visit this link: <http://www.apms.org/society/membership/>

To renew a membership for 2021, login and visit this link: <https://www.apms.org/member-page/renew-membership/>

Follow us and Learn More:

- Twitter - @APMSociety
- Instagram - @apmsociety
- Facebook - @APMS1961

News and Updates from Regional Chapters

From FAPMS

For the last 9 months, COVID-19 has significantly disrupted our work environments, supply chains, and opportunities for learning. Despite the fact that in-person conferences and meetings have been cancelled or delayed indefinitely, there are still many ways to continue to learn about aquatic plant management, network with colleagues, and even earn CEUs during this time of necessary physical distancing.

Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society (FAPMS) is proud to announce the launch of a newly designed website which is much more user-friendly and looks great, too!! A big thank you goes to the website committee (Angie Huebner, Scott Jackson, Dr. James Leary, Kelli Gladding, and James Boggs) that worked so hard to make this happen! Please visit <https://fapms.org> and have a look! There are some items that are still being routed from the old website to the new website (e.g. archived issues of Aquatics magazine, etc.), so please check back often and see what's new!

Speaking of Aquatics, a reminder that submissions to Aquatics magazine are always welcomed! Articles are typically 1,000-2,500 words in length, include a few photos, and are written for the general public. And although the magazine originates in Florida, content from all over the world is welcomed! We learn best from each other, and we'd love to hear from you!

APMS Member Jeff Schardt Receives 2020 Dr. Michael D. Netherland Exemplary Colleague Award from FAPMS

For more than 30 years, Jeff worked for the Invasive Plant Management Section (IPMS) now within the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, previously the Florida Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). He was the invasive aquatic plant management program coordinator for the majority his tenure, where he requested and managed funding for controlling nuisance aquatic vegetation in public systems across the state. He worked to provide answers to aquatic plant research questions with a long-standing history of collaboration with the University of Florida and US Army Corps of Engineers, where his professional affiliation and personal friendship with Dr. Mike Netherland originated. He and Mike wrote several significant pieces (e.g., <http://www.apms.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/APMS-definition-of-control.pdf>). During his career with the IPMS, Jeff also mentored many aquatic plant biologists within and outside the agency.

Mr. Schardt also worked in collaboration with the University of Florida on the educational front through the Florida Teachers Plant Camp. This program was developed for Florida science teachers to produce outreach materials and classroom curricula related to invasive aquatic plants and management efforts in Florida. He worked with federal and state agencies to implement common sense regulatory and management approaches related to NPDES permitting and protecting endangered species.

In 2000, Mr. Schardt served as the President of the Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society and received the FAPMS lifetime membership award in 2014. He also served as president of the national APMS in 2006. Jeff just recently "retired" again from serving in the aquatic plant management industry through his participation on the national APMS Board of Directors as the Secretary. Jeff served a total of 19 years with APMS and was active in several important leadership roles.

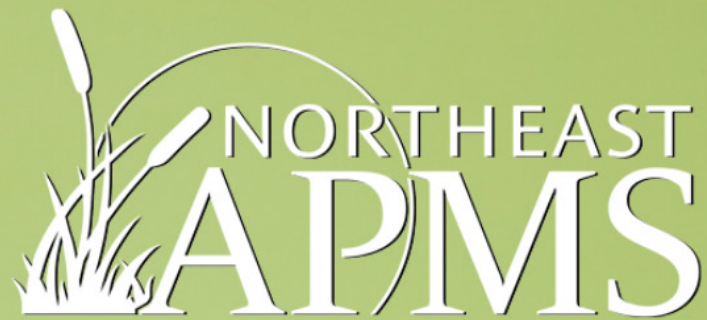


From SCAPMS

SCAPMS has tentatively set the 2021 Annual Meeting for October 6-8, 2021, at the Ocean Drive Beach and Golf Resort in Myrtle Beach, SC. Check back here for more info: <http://scapms.org/meetings.html>

From NEAPMS

The Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society (NEAPMS) will be holding its 22nd annual meeting online. Conference dates are Tuesday January 12th to Thursday January 14th, 2021. Tuesday will feature a 3-hour algal identification and ecology workshop. Wednesday will include a half day of technical presentations on a variety of topics, as well as a poster slam. Thursday will feature a half day of technical presentations. More information can be found at <http://www.neapms.org/conference>.

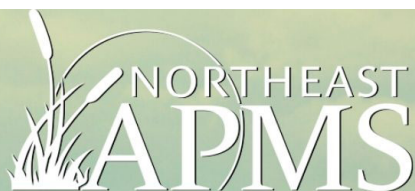


2021 Virtual NEAPMS Scientific Poster Contest

Professional Posters are always
welcome.

Sponsor it? Contact: Glenn
gsullivan@solitudelake.com

Be a Poster Judge? Contact: Meg
mmodley@lcbp.org



Graduate and Undergraduate Scholarships and Stipends Available!



The Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society announces the availability of scholarships for students pursuing degrees in the field of Aquatic Plant Management (APM).

Graduate Scholarships are available up to \$5,000 and undergraduate students involved in APM internships are eligible to apply for a salary stipend and/or related expenses.

*For more details: [www.http://www.neapms.org/](http://www.neapms.org/)
Click on "Students" and/or "Donate" tabs on our website*



NEAPMS 2021 Conference Announcement

General Conference Information

The Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society (NEAPMS) will be holding its 22nd annual meeting online. Conference dates are Tuesday January 12th to Thursday January 14th, 2021. Tuesday will feature a 3-hour algal identification and ecology workshop. Wednesday will include a half day of technical presentations on a variety of topics, as well as a poster slam. Thursday will feature a half day of technical presentations.

Conference Registration Rates

Online conference registration is \$50 for regular attendees. There is no cost for student registrants, however we do ask students to still register online. Registration also includes society membership for 2021. Please check the NEAPMS website regularly for further updates at www.neapms.org.

Posters Needed

We are looking for a few more technical posters to round out our Poster Slam Session. We especially welcome student poster presenters! If you wish to submit an abstract for a technical poster, please email that to Chris Doyle naiadconsultants@gmail.com.

Sponsors and Exhibitors

Sponsorship: Sponsors contribute financially to the Society to help support programs and events. Time is allocated during the conference for sponsors to provide industry updates or related informational presentations. We offer a variety of sponsorship levels, as well as distinguished sponsorship opportunities each year.

Anyone interested in sponsoring may visit the NEAPMS website, or contact Glenn Sullivan, NEAPMS Sponsorship and Exhibitor Coordinator at gsullivan@solitudelake.com.

Virtual Conference Format Preliminary Program

Below is the anticipated timeline for our 2021 online meeting (all times are eastern):

Tuesday January 12, 2021

- 1-4pm Algae Identification and Ecology Workshop with Dr. Ann St. Amand and Dr. Ken Wagner

Wednesday January 13, 2021

- 8:45am Welcome
- 9am Keynote
- 9:30am to 10:45am New Technologies presentations and industry updates
- 11am to 11:50am Harmful Algal Blooms presentations
- 11:50am to 12:15pm Poster Slam

Thursday January 14, 2021

- 8:45am Welcome
- 9am Keynote
- 9:30am to 10:45am Ecology and Emerging Threats presentations
- 10:45am NEAPMS Business Meeting
- 11:15am to 12:30pm Aquatic Plant Control presentations
- Closing remarks and Raffle



Editor Report – Journal of Aquatic Plant Management
January 2021 Board Meeting
Jason Ferrell

JAPM 59:1 (Jan 2021) has posted to the website. They will not be printed and mailed. It contains 9 manuscripts (8 papers and 1 note). Amy Giannotti is working to determine which platform can be purchased to properly market the online articles to our membership.

Total number of submissions:

2015 – 26

2016 – 34

2017 – 47

2018 – 34

2019 – 45

2020 - 33

2020 by the numbers

Accept 64%

Reject 22%

Resubmit 14%

On average, we are 41 days for an editorial decision. It can be as high as 60 days for a major revision and as low as 1 day for a final accept.

Special Issue

John Madsen is working with his colleagues to finish the multi-year San Joaquin Delta project special issue. There are 13 papers and will be bound and distributed as a special issue. However, very few print copies will be made. The print copies will be essentially for the authors and USDA administrators. Page charges will be increased for this issue such that there is no cost to APMS. Dr. Madsen will be listed as “Guest Editor” of this edition.

Outstanding JAPM article award

The AEs will soon select papers for consideration.

Awards Committee
John Madsen, Chair

No report at this time. Will present information at the BOD Meeting.

Bylaws and Resolutions Committee
James Leary, Chair

No report at this time.

Education, Outreach, and Website

Brett Hartis, Chair

Website Committee Report –

Website redesign is currently underway with an estimated completion date of 4/19/2021 (see attachment for schedule). The website committee will be meeting each Thursday with Apex to finalize designs, functionality, etc. The committee has also received a number of requests regarding journal access from subscribers during the redesign phase. We have developed an interim process for login by journal subscribers until the website redesign is complete. The new website will have a process for subscribers to log in and access the journal. For more information regarding the scope of the work being completed as a part of the redesign, please see the attached proposal.

