



**WSWS Board Meeting Minutes  
Post-Conference Board Meeting, March 7, 2024  
Denver, CO**

Post-Conference Board Meeting Minutes  
March 7, 2024  
Brad Hanson, WSWS Secretary

Lunch meeting started ~12:00pm; WSWS President Tim Prather called the meeting to order

- New and old board member self introductions
  - Most of the incoming board and many of the outgoing board members were present but attendance did not get recorded (new secretary!)
  
- Meeting debrief, comments, suggestions:
  - Eric – meeting attendance. 243 reg, 10 for Palmer symp, 1 for ESA symp.
    - Were student numbers up? Not sure, but seemed higher
      - Follow up. Yes 54 students in 2024 vs 40 (35 WSWS, 5 WAPMS) in 2023
  - Suggestion to move business breakfast to 7 from 6:30?
  - Have mods use hyperlink slides – Marcelo Moretti had a template
    - MM had a “best practice for moderator” appendix to share.
  - How to respect retirees at welcome? This year was better than some previous as far as noise and talking over the speakers.
  - Dirk Baker– were DEI recommendations put into student judging?
    - Yes. Some discussion and questions about the rubric
  - Brad Hanson - Necrology committee, needs clear instruction and guidance.
    - The necrology poster should be #1. Or right next to presentation desk (this is a good, easy idea to implement). Build a tab in the program for “admin posters”
      - They should just read the decedents name. Not a reading of an extended full obituary

- Board contact should make this clear to Necrology Committee Chair (Follow up: this is the Secretary)
- Attendees liked the archeology speaker
- Curtis Rainbolt. Tim, as Program Chair, did a great job of involving the two section chairs in the program organization.
  - Tim will draft a BMP and get ideas from Marcelo and Dirk
- WSWs President could introduce the session chairs at intro so speakers can find them easier.
  - Maybe a poster with the names and photos of the session chairs (name/face/contact info?)
- Could shorten general session? Some really liked, some thought was too long.
- Sandra McDonald: Noted an error in the awards section of the 2024 program. Vanelle Peterson is listed as receiving the Presidential Award of Merit but we actually created a new award for her called “Presidential Recognition of Service”.

### **Old Business:**

- Summer board meeting will probably be the week of July 15. TBD after confirm with hotel
  - Possibly Tues/Wed depart Thursday?
    - Site visit most important for program committee, others could travel around as needed.
- Discussion of ideas from last year
  - Idea about “practitioner and/or case study” in some sessions?
    - Session chairs could solicit?

### **New Business:**

- Discussion of zoom vs in person board meeting. Seemed to be general preference for in person to build camaraderie.
  - Could have specific zoom discussions for specific topics as needed.
- Tim Prather- DEI committee. Tim wants to move this from ad hoc to standing committee.
  - Sandra McDonald – we have a process. Committee requests, Board agrees or not, then the committee has to write up operating procedures, then membership has to vote.
    - Elizabeth knows this and will write up procedures.
    - Invasive species committee may not know this.
  - They should write up docs, provide to Board this spring so we can discuss via zoom, then Board can vote at summer BoD meeting.
  - Tim will communicate this to DEI and Invasives committee
- Tim will assemble an ad hoc committee on ESA issues

- Brad Hanson is on WSSA ESA committee and will chair this for WSWS as a natural link
    - Follow up: after the meeting, Tim asked Brad Hanson, Jolene Trujillo, Dan Tekiela, and Alan Helm to serve on this ad hoc committee
- Ryan Rapp – reminder that we’ll have finance decisions to make at summer mtg.
  - Need a Profit and Loss statement for meeting (vs an annual society profit/loss)
  - Beneficiaries process for people that want to bequeath \$
- Discussion of Tucson site for 2026 WSWS meeting
  - We need to have someone visit. Need to move ASAP since hotel may not hold too much longer
  - Curtis will talk to Jesse Richardson. Bill McKlosky also lives near
  - Curtis moved to accept Tuscan Marriot with the proviso that someone visits site ASAP. Eric seconded
    - Some discussion about pre meeting concerns about our requirements
    - Vote: unanimous agreement
- Re 2025 WSWS meeting in Seattle- Rui Liu from WSU willing to be local arrangements in Seattle
- Carl Coburn comments as incoming program chair
  - WSWS practice has been to try and alternate private/public in the presidential rotation but not as many options for industry members to serve due to hassle and lack of company support. Carl suggested 2:1 instead of 1:1
  - The alternating president is a guideline not a rule; our guidelines allow discretion
    - Sandra – purpose was to alternative view points and perspectives
    - Sandra – don’t forget non-ag-chem industry (not just manufacturers)
      - Curtis mentioned “green on green” spray companies. Etc
- Discussion of paying for travel for summer board meeting
  - Have us make our own travel and request reimbursement if needed
    - WSWS will pay for students. Others will request if desired
    - This is in operating procedures already
- Tim suggested a zoom meeting with previous Program Committee and current program committee to pass tips along.
- Reminder of awards. Fellow are not noted or selected as public/private. Other awards still get marked as normal (not a change, just a clarification)
- Dirk – do we need to codify passing info from committee chair to chair elect
  - Sandra – this is in the operating procedures. Do we need a brain dump?
  - Dirk – this is inconsistently done. How to remind chairs to keep chair elect in the loop? Maybe just cc on communications as a mentoring/training.
    - Tim’s BMP doc might capture some of this.
    - Sandra – can put this in Operating Procedures “appendix”
- Beth Fowers – do we need “past chairs” of committees to preserve knowledge?

- Nevin Lawrence – we can just reach out to past chairs if needed.
  - Communication seems key. This usually works out ok.
- Tim – suggestion has been made to start the business meeting at 7 vs 6:30
  - Seems viable if our submission rates stay about the same.
  - The 1:30 post lunch start to the sessions seemed to work better too (less conflict with student lunch and other lunches)
- Tim – as President is disbanding ad hoc committee on Federal agencies
- Meeting program app. Keep or not keep?
  - Most support for keeping.
    - Eric – we can get a QR code for a FAC about app
    - Dirk – some folks complained of slow loading. Maybe this was an android issue?
- Program Development Software. Eric – WSSA and other regions not happy with current program developing software
  - Have to download software which is a problem for more and more companies/universities
  - WSSA looking for a solution that has program builder and title upload etc in one program. What are pros and cons? What are costs?
    - We currently pay \$1000/quarter
    - New program might be 5-10k per year? Might be ok for large societies but maybe not for us?
  - Eric – the programmer (David) really should make this a website or online tool rather than software download.
    - Sandra – how much would it cost to have David migrate to web?
    - Tim - WSWS could buy chromebooks or something similar if we need to have dedicated machines?
    - Sandra. Is that three machines (for program team), could these machines then be used to preload presentations for the sessions?
      - Ryan – some companies get good discounts on tech so maybe easy purchase of computers
    - **MAKE THIS A TOPIC FOR SUMMER BoD MTG**
- Sandra – Partnering with Colorado Weed Management Association?
  - CWMA interested in some kind of partnering
    - Sandra – what is our process for reaching out to these kind of groups to keep them aware of our meetings? Is this the legislative committee?
    - Program Chair can communicate this task to Legislative committee and agency groups?
      - Tim and Eric’s effort re Fed/State may touch on this
- Motion to adjourn at 1:45.