LEGISLATIVE & FEDERAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
Chair: Greg Johnson (KY)
Vice-Chair: David Whitehurst (VA)

Thursday, March 17, 2016
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

81st North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference
Room: TBD / Wyndham Grand Hotel
Pittsburgh, PA

Agenda

1:00pm Call to Order/Review Agenda; David Whitehurst, Vice Chair

1:05 Introductions and AFWA’s new Government Affairs staff; All
   • Devin DeMario, AFWA Government Affairs Associate; Gary Taylor, contractor

1:10 Update on Congressional Legislation
   • Forestry Reform and Wildfire Disaster Funding Act – Gary Taylor, NWTF
   • Bipartisan Sportsmen’s Package – Gary Kania, CSF
   • National Fish Habitat Conservation Act – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
   • Tribal Self-Governance Act (S. 286) – Gary Taylor & Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
   • Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015/HR 8 – Devin DeMario, AFWA
   • Other issues of importance to the community – All

1:50 Strategies for State Agency Successes in Gaining Authority to Set License and Permit Fees – Tim Schaeffer, PFBC

2:05 AFWA Government Affairs Review – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
   • Sportfish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund – review of reauthorization
   • LWCF Reauthorization – Guiding Principles revisited and omnibus provisions
     • Community views and opportunities – All
   • Revising AFWA’s General Principles on Improving Implementation of the ESA
   • Recommendations of AFWA’s Blue Ribbon Panel: sustaining America’s diverse fish and wildlife resources
     • Community views and opportunities – All
   • Water Resources Reform Development Act – Devin DeMario, AFWA
     • Ideas and needs for reauthorization – All

2:30 Review and adoption of AFWA’s 2017 federal appropriations recommendations to Congress – Jen Mock Schaeffer & Devin DeMario, AFWA (over)
2.45 Committee Business: review and adoption of 2016-2017 draft work plan – David Whitehurst

2:55 Wrap-up Discussion, Action Items, and Next Steps

3:00 Adjourn

Committee Charge:

• Identify and evaluate bills and policy issues coming before the U.S. Congress having the potential for affecting the needs, interests, role and authority of the Association members.

• Develop and recommend positions on such measures.

• Develop recommendations on the budgets of the federal resource agencies.

• Explore ways of working with Canada and Mexico on significant legislation.