Education and Outreach Committee –

There has been recent interest in development of a Plant Camp in the northeast, led by NEAPMS members. The committee chair recently met with those interested in development of such a camp and potential limitations in 2021 due to the uncertainty of in person events. It is unlikely that NEAPMS will be able to develop a camp in 2021, but interest was expressed in collaborating with APMS on the development of such a camp. APMS has partnered with the University of Florida and TVA to support regional plant camps in those locations. Should the NEAPMS suggest support, funding, etc., this will be routed through the APMS board at that time. There is currently no intention to continue in MidSouth Plant Camp in 2021 due to limitations of COVID and a project lead.

There was also discussion at the recent MSAPMS board meeting regarding the potential for CEUs at the annual meeting. The board strongly believes that CEUs offered will go a long way in attracting regional attendance and is willing to arrange those. Has APMS offered CEUs in past meeting or would this be the responsibility of the regional chapter?

Social Media Outreach Updates - John Madsen & Amy Giannotti

LinkedIn: The APMS Group on LinkedIn has 1432 members, which is an increase from last year. The analytics have changed for “Groups”, so detailed metrics are not available.

Number of Followers				
Account	10/14/2019	1/14/2020	6/30/2020	2/28/2021
Facebook	137	176	295	471
Instagram	63	121	218	346
Twitter	--	331	429	571

All accounts are growing numbers of followers and expanding the reach of APMS.

david@ApexWebStudio.com
919-518-8030



PO Box 91235
Raleigh, NC 27675

APMS WEBSITE UPGRADE PROPOSAL

October 7, 2020

From: David Krueger, Apex WebStudio LLC

To: APMS Board

The following pages outlines the proposed work to be completed, and associated costs related to upgrading and redesigning the APMS website.

Let me know if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "David W. Krueger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

David Krueger
Apex WebStudio
919-518-8030
david@ApexWebstudio.com

APMS WEBSITE PROPOSAL

Background

The current website was developed several years ago (started design in fall 2012; went live in March 2013). The underlying framework of the website is running an obsolete version of PHP which is missing several security updates. Over the years we've been able to make some PHP upgrades, but it eventually got to the point a couple years ago where we couldn't upgrade PHP without breaking significant portions of the website.

Our hosting company no longer supports the version of PHP that we're using for the website. They have given us notice that they will force us to upgrade the website at some point. In conversations with them, we've convinced them to give us more time, however bottom line is that we'll be forced to upgrade sometime in the near future, probably early next year.

Additionally, this older framework won't support many of the user-interface features that have been requested over the past couple of years, such as making the website wider and responsive (viewable on any device/phone).

Therefore, our proposal is to redesign the website from the bottom up. This will resolve the issue with the obsolete PHP framework, and give us a modern platform to add new features to the user interface.

Onetime development cost is \$7,500:

Development includes:

- Design the new website to be mobile-friendly and responsive, to be viewable on smartphones, tablets, and desktops.
- Work with the APMS website committee on the design, layout, colors, etc.
- Provide the same base pages as on the current website.
- Move all content, files, photos, and databases from the current website to the new website.
- Include a Members-only section.
- Include Twitter and Facebook feeds.
- Implement an 'Association Management System' (AMS) similar to the current AMS system, for managing members and meetings, and generating output reports for the secretary and treasurer.
- Customize the AMS system for APMS, and integrate it into the new website.

AMS customization includes:

- Import member usernames and profiles from the current system into the new AMS.
- Setup member profile attributes.
- Configure member renewal settings, such as the price for each member category, the renewal date, and the renewal email template that will be sent to members prior to the renewal date.
- Setup emailing distribution list for email blasts to members.
- Work with APMS to setup the credit card processing account.
- Configure the annual meeting registration template, similar to the current meeting registration form.

Maintenance and Support cost is \$1,000 per quarter:

Ongoing Maintenance and Support includes:

- **AMS:** Work with the APMS Admins (secretary and treasurer) to make updates to the AMS system for various activities related to members and meetings, including:
 - Changes to membership fees.
 - Membership renewal dates, and renewal email templates.
 - Changes to annual meeting rates.
 - Setup annual meeting dates and deadlines.
 - Changes to member/meeting output reports.
- **Content:** Make minor content updates to the website. A minor update is an update that requires less than 1 hour of work; larger updates/projects will be invoiced as separate line items at \$120/hr.
- **Abstracts:** Configure the WeedSci Abstracts system each year:
 - Setup sections, competitions, deadlines, etc.
 - Work with the Program Chair to generate the program schedule, and proceedings reports.
- **Fees:** Cover various website related fees:
 - Website Hosting fees. Hosting includes:
 - Unlimited storage for files and photos on the website.
 - Unlimited email blasts to members.
 - Security updates.
 - Data backups.
 - apms.org domain name registration fees.
 - AMS fees.

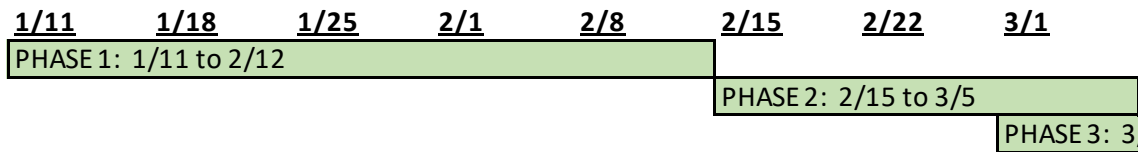
Deliverable Schedule:

- The new website will go live 2 to 3 months after this proposal is accepted, depending on reviews and discussions with the APMS website committee.

Payment Schedule:

- Development cost will be invoiced at 80% when work begins, and the remaining 20% upon going live.
- Maintenance and support cost will be invoiced at the beginning of each quarter for the upcoming quarter (eg: the January 1 invoice will cover January 1 thru March 31).

APMS WEBSITE REDESIGN



PHASE 1: AMS Investigation and Selection

1/8 - Payment was received; project initiation
Investigated various Association Management Systems
Executive Secretaries of other organizations were interviewed regarding their opinion
The search was narrowed down to the following: Wild Apricot, MemberClicks, Star
Had various online demos and experimented with trial accounts
Decided ClubExpress would be the best AMS for APMS
2/12 - the ClubExpress representative was notified, and an account was created

PHASE 2: Initialize AMS and Migrate Member Database

Initialize the AMS for APMS membership
Setup the Admin Webpages
Migrate the Membership database
Work with the APMS Secretary and Treasurer to customize the system for APMS
Train the APMS Secretary and Treasurer on the Admin user interface

PHASE 3: Public Website Development

Work with website committee on the design and layout of the website
Migrate all existing files to the new system (historical documents, meeting files, etc)
Develop the webpages
Meet with the website committee weekly to discuss progress and get feedback

PHASE 4: Board Review and Final Adjustments

Submit to Board for final approval
Switch DomainName DNS pointers to new website
Live!

| - SCHEDULE

2/17/21

3/8 3/15 3/22 3/29 4/5 4/12 4/19



ons
Chapter, and ClubExpress

)

Exhibits Committee
Dean Jones, Chair

No report at this time.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT MARCH 18, 2021

ANDY FUHRMAN COMMITTEE CHAIR

The following is the performance for 2020

The Aquatic Plant Account ended 2020 at \$272,755 a decrease of \$2,654.84

The Aquatic Endowment account ended 2020 at \$171,010.05 an increase of \$17,891.06

Total as of January 1, 2021 was \$443,765.43 increase of \$15,236.22

It should be noted there was a \$25,000 withdrawal from Aquatic Plant which is the reason for the decrease in that account

Current account balances

Ending February 28, 2021 total in investment accounts is \$448,279.84

Aquatic Plant value was 275,130.10

Aquatic Endowment was 173,149.74

The finance committee held a meeting on December 16, 2020 to discuss the possibility of converting the society from a 501 C 5 to a 501 C 3. Present for the Zoom meeting were President Wersel, Finance Chair Fuhrman, Treasurer Nawrocki, Past Treasurer Slade as well as committee members Ferriter and Warmuth. Results of this meeting will be discussed in old business.

