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AOS Board Meeting
November 3, 2015
Draft Meeting Summary prepared by Holly Kent

Board members present in Anchorage: Denby Lloyd (NPRB), Dee Williams (BOEM), Tara Riemer (ASLC), Chris Zimmerman (USGS), Robert Raye (Shell), Phil Mundy for Doug DeMaster (NOAA AFSC), Aimee Devaris for Amy Holman (NOAA), Ed Page (MXAK), Margaret Williams (WWF), Steve Masterman for Ed Fogels (ADNR), Cheryl Rosa (USARC), Dan White (UA)

Board members present by phone: Paul Webb (USCG), Chris Siddon (ADF&G), Duncan Fields (NPFMC), Katrina Hoffman (PWSSC/OSRI)

AOS staff present: Molly McCammon, Holly Kent, Carol Janzen and Rob Bochenek

Guests Present: Mike Miller (IPCOMM), Buddy Custard (MXAK)

Meeting called to order at 9:00am

Adoption of Agenda:

Action Item: Draft meeting agenda approved unanimously.

UPDATE by Executive Director

Molly McCammon provided an overview of recent and upcoming AOS activities and participation in state and national level initiatives.

National Activities:

- IOOS Association – Molly & Carol Janzen participated in the IA Annual meeting and RA director retreat. Action on ICOOS Act Reauthorization is underway, including a Senate briefing in July. The IOOS national budget is stable, and the IA is considering a “Closing the Gaps” funding initiative.
- Arctic Observing – Molly attended the GLACIER Conference. AOS coordinated a Climate Science Expo with WWF for media attending the event.
- MTS Conference – Carol Janzen gave an Ignite talk on using AOS assets in the Arctic.

Alaska Activities

- NOAA 5 year proposal submitted
- Blob Blog – AOS created a blog about the Pacific anomaly, maintained by Carol Janzen.
- 2015 Film Contest – Judging completed and winners announced.
- All Things Arctic – AOS staff attended the Arctic Shipping Summit, Arctic Energy Summit, ADAC Ribbon Cutting, and Arctic Zephyr exercise.

- Ocean Acidification Workshop – Planning is ongoing for this workshop to be held in January 2016.

MTS Ignite by Carol Janzen

Carol presented her 5 minute ignite talk on “Blue Technologies”

Adoption of Board Meeting Summary:

Action Item: June 29, 2015 Board Meeting Summary was approved unanimously. *Motion by White, second by Lloyd.*

Acceptance of new grant awards

- \$10K from NMFS to AOS to process 3500 CTD profiles into netCDF and expose on AOS data portal
- \$150K from NOAA thru UW to AOS: “Ocean Acidification:headlights”

Action Item: Acceptance of both NMFS and UW grant awards approved unanimously. *Motion by Zimmerman, second by Williams.*

AOS Board Members

Mike Miller attended the meeting and introduced himself, he will get back to AOS about joining the board after talking to his IPCOMM board.

Buddy Custard attended the meeting as a possible substitution for Marine Exchange of Alaska representative Ed Page when he steps down from the board next year.

The nominating committee will be identified at the next meeting so they can prepare for fall 2016 officer elections..

Pre-Certification Issues

In anticipation of applying for IOOS certification next year, AOS staff have reviewed all of the AOS documents and recommended

1. Revisions to the AOS Operating Procedures, adding two new sections:

- Equipment Policy

Action Item: A new policy was approved unanimously with minor amendments from the board. *Motion by Lloyd, second by Raye.*

- Stakeholder Engagement Policy

Action Item: A new policy was approved unanimously. *Motion by Lloyd. Second by Mundy.*

2. Molly described the development of a Strategic Operating Plan as a document that pulls together existing documents into one for easier review during the certification process, as well as for use as an informational document for the public. The board will be asked to approve the plan at the March meeting.

Briefing on Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC)

Molly described AOS’ role in the newly formed ADAC, funded as a Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence at the University of Alaska. Axiom Data Science was contracted to develop a proof of concept Intelligence System of Systems web tool for the October ribbon-cutting. Rob Bochenek gave a short demo of it, which is based on the AOS data system. The board discussed the various implications and opportunities presented by this potential collaboration.

Strategic Planning

- The implications of Shell's withdrawal from Alaska exploration were discussed. AOS has developed a spreadsheet describing the impacts on Alaska research and monitoring, including logistical support for other research programs. AOS is working closely with Shell to ensure that all scientific data collected by their research staff will be transferred to AOS for long-term archiving and public access. *See Implications of Shell withdrawal spreadsheet.*
- Molly presented a framework of the AOS 5 year proposal submitted to NOAA starting with mission, vision, goals and objectives for the four major themes: marine operations, coastal hazards, ecosystem and climate trends and water quality. She described proposed observing and modeling activities, as well as potential stakeholder products. A discussion ensued regarding the framework for upcoming activities under the not yet awarded NOAA Five year proposal.
 - Marine operations: Where is sea ice in this theme? What is AOS role with sea ice? Can we include International Arctic Buoy Program data? We need to connect with NOAA's Arctic Testbed, which will have sea ice forecasting and storm surge as priorities, in order to make AOS investments most effective. AOS emphasis with goals should be on prevention side – to avoid incidents, not necessarily to respond to them?
 - Coastal hazards: Need to add mapping and DEM projects. ADNR/DGGS has new shoreline change tool that needs additional data. Now working on shoreline profile database.
 - Ecosystems/fisheries & climate trends: PICES is funding a position at NMFS to contribute to integrated ecosystem assessment & SAFE reports. Started doing PICES report every 5 years, now a continuing process; would like for it to be in real-time and updated instantly as Outreach Tool.
 - Water quality: monitoring for contaminants can be prohibitively expensive.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Next AOS Board meeting: during Arctic Science Summit Week in Fairbanks, March 16, 2016.