

Washington Federation of State Employees, AFL-CIO
Natural Resources (NR) Policy Committee Meeting

January 26, 2019
Meeting Minutes

1. Called to Order: 1-26-19, 11:45 am
2. Roll Call of Officers and Delegates
 - a. WFSE Staff Member Greg Devereaux
3. Approval of Minutes from October's Meeting - M/S/C
4. Special Order of Business: Elections
 - a. Vacant Secretary Position for NR Policy Committee
 - i. Elected by Unanimous Acclimation to Join – Deb Alexander
5. 100% Union Discussion
 - a. Discussion of the changes to 100% Union cards
 - b. Importance of New Employee Orientations
 - c. Continue to have Lunch and Learns on upcoming contract changes and other issues.
6. Executive Board Member Reports
 - a. Duane Dahlke – eBoard restructuring
 - i. How many members are represented; only two positions from NR
 - ii. Exercise on how many would be enough – the average was ~45
 - iii. The Facilitator was great
 - b. Elena Guilfoil – New proposal for elected officials; increased to four years from two.
 - i. Sue committed to sending out e-mail explaining the principle of “governance” for the eBoard; decisions lie with Committees and Policy
 - ii. Restructuring was done to allow one person from each committee, nine districts with 1 person from each, 3 persons from King and Thurston counties.
 - iii. District representatives elected directly
 - iv. NR goes from 6 representatives to 1
 - v. Reduced influence of eBoard enhances the position of Policy committees.
 - c. Diana Olegre-
 - i. “Governance” and role of eBoard were important points;
 - ii. Importance of Policy Committees
 - iii. Inclusion on eBoard Committees – do not have to be a member of eBoard or Policy to serve on a Committee
 - d. Denis Felton – eBoard restructuring was the big point of discussion
 - e. Deb Alexander – Importance of defining the role of eBoard and the role of Policy
 - f. Llyn Doremus – Recapped the outcome of the eBoard retreat in 2018; four fundamental principles were determined:

- i. Set direction of eBoard
- ii. Oversight of staff
- iii. Leadership members
- iv. Develop eBoard
 - 1. Number of people on eBoard
 - 2. Implementation of changes by 2021
 - 3. Officers
 - 4. Outreach dissemination
- v. She will scan and send copies of the proposal for eBoard restructuring
- vi. Two resolutions were also proposed:
 - 1. Fair Dues Structure – submitted resolution was dropped as “out of order” in favor of one presented by the Finance Committee (only a constitutional amendment can make this change).
 - 2. WFSE Officers not getting reimbursed for time missed from work – voted down.

More eBoard RoundTable Discussion.

Greg Devereaux – Explanation of eBoard structure history; Full scope collective bargaining was implemented in 2002, Membership doubled in 2005, but did not look at revising the constitution at that time. We need to get this eBoard restructuring right as it is currently too big to work effectively. The big questions are “What does the eBoard do?” and How many people do we actually need to do this?”

Duane – concerned about members of the eBoard

Jeff – 77 is too many; would be better if Policy met before eBoard.

Elena – not into having ‘alternates’, would not really be helpful or effective

Llyn – link the function of the eBoard to the four defined principles from the 2018 eBoard retreat. With only three districts, it leaves a lot of distance to be covered; would need to be a paid position to be effective.

Diana – might be problematic to meet before eBoard; would not know agenda; there is also value to know what happened at eBoard when coming to Policy.

Duane – alternative of collective bargaining? To get proposals in to instigate change.

Jeff – explained the process

Elena – Committees – charters that were approved. Good change that meeting minutes were provided from the committees. Sue still appoints who gets on what committees. Greg’s contract renewal was approved.

7. New Business

- a. Number change for Policy – based on actual membership; if NR membership continues to decline, we will lose a member on Policy
- b. Legislative Issues –
 - i. Operating capital for Parks;
 - ii. Lobbying success in talking to legislators;
 - iii. Orca Recovery Issue – nitrogen and oxygen levels in Puget Sound
 - iv. TSCA – ppbs of different products versus water quality standards from urban water sources

- v. Lobby Day for NR – maybe Thursday February 21st.
- vi. ACTIONS – Scanned eBoard restructuring proposal sent out – Melissa will e-mail
- 8. PEOPLE – envelope was sent around for contributions
- 9. Good & Welfare –
 - a. Diana - Set up a table for exchanging old SWAG, extra T-shirts, etc. (Diana will look into this and bring proposal to next meeting);
 - b. Minimize the Unions use of plastic
 - c. Greg – it is a year-long process to plan for convention; start planning sooner than later.
 - d. Elena – Seattle area personnel should try to participate in Lobbying
- 10. A motion was made to adjourn at ~1:30 pm. It was seconded and passed unanimously.