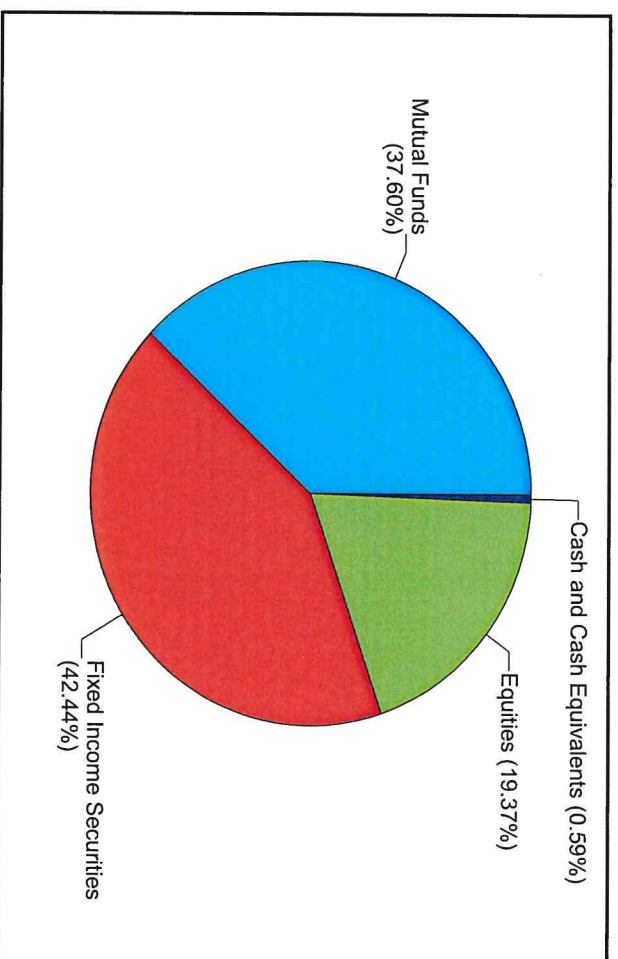
AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY INC IMA

Account #: 540

Holding Summary On: 12/31/2020

Asset Segment
Cash and Cash Equivalents
Equities
Fixed Income Securities
Mutual Funds

	12/31/2019 Valuation	%	12/31/2020 Valuation	%	Change in Value (\$)
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,023.45	0.74	1,611.56	0.59	-411.89
Equities	55,282.87	20.07	52,830.29	19.37	-2,452.58
Fixed Income Securities	127,824.77	46.41	115,760.27	42.44	-12,064.50
Mutual Funds	90,279.13	32.78	102,553.26	37.60	12,274.13
Grand Total	275,410.22	100.00	272,755.38	100.00	-2,654.84



For the Account of: AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY INC
IMA

Account Number: 540

Date: 01/01/2020 to 12/31/2020

Account Summary

Asset Composition

	Market Value	% of Account
Cash Equivalents	\$1,611.56	1%
Equities	\$52,830.29	19%
Fixed Income Securities	\$115,760.27	42%
Mutual Funds	\$102,553.26	38%
Accruals	\$124.26	0%
Grand Total	\$272,879.64	100%

Total Account Value \$272,879.64 100%

Change in Account Value

	This Period	Year To Date
Starting Value	\$275,410.22	\$275,410.22
Deposits and Withdrawals	(\$25,100.00)	(\$25,100.00)
Dividends and Interest	\$1,745.42	\$1,745.42
Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00
Change in Value of Investments	\$22,445.16	\$22,445.16
Ending Value on 12/31/2020	\$272,755.38	\$272,755.38
Total Change in Account Value (Totals Include Deposits and Withdrawals)	(\$2,654.84)	(\$2,654.84)

Total Accruals \$124.26 \$124.26
Total Ending Value \$272,879.64 \$272,879.64

Realized Gain or (Loss) Summary

	This Period	Year To Date
Short Term:	\$1,207.81	\$1,207.81
Long Term:	\$2,193.61	\$2,193.61

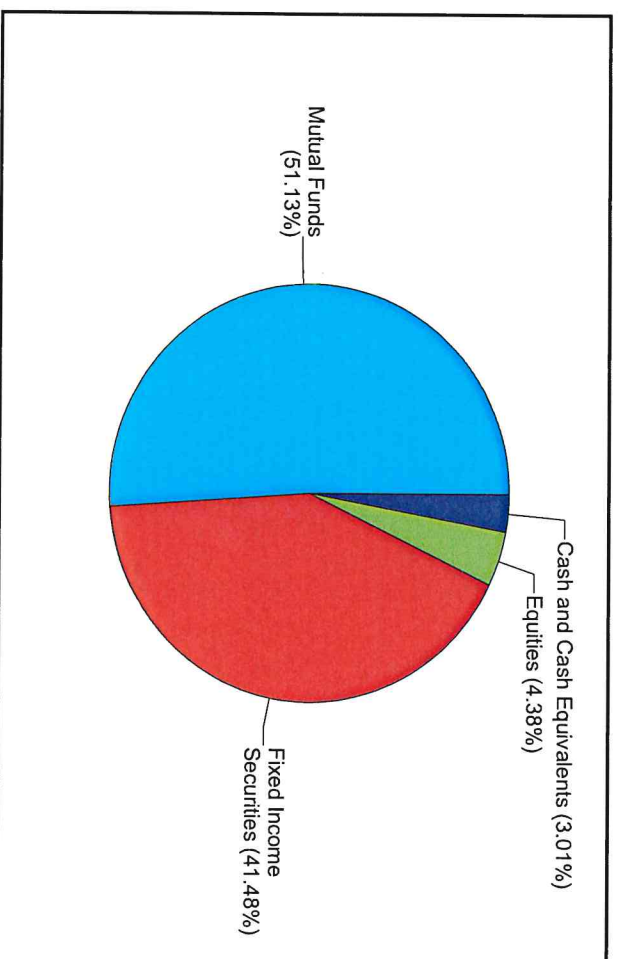
AQUATIC PLANT MGMT SOC INC ENDOWMENT IMA

Account #: 550

Holding Summary On: 12/31/2020

Asset Segment
Cash and Cash Equivalents
Equities
Fixed Income Securities
Mutual Funds

	12/31/2019		12/31/2020		Change in
Valuation		%	Valuation	%	Value (\$)
2,065.98	1.35		5,139.35	3.01	3,073.37
7,340.43	4.79		7,494.38	4.38	153.95
73,183.93	47.80		70,933.45	41.48	-2,250.48
70,528.65	46.06		87,442.87	51.13	16,914.22
Grand Total	153,118.99	100.00	171,010.05	100.00	17,891.06



For the Account of: AQUATIC PLANT MGMT SOC INC ENDOWMENT
IMA

Account Number: 550

Date: 01/01/2020 to 12/31/2020

Account Summary

Asset Composition

	Market Value	% of Account
Cash Equivalents	\$5,139.35	3%
Equities	\$7,494.38	4%
Fixed Income Securities	\$70,933.45	42%
Mutual Funds	\$87,442.87	51%
Accruals	\$77.17	0%
Grand Total	\$171,087.22	100%

Total Account Value \$171,087.22 100%

Change in Account Value

	This Period	Year To Date
Starting Value	\$153,118.99	\$153,118.99
Deposits and Withdrawals	(\$100.00)	(\$100.00)
Dividends and Interest	\$35.60	\$35.60
Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00
Change in Value of Investments	\$17,991.06	\$17,991.06
Ending Value on 12/31/2020	\$171,010.05	\$171,010.05
Total Change in Account Value (Totals Include Deposits and Withdrawals)	\$17,891.06	\$17,891.06

Total Accruals \$77.17 \$77.17
Total Ending Value \$171,087.22 \$171,087.22

Realized Gain or (Loss) Summary

	This Period	Year To Date
Short Term:	\$887.13	\$887.13
Long Term:	\$2,021.97	\$2,021.97

All Accounts
\$448,279.84

AQUATIC ENDOWMENT	173,149.74
AQUATIC PLANT	275,130.10

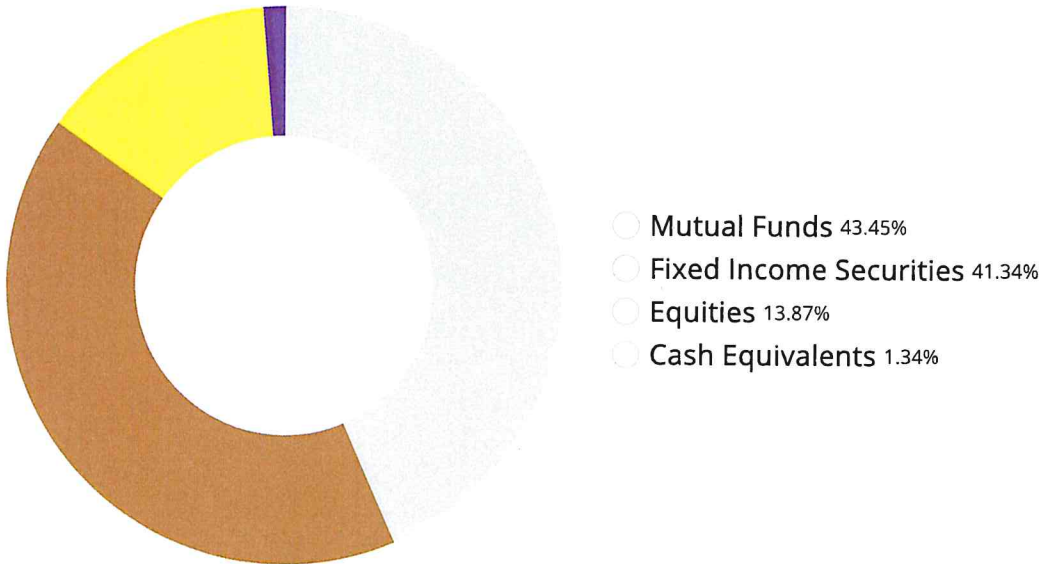
Dashboard



Selected Accounts AQUATIC ENDOWMENT AQUATIC PLANT



Asset Allocation by Major Type (Most Recent)



Market Value Over Time (YTD)

Account	Change
All Accounts	+4,514.41 +1.02%
AQUATIC ENDOWMENT	+2,139.69 +1.25%
AQUATIC PLANT	+2,374.72 +0.87%

Legislative Committee Report

Rob Richardson, Chair

APMS Legislative Committee Report

- Biden administration orders review of Waters of the US: “The Biden administration is swinging the pendulum of repeated changes to water regulation back to expanding after those regulatory powers contracted under President Donald Trump.” <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/environment-and-energy/biden-swings-waters-pendulum-with-final-resolution-still-elusive>
- ARS hire. Lee Van Wychen was instrumental in this process. Without him, another entomologist with no interest in weed science would have been hired.

