



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Guide Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 10th, 2024
Virtual Teams Meeting

Meeting called to order at 10:00am by Cyndi Bolduc

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1. Introduction: An introduction was read by Cyndi, welcoming everyone, and explaining the format for the Teams meeting.
2. Attendance:
 - a. Present: Brian Paulsen, OSMB; Cyndi Bolduc, OSMB; GAC Members: Joe Rohleder, Bob Rees, Gary Early, Jim Blount, Mia Sheppard, Jason Schultz, Bill Monroe Jr, Brian Sykes; Val Early, OSMB Board Member; Sgt. Clint Galusha, OSP
 - b. Absent: Cody Cole, Cliff Agocs
3. Approval of Minutes: Cyndi asked if anyone had any comment from the February 15th, 2023 meeting. None were received and the minutes were approved.
4. Renewal Update: We ended 2023 with a record 1,535 guides, 69 over the previous year. 191 guides have not yet renewed from the 2023 year. 14% are brand new guides. Online renewals are up which is awesome.
5. Enforcement Update:
 - a. Recent Enforcement- Clint gave a quick overview of what he and his team do and how they operate. He stated that he has 5 full time detectives. Between those 5 detectives they produce about 1700 hours of enforcement for the Marine Board. They keep track of all complaints received through State Police, Federal partners like the Coast Guard and OSMB. In 2023 Clint and his team had 53 complaints, 17 of which were citations. In 2022, there were 43 and of those, 10 were cited. Clint also stated that there are cases that bleed over from previous years and gave an example of some of those cases and stated that most outcomes will be in the newsletter.
 - b. Administrative actions: The OOGA TIP fund has been very beneficial in generating tips. Funds received from the courts appears to be making the fund self-sustaining. Bob Rees asked if it would be okay to ask about a particular guide during the meeting or better if he asked about them later. Clint agreed later would be better. Bill Monroe asked if it was possible to expand the Guide Enforcement Day held on the mid-Columbia to other areas and asked for thoughts on that. Cyndi stated that there are more plans in the works. Clint commented that the guide enforcement day was very successful. Val Early stated that the saturation patrols have been very successful in their area. Brian Paulson gave some statistics on that enforcement day. There were 29 guide boats contacted, and 8 recreational boats. Overall, there were 17 cites and 22 warnings which were slightly disappointing regarding compliance. Bob offered a list of guides that are enrolled in the NW Angler's Association consortium.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Ethics & Professional Standards – Addressing Noncriminal Complaints & Actions: Brian Paulsen spoke about OSMB Board Members directing agency staff in January of '23 to review the current ethical & professional standards and to develop a formal complaint process, specifically to revise the standards to incorporate social media or defamation actions. The Ethics and Professional Standards were reviewed but not amended. The non-criminal complaint process was formalized and has been implemented since March 2023. Cyndi expressed that having the complaint process be more formalized has been a great help. Cyndi went on to explain that the administrative action complaints scenarios and matrix is used to make it as transparent and consistent as possible so that everyone is treated in the same manner.

Cyndi asked if there were any questions. (Un-named) asked if there was a complaint lodged then does the guide get notified? Cyndi said that the complaint gets forwarded to the guide in question with a request for a response. She includes an outline of what the Marine Board's concerns are, as well as stating what the pertinent statutes and rules are. The guide is given a two-week time frame to respond. The response is then reviewed by Cyndi and Brian to determine if the complaint is substantiated or if further action is needed. Cyndi gave an example of some of the complaints. Once the outcome is determined, the complaint is then filed with that guide in question. Val expressed her appreciation to Brian and Cyndi for putting this process into practice.

- b. Hunt Tag Program – Cyndi discussed the Non-Resident Hunt Tag Program survey that was sent out to the program participants. There were 13 responses received, which varied greatly. There will be more discussion between ODFW and the Marine Board regarding rule making due to it being a jointly managed program. While there are challenges, both sides are working cooperatively to make the process more manageable for all involved. Potential draft rules are currently on pause while the new Policy Manager for OSMB gets up to speed.
- c. Tip Program update – Turn in Poachers program has been very successful. Thanks go to Brian Sykes of Oregon Outfitter Guide Association for managing the funds. He has provided an update on the tip fund. In 2021, OSMB & OOGA donated an initial pot of \$2400 to start the fund, and to date there have been three rewards of \$200 each for a tip that leads to a citation. The fund has received five checks from the court system totaling \$800 for restitution. Sgt. Galusha commented that the program is working well. While the reward money is offered, it is not always accepted.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Demo of OG Dashboard- Cyndi introduced the Outfitter Guide Dashboard on the Marine Board website and gave a quick explanation on how the public can now find a guide by either their area of interest or activity. It is currently only listing Owners or Active guides. Mia commented and said this is great for visitors and asked if Travel Oregon is aware of this. Cyndi confirmed that she will share be sharing this with Travel Oregon.
- b. WA Logbook – Cyndi had been in touch with Washington DFW. She shared their material regarding their guide logbook requirement. Cyndi explained that there is a paper version as well

as an electronic version. This was presented as information regarding the technology other states are using with guides and outfitters.

Bill commented regarding the structure and asked when it will possibly be implemented here. Brian responded stating that WAFW and their outfitter guide program are under one roof. Here they are separate, and the marine board is the occupational licensing agency. The natural resources are not managed by the marine board and partnering with ODFW would be necessary. He went on to explain that the marine board would not be the lead on instituting anything like this. Val commented that Alaska uses this, and it was started with saltwater fishing and has expanded to rivers. Bill feels that guides should get a heads-up before anything has been implemented. Jason stated that he is not an advocate for the logbook because it can be a hassle and needs to be kept simple. Bill asked Cyndi if there was any headway with the WA Guides Association and legislation regarding charter guides below Longview Bridge. Cyndi said that nothing had been shared with our agency as yet. Val agrees with Jason on the logbooks and does not feel the data would be helpful.

- c. Evaluation of Fees- Brian gave a short, informational briefing that the agency staff will be evaluating the outfitter guide program from a viability standpoint. To be transparent, he stated that the current fees have not been covering the program's costs and the law enforcement contract obligations. It's been a decade since the guide fees have had any changes. Val asked Cyndi if we anticipate the process being completed in the next year or maybe a legislative concept coming forward for the next legislative session? Brian stated that any changes must go through legislation because the fees are in statute so it would be a public process. Brian and Cyndi assured the committee that they would be apprised of any changes.
- d. GAC Charter review & recruitment- Randy Turney has let Cyndi know that he is resigning for his position, and it will get refilled within their association. Jim Blount is no longer guiding. There are also four current committee members who has reached or passed the maximum term length, so replacements would need to be found to fill these positions as well. Brian P. discussed the formal adoption of the Charter and how he and Cyndi worked with other agency staff to make it available to the public and put it into the committee book. Brian also did a quick overview and explained the term limits. The notice for recruitment will be sent out within the next month for the open positions. Cyndi thanked those who are currently on the committee and requested anyone who had suggested nominations to please speak up.

8. Round Table – No Comments

Next Meeting is tentatively scheduled for April. A Doodle Poll will be sent out to select a date.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.