

AOOS Executive Committee

August 26, 2021

Meeting Summary

Attendees:

- Katrina Hoffman, Chair
- Sara Longan, Vice-Chair
- Cheryl Rosa, Secretary
- James Kendall, Treasurer
- Sheyna Wisdom, Executive Director
- Molly McCammon, Senior Advisor

Agenda

- General Updates
- Board meeting October – virtual or in-person
- Axiom Indirect Rate Change
- Award Approvals
 - NPS Beringia
 - NSF Convergence
- Executive Session

1. General Updates

- FY16-21 IOOS Agreement
 - Coordinating with subawards to ensure funds will be spent by March 31, 2022.
 - Met with IOOS/NOAA OAP regarding Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea OA cruises (Natalie Monaci, UAF & Grace Saba, Rutgers). We will request a No Cost Extension (NCE) from NOAA in early Jan, 2022 for 2-years to ensure cruises and data analyses can be completed.
- FY21-26 IOOS Agreement
 - Received NOAA FY21 Year 1
 - Working on all descope documents, plan is to submit by Sep 1
- Administration
 - Performance reviews/merit increase now complete for Holly, Jill, Darcy, and Carol.
 - As of 8/28/21, Molly will move from salary to hourly.
- New Board Membership
 - Working on list of potential organizations/candidates and invitation letter with Board member description to present at Oct Board Meeting
- Infrastructure Bill
 - \$150M for observing systems intended for IOOS in FY21 budget
 - Pushing for equal splitting of that among RAs

2. October Board meeting

- Vote to change Board meeting to virtual.
 - Sheyna to notify Board.
 - Cheryl may be traveling that day.

3. Axiom Indirect Rate Change

- Background:
 - Axiom requested a change to the indirect rate from 21% for AOOS core projects to their 45% rate approved by NOAA. Given AOOS' early investments in the Axiom data

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Meeting Summary

system (used by the IOOS Program and two other IOOS Regional Associations), we have had a discounted indirect rate.

- We worked with ASLC & Axiom and propose a compromise of 35% for core projects and 45% for IOOS special projects. They have indicated this will NOT affect the scope of work for the upcoming period of performance.
- AOOS is implementing changes to the workflow management and invoice review/approval process to improve project coordination with Axiom.
- *Motion: Approve Axiom indirect rate of 35% for core projects and 45% for non-core projects. Motion by Jim, 2nd by Sara. No discussion. Unanimous approval.*

4. National Park Service (NPS) Beringia Award Approval

- AOOS submitted proposal to NPS on 4/11/21. We were notified on 5/26/21 that we were not selected. We were then notified on 8/17/21 that funding had become available and that we are now in line to receive funding!
- Proposal Information:
 - The purpose of this project is to provide greater access to Beringia coastal and ocean data, translated in both English and Russian, for U.S. and Russian entities such as natural resource managers, communities, non-governmental organizations, and academic researchers. Project activities will include 1) accessing Russian environmental and human use datasets for display on the publicly accessible AOOS Data Portal and 2) translating the metadata from Russian to English on those datasets, and from English to Russian for U.S. datasets.
 - Russian data, as with data from other sources, are often stored on individual scientists' computers, or agency servers that are not accessible to the public. In addition to the issue of accessing the datasets digitally, language presents another barrier to widespread accessibility of the datasets. Much of the data and information from Russia is available only in Russian, making the use of those datasets extremely difficult for U.S. scientists and managers. And while many Russian scientists and some community members speak English, not all of them do. This language barrier presents a challenge for scientists and other interested parties in both the U.S. and Russia utilizing datasets from across the border.
 - Funding from the NPS Shared Beringia Heritage Program would support a contract for professional translations of data files and associated metadata, WWF Russia staff time to work with AOOS and Axiom on metadata, AOOS staff time (Prewitt and Kent) to manage and administer the project, and Axiom time to work with AOOS and WWF Russia on improving their metadata for translation.
 - This project complements the project with WWF US Arctic Program on the Bering Strait Transboundary Incident Response Tool presented to the board this spring.
- Award Amount:
 - Year 1: \$72,222
 - Year 2: \$68,554
 - Year 3: \$63,485
- *Motion: Accept \$203,661 from the National Park Service (NPS) Shared Beringia Heritage Program for 3 years. Motion by Cheryl; 2nd by Sara. No discussion. Unanimous approval.*

AOOS Executive Committee

August 26, 2021

Meeting Summary

5. National Science Foundation (NSF) Convergence Accelerator Approval

- Proposal submitted to NSF on 6/14/21 entitled: NSF Convergence Accelerator Track E: Equipping Underserved Communities with Ocean Intelligence Platforms. Notified on 8/11/21 that we were selected with AOOS as a new performer, so total funding would be limited and the project start date would have been unacceptably delayed, OR we could change to NANOOS (University of Washington) as lead institution. Thus, the decision was made to change AOOS' role to that of subaward instead of project lead.
- Team: NANOOS, PacIOOS, AOOS, Sofar Ocean, AEW, Marshall Islands Conservation Society, National Park of American Samoa, Quileute Tribe, and Quinault Indian Nation
- Proposal Information:
 - Our primary objective is to get wave data into the hands of Indigenous communities in a way that takes advantage of existing, lower cost technology and enables sustained community-led stewardship of the wave buoys. An additional benefit is the production of data from highly localized coastal areas that would be available for large-scale scientific research to improve climatologies and predictions.
 - We will work with communities to develop a questionnaire and then a community research implementation and stewardship plan (CRISP) for purchase, deployment, and stewardship of these buoys.
 - This is an aggressive project with NSF required training that begins in September 2021 and development of a Phase II proposal by June 2022.
- Budget:
 - AOOS subaward: \$310,544
 - Subaward to AEW: \$85,760
 - Subaward to MICS: \$40,188
 - Subaward to NPSA: \$28,484
- *Motion: Accept \$310,544 from the UW/NANOOS for the NSF Convergence Accelerator Program for 1 year. Motion by Jim, 2nd by Cheryl. No discussion. Unanimous approval.*

6. Executive Session

- Executive Director 6 month review