Highlights from WSSA Science Policy (Lee Van Wychen)

- **EPA Biological Evaluations (BEs) for Triazines and Glyphosate.**
 - EPA released its draft biological evaluations (BEs) for the triazines and glyphosate. **Biological evaluations (BEs)** are the beginning of EPA’s Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation review process for pesticides where they determine if an endangered or threatened species or critical habitat could be affected by the use of that pesticide.
 - The ESA is not a “risk-benefits” statute like FIFRA. ESA is pure risk, worst theoretical impact possible.
 - The **triazines** are the **first herbicides** to go through EPA’s [Revised Method for Species Biological Evaluations of Conventional Pesticides](#).
 - The BEs make effects determinations for 1,795 endangered or threatened species and 792 designated critical habitats.
 - EPA’s draft BEs for the triazines predict that:
 - **atrazine** is likely to adversely affect 54% of all species and 40% of critical habitats;
 - propazine is likely to adversely affect 4% of all species and 2% of critical habitats; and
 - simazine is likely to adversely affect 53% of species and 40% of critical habitats.
 - EPA’s model found that atrazine is likely to adversely affect nearly all endangered/threatened species and critical habitats in the continental U.S., including some that are already extinct.
 - [Comments on the draft BEs for the triazines are due Feb. 19, 2021.](#)
 - EPA’s draft BE for glyphosate predicts that:
 - **glyphosate** is likely to adversely affect 93% of all species and 96% of critical habitats.
 - [Comments on the draft BEs for glyphosate are due Mar. 13, 2021.](#)
 - Need to collect as many anecdotes as possible from weed scientists about “real-life, actual use rates and patterns” for the triazines and glyphosate.

- **2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)** – Over \$100 million “authorized” for new aquatic invasive species efforts. However, we need to go after the appropriations requests for the following programs included in 2020 WRDA:
 - Army Corp of Engineers (House & Senate Energy and Water Appropriations):
 - \$25M Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) demonstration program;
 - \$50M to partner with states and other agencies for Russian olive and saltcedar control in certain western U.S. river basins
 - a pilot program for terrestrial noxious weeds control on Army Corp lands.
 - Dept. of the Interior- administered through Fish & Wildlife Service (House & Senate Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations):
 - \$25M for invasive species eradication in alpine lakes;
 - \$10M to remove invasive plants that contribute to drought in the western U.S.;
- **Definition of a Plant Pest**
 - Explore the possibility of expanding the definition of a “Plant Pest” under the Plant Protection Act (PPA) to include “noxious weeds”. Funding for noxious weeds at APHIS-PPQ is severely hampered because noxious weeds are not considered a “plant pest”. Only “parasitic plants” are considered a “plant pest” in the PPA ([7 U.S.C. 7702](#)).
 - Implement the change within 2023 Farm Bill.
- **Weed Science Society Presidents Congressional Visits:** when and how.
 - Looking at 2-3 “virtual” Congressional visits + 1 trip to DC in fall? Play it by ear.
 - Week of April 5
 - Week of June 14
 - Target House & Senate Appropriations subcommittees for:
 - Agriculture & Interior, Environment & related agencies
 - Separate visits for APMS leaders on 2020 WRDA appropriations targeting House & Senate Appropriations subcommittees for Energy & Water
- **USDA Plants Database/WSSA Composite List of Weeds.**
 - P22b committee met yesterday. Camp Hand and Carroll Moseley provided update on the committees progress and process to synchronize WSSA weed names with USDA Plants Database
 - Each team of 2 people on the committee is reviewing 410 weed species each
 - Will make final recommendations to WSSA Board
 - Standardization of names will continue, hyphenation, synonyms, etc. Working with USDA to get some synonyms, but there will be one WSSA accepted name.
 - USDA will be seeing input on geographic distributions of species.
 - WSSA to resist changing country of origin in common names (as introduced in MN).
- **Biden Administration, Jan. 20, 2020 - List of Agency Actions for Review**
 - **EPA:** “Pesticides; Agricultural Worker Protection Standard; Revision of the Application Exclusion Zone Requirements,” 85 Fed. Reg. 68760 (October 30, 2020).
 - **EPA:** “The Navigable Waters Protection Rule: Definition of ‘Waters of the United States,’” 85 Fed. Reg. 22250 (April 21, 2020).
 - **Interior-FWS:** “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 12-Month Finding for the Monarch Butterfly,” 85 Fed. Reg. 81813 (December 17, 2020).

Interior- BLM: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Planning Page (NEPA No. DOI-BLM-WO-WO2100-2017-0003-RMP-EIS) (last updated Jan. 11, 2021).

Meeting Planning Report

Rob Richardson, Chair

2021 meeting. Bill was able to negotiate reduced guest room attrition rate (80 to 50%) and reduced food and beverage minimum (\$40k to \$20k) for New Orleans. Updated contract attached.

2023 meeting. Bill Torres solicited quotes for a 2023 meeting in the Midwest region. Due to the pandemic, it was previously decided to delay decision making on that process. Bill has contacted venues to confirm that quotes are still accurate. His most current quotes are attached. Bill has suggested that fewer venues will be available due to pandemic closures and that the board should begin contracting.

HOTEL CONTRACT ADDENDUM

The following document shall amend the Agreement dated **June 28, 2018**, and contract addendum dated **January 29, 2020**, between **Hilton New Orleans Riverside** ("Hotel") and **Aquatic Plant Management Society** ("Group"). This addendum addresses:

- Reduction of Sleeping Room Performance
- Reduction of Food and Beverage Minimum

All terms not specifically addressed in this document will remain in full force based upon the original room block total of 548 room nights.

Especially Prepared for:		Event & Hotel Information:	
Group Contact:	Mr. Bill Torres	Name of "Event":	Aquatic Plant Management Society 61 st Annual
Title:	Meeting Planner	Date(s) of Event:	July 10, 2021- July 16, 2021
Company Name:	Aquatic Plant Management Society	Post to Reader Board As:	Aquatic Plant Management Society 61 st Annual
Address:	7922 NW 71 st St.	Hotel Contact:	Sarah Wexler
City, State, Zip:	Gainesville, FL 32643	Title:	Director of Events and Catering
Phone:	850-519-4310	Phone:	415-859-7020
Email:	BILLT@FLEPMS.ORG	Email:	Sarah.wexler@hilton.com

Reduction of Sleeping Room Performance Policy Clause

Sleeping room performance reduced to 50% of the Group's Total Sleeping Room commitment.

Reduction of Food and Beverage Minimum

Food and beverage minimum reduced to \$20,000++

The undersigned expressly agree and warrant that they are authorized to sign and enter into this Agreement on behalf of the party for which they sign.

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:

GROUP:

Aquatic Plant Management Society



By: Dr. Ryan Wersal

Title: APMS President

Dated:

12/31/20

HOTEL:

Park US Lessee Holdings, INC.
d/b/a Hilton New Orleans Riverside

By Hilton Management LLC, Managing Agent



By: Sarah Wexler

Title: Director of Events and Catering

Dated:

01/04/2021

APMS 2023	The Tudor Arms DoubleTree	Marriott Key Tower	
CITY	Cleveland	Cleveland	
Address	10660 Carnegie Ave, Cleveland, OH 44106	1360 W Mall Dr, Cleveland, OH 44114	
Contact	Michelle Wirgha Event Sales Manager 440-463-2362 mwirgha@mrnltd.com	Annette Schatmeyer annette.schatmeyer@marriott.com 847-232-5320	
UPDATED 2/2021	RAI 8/4/19 & 9/24/19 email no longer valid	Proposal still valid 2/8/21	
Rate	\$149.00	\$165.00	
Dates	July 8 - 14, 2023	July 7 - 13, 2023	
Rate pre & post conference		Yes	
Meeting Space Cost	Comp	Comp	
Meeting Space Sq. Ft.	3432 sq. ft.	4863 sq. ft.	
Meeting Space Ceiling Height	35'	14'	
Exhibit Space Cost	Comp	Comp in foyer	
Exhibit Space Sq. Ft.	3400 sq.ft	4953 sq. ft.	
Exhibit Table Cost	Comp if General Session is in Crescent Rounds	30 Comp Tables	
Exhibit Electricity Cost	\$15/table/one time		
Food & Beverage Minimum	\$20K	\$20K	
Menu Price Lock- in at signing	No	2020 Prices	

Service Charge & Tax	22% + 8%	? + 8%	
Required Deposit	\$8,545 at signing	No deposit it is required with Direct Bill approval or Credit Card on file	
Comp Rooms	1 per 50	1 per 40	
Upgrades	2 Suite Upgrade	10 Upgrades to Coner Kings 1 upgrade to Suite	
Gov.t Per diem Rooms		Yes	
Attrition Rate	90%	80%	
Internet	Comp in Guest rooms & Registration Desk	Comp in Guest rooms, registration Desk & Meeting Space	
Parking Fee	Valet Only \$20/day	Self \$22 Valet \$35	
Mid Year Board Meeting	Yes	Yes	
Distance & Cost to Airport	11 miles \$45 o/w	12 Miles \$30 o/w	
Miscellaneous			
Venue			

RE: APMS 2023 RFP

Inbox x



Palentchar, Heather

to me ▾

Thu, Jul 18, 9:12 AM



Images are not displayed.

[Display images below - Always display images from Heather.Palentchar@interstatehotels.com](#)

Hi Bill,

Great to hear from you! All great cities, although I am partial to Cleveland because that is where I am from! Unfortunately we do not have any hotels there. However, I will be sending this to our Doubletree Bloomington Minneapolis South and Minneapolis Marriott Northwest. Will send you proposals as soon as I receive them.

Side note- has there been any movement with the Milwaukee program? I know our Hyatt is very eager to welcome you all back!

Thank you and enjoy your vacation!

Heather

Heather Palentchar

Director, National Accounts



O: 571.422.0610

heather.palentchar@interstatehotels.com

RE: APMS 2023 - RFP Inbox x



Sorensen, Amy (CHICO-R)

Thu, Jul 18, 11:34 AM



to me, Melanie ▾



Images are not displayed.

[Display images below](#) - Always display images from amy.sorensen@hyatt.com

Hi Bill,

I am happy to assist in Melanie's absence. I will send this out right away to the following hotels:

- Hyatt Regency Indianapolis
- Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Thank you,

AMY BEASON SORENSEN

Global Sales Coordinator

Hyatt Sales Force – Americas

Remote – Carlsbad, California

T: +1-312.706.7907 E: amy.sorensen@hyatt.com



Hilton Indianapolis Hotel & Suites	Hyatt Regency Indianapolis		DoubleTree Minneapolis - Park Place
Indianapolis	Indianapolis		Minneapolis
120 W Market St Indianapolis, IN 46204	One South Capitol Avenue Indianapolis, IN 46204		1500 Park Place Blvd Minneapolis, MN 55416
Desire Garza 317-822-5851 desire.garza@hilton.com	Melissa Hebenstreit melisa.hebenstreit@hyatt.com 317-616-6068 Ashley Ostoski ashley.ostoski@hyatt.com 317 616 6084		Michael Kottke michael.kottke@hilton.com
No response	Date changed 7/22 - 28 Reduced rate \$169.00		Proposal still valid 2/10/2021
\$189.00	\$170.00		\$169.00
July 8 - 14, 2023	July 8 - 14, 2023		July 8 - 14, 2023
Yes	Yes		3 day pre & post
Comp	Comp		Comp
3560 sq. ft.	7208 sq. ft.		4914 sq.ft.
9'	15'		11'
Comp	Comp		Comp
6336 sq.ft.	8266 sq.ft.		5512 sq.ft.
\$25/table/One time	30 Comp		\$35/table/one-time
\$42.00/day/table	A standard power strip and 25' AC Extension Cable is \$42.00++ per day		\$35/table/one-time
\$20K	\$35K		\$20K
No	No		One year prior to arrival date

24% + 9%	25% + 9%		24% +
20%	10% deposit is required at contract signing and 50% of the balance is due 45 days out		25% down at signing, 25 % 90 days out, 25% 60 days out, balance due 5 days prior
1 per 40	1 per 40		1 per 45
2 Presidential 3 King Suites	1 Deluxe suite 5 Corner Kings		5 – Suites at group rate for duration of conference
4	8		Yes
80%	80%		
Comp @ guestrooms & registration desk	Comp in guest rooms, registration table & exhibit space		Complimentary Wi-Fi in guest rooms and meeting space
Self \$38 Valet \$44	Valet \$45 Self \$35		Self-parking is complimentary, valet can be arranged for a fee for the service
Yes	Yes @\$149		Yes
15 miles Uber \$20- 25 Taxi \$40	13 miles \$30 o/w		16 miles \$55 o/w
Guest & Suites range from 515 - 1040 sq. ft...	See proposal for diagrams		

RE: APMS 2023 - RFP Inbox x



← **Tanise Shu**
to me, Cheryl, Rachael ▾

Thu, Jul 18, 10:01 AM ☆ ↶ ⋮

Images are not displayed.
[Display images below - Always display images from Tanise.Shu@hilton.com](#)

Enjoy your vacation Bill! 😊

We will source the below Hilton properties for APMS 2023 – Rachael please see below.

Thanks team!

- Hilton Cleveland Downtown
- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Cleveland Downtown – Lakeside
- The Tudor Arms Hotel Cleveland - a DoubleTree by Hilton
- Hilton Indianapolis Hotel & Suites
- Embassy Suites by Hilton Indianapolis Downtown
- Embassy Suites by Hilton Indianapolis North
- Hilton Minneapolis
- Embassy Suites by Hilton Minneapolis Downtown
- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Bloomington - Minneapolis South
- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Minneapolis - Park Place
- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Minneapolis - University Area

Tanise Shu

Sales Partner, Hilton Direct
Hilton Worldwide Sales

RE: APMS 2023 - RFP Inbox x

Kriegler, Christy

Mon, Jul 22, 11:55 PM



to me ▾

Images are not displayed.

[Display images below - Always display images from Christy.Kriegler@marriott.com](#)

Great – Thank you Bill!

We are sourcing our following hotels for you:

Renaissance Cleveland Hotel
Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Tower
The Westin Cleveland Downtown
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown
Indianapolis Marriott East
JW Marriott Indianapolis
Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre Hotel
The Westin Indianapolis
Minneapolis Marriott City Center
Renaissance Minneapolis Hotel, The Depot
JW Marriott Minneapolis Mall of America

Christy Kriegler

Sales Manager, National Group Sales
Phone (800) 648-7666 ext. 2295036
christy.kriegler@marriott.com



Renaissance Minneapolis Hotel, The Depot	Minneapolis Marriott Northwest	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis	
Minneapolis	Minneapolis	Minneapolis	
225 3rd Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55401	7025Northland Drive North Minneapolis, MN 55428	1300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55403	
TANYA SIEFKEN TSiefken@renminneapolis.com 612.758.7811	Vicki Sullivan vicki.sullivan@marriott.com 763-971-5573 (Direct) c/o Heather Palentcher	Bethany Gauche bethany.gauche@hyatt.com 612.596.4657	
Kory kingsbury 2/11/21 Proposal still valid	Rate will be honored, but Wi-Fi now \$900 for theentire conference		
\$219.00	\$159.00	\$219.00	
July 7 - 14, 2023	July 22-27, 2023	July 8 - 13, 2023	
3 day pre & post	3 days pre & post		
Comp	Comp	Comp	
19,980 sq. ft.	4248	3363 sq.ft.	
30'	14'	12'	
Comp	Comp	Comp	
19,980 sq. ft	5712	2500 sq. ft.	
30 Comp Tables	\$30/table/one-time	30 comp tables	
	\$50/day	Daily - \$30 for power strips and extension cords.	
\$36K	\$24K	\$30K	
2022 Price	Yes - 2020	10% off menu	

25% + 11.025%	24% + 7.275%	24% + 11.03%	
\$9,000 due 18 months prior	No	No deposit	
1 per 40	1 per 40	1 per 40	
2 Suites Upgrade	1 Presidential/VIP Suite upgrade during the conference dates 10 rooms per night upgraded to Suites at the group rate during the conference dates	10 Upgrades to suites	
4 rooms	8 Rooms	8 rooms	
80% Daily Attrition, or can do cumulative attrition with history to support the requested block.	80%	80%	
Comp in Guest Rooms & Registration Desk \$200/day for meeting Space	\$900 Wi-Fi in the guest rooms, exhibit space and registration area	Comp in guest room & public spaces	
Self \$27 Valet \$45	Comp	Self = \$24 Valet = \$39	
	Yes	Yes	
12 miles, 15 minutes \$45 one-way for a taxi, \$2.50 one-way for the Light Rail	25 miles \$70 o/w	12.5 miles Uber = \$20 o/w	
The exhibit area is same room as the General Session at 19,980 – they offer a 16ft. pipe and drape to divide the General Session from the Exhibits	Complimentary hotel shuttle to over 200 shopping and dining destinations, 5 minutes away All suite property, however, 10 upgrades to our Executive Suites	2 staff rooms @ 30% off group rate	

RE: [EXTERNAL] APMS 2023 - RFP NEW Omni
Minneapolis Inbox x



Patti Johnson
to me ▾

Jul 18, 2019, 10:45 AM



Images are not displayed.

[Display images below - Always display images from pjohnson@omnihotels.com](#)

Hello Bill! Good to hear from you! Perfect timing! We just announced our new Minneapolis property this week. Attached is information on this beauty. Property is located in Eagan. Is this location ok? Although we have announced this location, we are unable to provide bids just yet...probably by month end. Will that work? Property opens September 2020. I'll be sending the RFP over to Omni Severin today. Unfortunately, Omni does not have a property in Cleveland!

Thanks in advance,

Patti

PATTI A. JOHNSON

Director, Global Accounts
Omni Hotels & Resorts

678 366 1825 direct
pjohnson@omnihotels.com

The Ingelside Hotel	Radisson Hotel Lansing at the Capital		
20 miles west of Milwaukee	Lansing		
2810 Golf Road Pewaukee, WI 53072	111 North Grand Avenue Lansing, MI 48933		
Kelly Gwiazda 608 294 3049 kgwiazda@concoursehotel.com	Emily Thompson emily.thompson@radlansing.com (517) 267-3441		
\$159.00	\$142.95		
July 8 - 13, 2023	July 8 - 13, 2023		
Comp	Comp \$150/day/function set-up fee is actually covered under the “complimentary” rental, so there is no fee for the meeting space at all!		
4800 sq. ft.	4260 sq.ft.		
16'	14'		
Comp	Comp \$150/day/function		
7200 sq. ft.	6971 sq. ft.		
\$20/table/one time	30 Comp		
\$25/table/day	No charge		
\$25K	\$17K		
	Yes		

21% + 5.1%	21% + 6%		
\$4K at signing	No, Direct Billing		
1 per 40	1 per 40		
1 Presidential/VIP suite 10 upgrades	1 Presidential Suite 7 Suite Upgrades 1 comp room for the meeting planner		
	8		
80%	80%		
Comp throughout hotel	Comp in guest rooms & Meeting space		
Comp	Valet - \$12 Self \$15		
Yes	Yes		
26 miles Uber \$40 o/w	5.3 miles comp shuttle		
	Lansing CVB offer \$3,000 sponsorship to APMS paid at the conclusion of the conference.		

[illegible]

[illegible]

63rd Annual Aquatic Plant Management Society
Jul2023 M-H8VEC27- JW Marriott Minneapolis Mall
of America and Minneapolis Marriott City Center

Inbox x

Moss, Rita <Rita.Moss@marriott.com>

Tue, Jul 23, 5:41 PM (11 days ago)

to me, Sara

Good afternoon Bill,

Thank you for including the JW Marriott Minneapolis Mall of America and Minneapolis Marriott City Center on your 2023 search.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide a proposal for this group as it falls outside our selling guidelines.

We hope to partner with you in the future.

Warm regards,
Rita Moss

Rita Moss, CMP

Senior Sales Manager, Northern Mid-America Group Sales
(847) 232-5383 (O) | (847) 789-9270 (F)

63rd Annual Aquatic Plant Management Society - JW
Marriott Indianapolis/Indy Marriott Downtown

Inbox x

Lauren Durham <lauren.durham@indy-marriott.co...>

Mon, Jul 29, 11:33 AM (8 days ago)

to me, sara.carstens@marriott.com

Good morning, Bill,

Thank you so much for considering the JW Marriott Indianapolis and the Indy Marriott Downtown for your 63rd Annual Aquatic Plant Management Society program in 2023. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer availability for either of these hotels at this time. If anything changes, I will be sure to let you know as soon as possible!

Thank you,
Lauren Durham

LAUREN DURHAM

MARKET SENIOR SALES MANAGER

317.808.9964

10 S West St, Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: APMS 2023 - RFP

Inbox x

Lauren Vernick

3:32 PM (11 minutes ago)

to me



Images are not displayed.

Display images below - Always display images from laurenvernick@grandgeneva.com

DIII,

Thank you again for sharing the following opportunity to once again present Grand Geneva to Aquatic Plant Management Society. While I would love to show as much flexibility for the National Conference, unfortunately Summer/Peak months come with a bit more demand and rates at a premium.

Available Group Rate: \$209 + \$25.00 Resort Fee

Banquet Food and Beverage Minimum: \$75,000.00 (if we can maybe get history on the last 2-3 years of actualized F&B, I can maybe try and get this a little lower)

Proposed Meeting Space: Forum

If we would still like to entertain a proposal/address additional items, I would be happy to detail out these terms in a more formal proposal.

Warm Regards,



**Lauren Vernick • National Sales
Manager**

Phone: 847-877-9145 | **Fax:** 262-249-4585

7036 Grand Geneva Way, Lake Geneva, WI
53147

[Grand Geneva Resort & Spa](#) | [f](#) [@](#) [t](#)
[v](#)

**Membership Committee Report
January 2021**

Submitted by: Marc Bellaud

APMS Membership Status

There has not been any activity in the Membership Committee due to the uncertainty of the in-person conference status for 2021. Open questions and concerns for membership in 2021:

- Student participation will likely be low to non-existent if we hold an in-person conference.
- It will be difficult to attract new colleges/universities and students to an in-person conference with ongoing travel restrictions.
- There may be more interest and participation in a virtual event, even if we hold one specifically targeting student participation and presentations.
- May need to consider a membership drive around a virtual educational offering, a virtual conference, or open networking opportunities.
- Determine if we need to adjust membership levels/charges if we do hold an in-person conference.
- How can APMS better collaborate and support Regional Chapters with their virtual and/or in-person conferences and events in 2021?
- Continue to push on HAB focus area and collaboration to attract a new audience and new members.
- Continue to explore affiliate memberships with partner societies like NALMS, SLMP, Women of Aquatics, etc.
- Finalize 501(c)(3) status for APMS

Nominating Committee
Mark Heilman, Chair

No report at this time, but an update will be provided in the BOD Meeting.

Past Presidents' Advisory Committee
Mark Heilman, Chair

No report at this time.

Program Committee

Ryan Thum, Chair

To the APMS Board of Directors,

The Program Committee currently consists of: Ryan Thum (Chair), Ajay Jones, Brett Hartis, Erika Haug, Chris Mudge, James Leary, Ryan Wersal, and Ben Sperry.

Of course, we will see how things unfold regarding holding the conference in person versus in silico, and how that would affect the programming. However, we have had some initial conversations by email to start brainstorming possible themes and sessions. These themes may be organized around a particular region or species, but I would be especially pleased to have one or more themes that transcend regions or species, and instead focus on emerging issues, priorities, opportunities, technologies, philosophies, etc.

Two themes that have been identified in initial conversations are Integrated Pest Management, and the Endangered Species Act relative to aquatic plant management. If you are aware of current research and/or researchers focusing on these areas, and especially if you think we could get them to participate in the conference, please let me know.

We have also had some initial discussions about a possible keynote speaker to kick off the conference. Ideas include Alex Perret or Daniel Hill from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to discuss aquatic plant management issues in the host state. Another idea was John White (LSU Department of Oceanography & Coastal Sciences), who focuses on wetland biogeochemistry: C, N and P cycling (https://www.lsu.edu/cce/research/faculty_profiles/john_white.php). I have also been pursuing potential speakers about Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion, as part of the APMS ad hoc committee this year.

If you have ideas for speakers, oral sessions, or poster sessions, please let me know. In short, if you have anything at all that you would be excited to integrate into the APMS Program, please share. I'm sure we will have more good ideas than we can possibly pull themes/sessions together for. But, we can always kick some things to the next Program Committee (the Chair of which happens to be on this committee!).

I have received one unsolicited request to present at the conference (APM using drones).

Finally, I want to thank all of the committee members for their valuable and enthusiastic input in our initial discussions. I'm sure we will dig into this more earnestly as the details of the conference logistics come into better focus.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Program Committee,

Ryan Thum

Proposal Review Committee
Mark Heilman, Chair

No report at this time.

Publications Committee – Journal of Aquatic Plant Management
January 2021 Board Meeting
Jason Ferrell

Publications committee business has largely been discussed in the editor's report. However, one issue can be brought before the Board.

Currently, APMS does not publish meeting abstracts on the website. Individuals have asked over the years, but interest has been low.

With the new website coming, is this something we wish to include? What about back issues? If so, how far back?

Regional Chapters Committee
Gray Turnage, Chair

No report at this time.

Scholastic Endowment Committee
Tom Warmuth, Chair

No report at this time.

Strategic Planning Committee
Mark Heilman, Chair

Update for March 2021 virtual meeting of the APMS Board of Directors

APMS is the last year of its 2017-2021 Strategic Plan. The full plan is under documents section of the APMS website. The key goals of the were as follows:

1. Develop and adhere to a comprehensive financial management plan that aligns with the APMS mission.
2. Design and implement a broad marketing and outreach plan.
3. Increase APMS membership and annual meeting participation.
4. Enhance the society's sustainability by sponsoring student initiatives and stimulating increased job opportunities in the field.

Overall, solid progress has been made in many areas but the pandemic has created a variety of disruptions that must continue to be evaluated by the APMS Board to finish the current cycle as solidly as possible and importantly make any needed adjustments in Society strategy looking ahead. The potential financial and other impacts to APMS from the longer-term consequences of the pandemic remain uncertain but should be more clear as 2021 continues, public health policies modify, and future annual meeting structure, attendance, and economics come into focus. While many of the same themes are similar as five years ago, goals of the future Society plan likely include a tax-exempt path for contributions to the Netherland APMS Graduate Student Research Grant and other aspects of Society mission, new strategies for longer-term online education and outreach following the major shift to online activities in the last year, and additional concrete steps to further promote Society diversity. Technically, the Society should continue to evaluate means to enhance the academic impact of its Journal of Aquatic Plant Management and evaluate how to further grow its role in science and outreach related to harmful algae management.

In terms of format and timing of the strategic planning effort, the planning has been driven historically by a one-day, facilitated session with the APMS Board, past Society Presidents, and other active members. This session has usually been conducted the day prior to the midwinter APMS Board meeting at the location of the upcoming July conference that year. If all goes well and more normal conditions develop over this year, the facilitated planning for the 2022-2027 strategic effort could be a full, in-person meeting in Greenville, SC in late January 2022. Contact has been made recently with Dr. Ed Osborne with University of Florida's Department of Agricultural Education and Communication, the outside facilitator that assisted APMS in 2017, to determine his possible availability and gauge his interest in future facilitation. While Dr. Osborne has just retired officially from UF, he has indicated strong interest in helping APMS with next January's planning if the Board supports securing his support again.

2021 Mid Winter Student Affairs report

Student Affairs Committee;

Chair - Sam Sardes

Chris Mudge

Leif Wiley

Brett Bultemeier

Jens Beets

Upon speaking with many of the faculty members, the current lack of universal vaccine availability and Covid status makes it unlikely that most of them would be able to send students to an in-person annual meeting. The student affairs committee suggests that we not do student gathering events such as the tour, happy hour, or luncheon in person this year. This would allow us to save money, avoid liability issues, and promote the safety of our members. Additionally, it is not looking that the government agencies that were going to host the tour will be able to at this point. We would like to instead suggest that we do door prizes for the students in lieu of a luncheon for the students.

If the conference were to go virtual or hybrid we believe we may get a better student turnout and would like to suggest a virtual student luncheon via zoom/hangouts/skype where we could still have a guest speaker or two. Maybe we could provide the students that attend a doordash or grubhub gift card for this event. It would still be more economical than the >\$1,000 we traditionally spend for the student luncheon in person. It would also demonstrate our continued investment in our student membership.

AERF
Carlton Layne, Representative

No report at this time.

February 24, 2021

To: Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS)

From: Jeremy G. Slade

Subject: Report of the BASS Special Representative

I've recently been in communication with Gene Gilliland, BASS National Conservation Director, about APMS and AERF support for 2021. Last year we sponsored the conservation luncheon during the Bassmaster Classic in Mobile, AL where Drs. Jay Ferrell and Brett Hartis had the opportunity to speak with the BASS state conservation directors and fisheries personnel from various states across the country. APMS has been able to participate at the Classic conservation summit held in "even" years for many years now and supported a research mini-grant opportunity co-sponsored with AERF in "odd" years.

The Bassmaster Classic was postponed until June 2021, so this gives us time to put an RFP albeit soon. This year discussion has been focused around supporting a broader topic to include education and outreach activities rather than a specific research project related to aquatic plants and habitat. In years' past revegetation projects have been most of the projects supported.

Below is the correspondence between Gene and I (Ryan Wersal and Carlton Layne copied for awareness):

Great. We appreciate the continued support.

Gene Gilliland
B.A.S.S. Conservation Director
405-317-9488
ggilliland@bassmaster.com

On Wed, Feb 17, 2021, 8:11 AM Jeremy Slade <jeremy.slade@upl-ltd.com> wrote:

Gene-

Hope you're fairing well with this crazy weather. Maybe you just stayed in Florida after last week's tournament?!

I provided your response about APMS/AERF support for 2021 to Ryan Wersal, current APMS President, and Carlton Layne, Executive Director of AERF, both copied on this email. They are both in agreement with your statement of continuing the relationship between the organizations, I don't think there was doubt otherwise! It will probably have to be reviewed by

*the APMS and AERF BODs, but early indications are each group would provided up to \$1,500 for a total of \$3,000. I don't know if you have a template RFP that you use for projects, but maybe between us we can develop one if not? I think opening the topics to include anything **invasive species, aquatic plant habitat and/or education and outreach related** is appropriate. Maybe funds provide by APMS/AERF can be leveraged with another BASS sponsor (e.g., Aftco or AL Power).*

From: Gene Gilliland <ggilliland@bassmaster.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 12:06 PM

To: Jeremy Slade/Sales, Marketing & Alliance/Gainesville <jeremy.slade@upl-ltd.com>

Subject: External :Re: APMS/AERF check in

Jeremy,

Doing well in Oklahoma. Got my first vaccination last week. Second shot in 3 weeks. In the mean time I have to travel to Arizona and Florida for tournament work. Keeping fingers crossed - and a mask on - on those trips.

B.A.S.S. definitely wants to stay connected to APMS and AERF. You guys are our longest standing conservation partner and we hope to continue that relationship. I do recall us talking about looking at the alternate year support for projects vs. Summit support when we have that event.

I don't know of any particular projects that are planned at this time but we can certainly put out an RFP to gauge interest. The pool of potential applicants is much smaller if we are looking for projects that involve introduction of native plants. There are just not as many states doing those kinds of projects right now (ones I know of are NM, NC, VA, GA, TX). If we expand to allow "education and outreach" regarding invasive species prevention and control I think we might get more widespread interest. Does that fit? Dollar amount can be whatever works for you. Our state chapters are grateful for any assistance. These funds are often additive to money provided through state agencies on larger projects, but many are stand-alone small scale club projects.

Gene Gilliland
B.A.S.S. Conservation Director
405.317.9488

ggilliland@bassmaster.com



On Tue, Jan 26, 2021 at 9:04 AM Jeremy Slade <jeremy.slade@upl-ltd.com> wrote:

Gene-

Hope you've dodged the Corona virus this last year and still doing well! I'm pretty sure the last large event I attended was the Bassmaster Classic in Birmingham. I had a couple of flights in September and October 2020, but as you know air travel has been significantly reduced. With Gerald's retirement, I became the BASS representative for APMS and AERF and hope I haven't tarnished the relationship. I saw the Classic is being postponed until June so items we want to partner up on may be more reasonable to prepare for rather than March. Last year APMS and AERF sponsored the luncheon with Jay and Brett getting the opportunity to speak. In odd years we talked about sponsoring a research project. Is this still something you have requested proposals for? I know the conservation directors always have projects they're working on and if there is one or two that are focusing on vegetation management (planting, recovery, control) we could possibly assist with some funding. Probably would request a brief proposal to run by both APMS and AERF. With changes in both groups and the passing of Dr. Netherland, we'd have to identify some people to review the proposals but that shouldn't be difficult. Then we could discuss funding levels. It may not be much considering meetings haven't happened and revenues were absent in 2020. But, would like to see what we could offer.

Let me know your thoughts.

I've copied the current APMS President, Dr. Ryan Wersal, and AERF Executive Director, Mr. Carlton Layne for awareness.

Jeremy Slade

CAST
Lyn Gettys, Representative

CAST is moving forward with work on the HABs white paper. The paper will have around 10 different sections, each around 1,000 words, with a different SME responsible for each section. I'm the paper task force liaison and Dail Laughinghouse is the task force chair. The goal is to have a virtual meeting with Dail, Kent Schescke (Executive Vice President & CEO of CAST), Megan Wickham (CAST editor), the SMEs in the next months to finalize details before the SMEs start working on their respective sections. We hope to have the paper finalized by the fall.

Also, CAST produces a weekly "Friday Notes" newsletter that all reps receive. The CAST communications person has asked that we forward the first one released each month to members, so I'll start doing that.

February 27,2021

To: APMS Board

From: Terry McNabb

Re: NALMS Report

I reached out to the NALMS executive committee and President Elect Chris Mikolajczyk.

They expressed interest in continuing cross collaboration with us during the July conference we have holding. They also welcome our participation with a booth at their annual meeting which is scheduled to be in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma from November 15-18, 2021. They like us will be deciding about the in person version of this shortly.

NALMS is also hosting two additional meetings in the near future. The National Water Quality Monitoring Council meeting is held online this April 10-23rd [12th National Monitoring Conference – North American Lake Management Society \(NALMS\)](#). NALMS performs all the coordination and management of this event.

They will also be part of the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting held in Grand Rapids MI May 16-20 of 2022 [JASM 2022 – Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting 2022 Grand Rapids \(aquaticsocieties.org\)](#) and that may be of interest to APMS. This meeting is sponsored by the Consortium of Aquatic Science Societies

NALMS is also focused on trying to get the 314 funding restore at the federal level. Many of you may remember this US EPA funded lake restoration program that kind of went away a number of years ago. With the increasing problems facing the nation with HAB issues that may have some horsepower and as this is a focus of aquatic plant managers increasingly, we should track that and support as well.

I think when in person meetings start to happen, and hopefully by our July event, this relationship will be getting more active.

RISE
Sam Barrick, Chair

No report at this time.

Women of Aquatics
APMS Board Book Report
March 2021

Submitted by Amy Kay

Women of Aquatics Mission

Together we promote all women of aquatics, now and in the future, through inspiration and support to continually pursue their ambition and potential both professionally and personally.

Values

Celebrate & Inspire, Challenge the Status Quo, Promote Community

Areas of Focus

Career Advancement, Continuing Education, Work-Life Balance, Health & Wellness

Goals & Progress

- **WOA Exhibiting and Events:** No exhibiting or events were held following the retreat held in January 2020. 2021 Exploring virtual options and participation with board members and membership.
 - A presentation was submitted to WAPMS for their 2021 virtual conference. Director, Sonja Wixom recorded a presentation and submitted as a WOA update and “Sonja’s Story” highlighting her experience with WOA from being a student to relocating and securing a career in the aquatics industry.
- **Membership:** Relaunching and renewing membership for 2021 with the theme of Mentoring and sharing of “Sonja’s Story”.
 - \$50 annual professional membership, \$50 affiliate membership, \$25 annual student membership, \$25 annual student affiliate membership. Payments can be accepted via cash, check, credit card and PayPal.
 - Annual membership includes:
 - WOA meeting event at APMS, it’s chapters and any other approved (by the board) WOA meetings that may take place on the local/state level (For example, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership); Specialized directory of contacts; Option to participate in a mentorship program; Invitation to Women of Aquatics Members Retreat; Women of Aquatics lapel pin for new members.
- **Sponsorship:** Annual sponsorships are needed for 2021. The board will be asking for sponsors along with the renewals and relaunch of the membership.
 - Annual Sponsorships: Ocean Level \$2,000.00, Lake Level \$1,000.00 and Stream Level \$500.00

*WOA would like to thank the APMS board for the continued participation and support.
Feedback and suggestions are continually encouraged.*

WSSA

Rob Richardson, Representative

WSSA Board Meeting

Annual Meeting

- 303 total presentations/posters
- Everything as MP4 files. View on demand during conference hours, panelists available for questions during scheduled time. Other presenters answer questions via chat function.
- Hosted by Virtual Event Space; \$35k charge
- Few sustaining members opted to virtually exhibit
- 65 judges for student contests
- 580 total registrants
- Virtual platform does allow for advanced metrics. Also allows for talks to be repackaged for later webinar or symposium or training
- 3,249 total session views; 50 total viewed aquatics symposium
- 479 unique attendees; 206 unique archive views
- There was a symposium on aquatic plant management with speakers from 4 countries. Approximately 60 total people were in attendance.
- 2022 Meeting in Vancouver so it may be impacted. Current Canadian pace of vaccination is not good (says a Canadian).
- Vancouver room rate \$210

Finances

- Over \$1.5M in assets.
- Plan to entertain grant proposals was put on hold through CoVid
- Paid \$50k penalty for hotel cancellation, but lower expenses and investment recovery offset

NEWSS made \$10k on their virtual meeting, other regionals have done well with their virtual meetings. Many left registration fee the same as for in-person.

5 applications for WSSA-EPA liason position.

Herbicide Handbook

- There is a revision currently in process. I have asked that aquatic fate of aquatic herbicides be included and have been told this will be done.

Publications

- Cambridge is pushing, but not forcing open access on journals. This is due to some funding agencies requiring that any research be published in open access journals. Thus, they are projecting greater demand for open access journals and lower demand for paid access.

Strategic Planning

- WSSA is starting a new strategic plan. Below are the plan areas and topic leaders.
 - o Establish WSSA as the trusted resource of information related to weed science for stakeholders (including policy makers) - Janis McFarland
 - o Advance relationship between WSSA and affiliated organizations - Bill Curran
 - o Develop communication partnerships with key influencers - Larry Steckel
 - o Provide forums for scientific exchange - Rakesh Chandran
 - o Increase WSSA's influence through science communication and engagement - Dawn Refsell
 - o Improve WSSA member engagement, experience, & opportunities for leadership. Help build the capabilities and effectiveness of WSSA membership [capacity and success] - Greg Elmore

SCIENCE POLICY REPORT, Feb. 26, 2021

Lee Van Wychen

Executive Director of Science Policy

- **2021 National Invasive Species Awareness Weeks (NISAWs)**, www.nisaw.org/nisaw-2021/
 - NISAW Part I - Information and Advocacy – was February 22-26, 2021.
 - Lee: “Show Me the Money” webinar on Feb. 26
 - Very successful outreach. Webinars will be posted on www.nisaw.org
 - NISAW Part II - Outreach and Education – is **May 15-22, 2021**
 - Do you have a local invasive species prevention, removal, and educational events? Add it [HERE!](#)
 - NISC funding was restored to \$1.2M in FY 2021. Working to reestablish Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC). Working on a major “appropriations” campaign for FY 2022
- **2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)** – Over \$100 million “authorized” for new aquatic invasive species efforts. Looks good on paper, but **we need to go after the appropriations:**
 - Army Corps of Engineers (Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittees):
 - \$25M Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) demonstration program;
 - \$50M to partner with states and other agencies for Russian olive and saltcedar control in five western U.S. river basins
 - a pilot program for terrestrial noxious weeds control on Army Corps lands.
 - Interior- administered through FWS (Interior & Environment Approps Subcommittees):
 - \$25M for invasive species eradication in alpine lakes;
 - \$10M to remove invasive plants that contribute to drought in the western U.S.;
- **Weed Science/APMS Presidents Congressional Visits**
 - Looking at 2-3 “virtual” Congressional visits + 1 trip to DC in fall. Play it by ear.
 - Week of April 5-9
 - Week of June 14-18
 - Weed Science Presidents Target House & Senate Appropriations subcommittees for:
 - Agriculture & Interior, Environment
 - **APMS leaders** target 2020 WRDA approps in Energy/Water & Interior/Environment
 - **Need constituents from OH, ID, CA, LA for House & ME, OH, OR, AK for Senate**
- **USDA Appropriations and Policy Issue Work:**
 - Establish an Areawide IPM (AIPM) program and funding in USDA-NIFA
 - We strongly support the AIPM funding in USDA-ARS, which has supported several successful weed AIPM programs such as Team Leafy Spurge, Tame Melaleuca, and currently the CA Delta Region Areawide Aquatic Weed Project (DRAAWP).
 - Working with Entomology and others to establish an AIPM program and associated funding within USDA-NIFA.
 - Increase IR-4 Project funding to \$20M in FY 2022
 - Flat funding in NIFA budget at \$11.9M for over a decade. Will be subject to increased indirect cost charges from universities in FY 2022.
 - Increase NIFA Crop Protection and Pest Management (CPPM) program funding to \$25M
 - Funded at \$20M for past 5 years. The CPPM program funds the 4 Regional IPM Centers, all the State Extension IPM programs and an IPM grants program.

- Explore the possibility of expanding the definition of a “Plant Pest” under the Plant Protection Act (PPA) to include “noxious weeds”. Funding for noxious weeds at APHIS-PPQ is severely hampered because noxious weeds are not considered a “plant pest”. Only “parasitic plants” are considered a “plant pest” in the PPA ([7 U.S.C. 7702](#)).
 - Work to implement the change in 2023 Farm Bill.
- **New USDA-ARS National Program Leader for Invasive Pests of Crops (weed science)** – Steve Young
 - Email: stephen.young@usda.gov; Before joining USDA-ARS, Steve was at Utah State and prior to that served as the Director of the Northeastern IPM Center at Cornell.
- **New USDA-NIFA National Program Leader for Weed Science-** Vijay Nandula
 - Email: vijay.nandula@usda.gov; Prior to joining NIFA, Vijay was with USDA-ARS since 2011 in Stoneville, MS where he worked on herbicide resistance issues.
- **EPA Biological Evaluations (BEs) for Triazines and Glyphosate.**
 - Biological evaluations (BEs) are the beginning of EPA’s Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation review process for pesticides where they determine if an endangered or threatened species or critical habitat could be affected.
 - The Endangered Species Act is not a “risk-benefits” statute like FIFRA. ESA is pure risk. Any “exposure” is bad. Pesticide benefits not considered.
 - The BEs make effects determinations for 1,795 endangered or threatened species and 792 designated critical habitats. EPA’s draft BEs for atrazine and simazine predicted that they are likely to adversely affect 54% of all species and 40% of critical habitats; i.e. nearly all endangered/threatened species and critical habitats in the continental U.S., including some that are already extinct.
 - WSSA [submitted comments](#) on Feb. 19, 2021. An assessment process which essentially equates any exposure to a pesticide as a possible concern to any species does little to advance appropriate options which could be tailored to improve species protection. The implications of unrealistic analyses will result in unjustified restrictions on the use of triazine products which remain critical weed management tools across the U.S.
- **EPA’s draft BE for glyphosate predicts that:**
 - **glyphosate** is likely to adversely affect 93% of all species and 96% of critical habitats.
 - The application scenario assumptions aren’t realistic (i.e. assumes glyphosate is applied at 8 lb/A max rate every year on CRP and grazing land. For residential lawns, assumes glyphosate applied max number of times at over 40 lbs/A per year)
 - [Comments on the draft BEs for glyphosate are due Mar. 13, 2021.](#)
- **APHIS-PPQ; \$3 million for cogongrass control in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and South Carolina.**
 - Main Contact is Anne LeBrun, National Policy Manager for Federal Noxious Weeds, APHIS.
 - Congress took \$3 million out of Field Crop and Rangeland Ecosystems Pests and designated it specifically for a cogongrass pilot program.
- **National Survey of the Most Common and Troublesome Weeds**
 - 2020 weed survey results available at: <https://wssa.net/wssa/weed/surveys/>
 - **2021 survey will be for weeds in aquatic and non-crop areas**
 - Will go out around Memorial Day and close after Labor Day.