



WSWS Board Meeting Minutes

Prepared by Curtis Rainbolt, WSWS Secretary

March 7, 2015

Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

Albuquerque, NM

Board Members in attendance: Joe Yenish, Jane Mangold, Corey Ransom, Brian Jenks, Kirk Howatt, Sandra McDonald, Curtis Rainbolt, Drew Lyon, Marty Schraer, Prashant Jha, Mike Hubbard, Brad Hanson, Carl Coburn, Brianne Tidemann, and Scott Nissen. Business Manager Phil Banks was present. Jesse Richardson, James O'Leary, and Lee Van Wychen were also present for a portion of the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Joe Yenish at 8:05 am

Secretary Report

Curtis Rainbolt briefly discussed the minutes from the 2015 summer board meeting. Kirk Howatt made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Sandra McDonald seconded and the motion passed.

Business Manager and Treasurer Report

Phil Banks gave the report. See the Business Manager report for financial details. Taxes have been filed and WSWS is in good standing with the IRS. Bills are paid to date. The operating budget showed a healthy gain due to Weeds of the West sales. Weeds of the West inventory is ~2300 with 475 of those at The University of Wyoming and the remainder at the WSWS office. At the current pace, all remaining inventory should be sold by the 2017 WSWS meeting. Once the Weeds of the West inventory is gone it will be challenging to maintain an annual increase in the operation budget. There was a discussion on Weeds of the West and if the University of Wyoming would be interested in taking over the book. Joe would like WSWS to discuss this with UW.

A CLIMEX software workshop is being offered on Thursday by the Western Region IPM program. The workshop has a separate registration fee of \$35. The workshop has 12 registrants and about half of those are only attending the workshop and not WSWS.

Preregistrations for the meeting are 220. That is 169 regular registrations and 51 student registrations. This is likely the highest student registration ever for WSWS.

Phil reported that financially the WSWS investments at RBC took a loss for the year. This was similar to the overall market trend for the year. For more details see the financial report.

There was a discussion on annual meeting dates, joint meetings with other societies such as WAPMS, and student attendance.

Local arrangements have gone well thanks to help from Brian Schutte. The poster boards are being rented for this meeting which is saving about \$750 versus shipping. Dan Curtis will be transporting the poster boards from Corvallis, OR to the 2017 meeting in Coeur d'Alene, ID.

RFP for the 2019 meeting were sent to hotels in Boise, ID, Salt Lake City, UT, Denver, CO and Reno, NV. Boise did not have a hotel that could accommodate our meeting room needs. Proposals were received from Denver (5), Salt Lake City (2), and Reno (2). The committee will meet and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

The 2017 meeting is a joint meeting with WAPMS. Scott Nissen (WAPMS president) and Monte Anderson (WSWS president-elect) will work together.

When Phil departs as WSWS business manager in 2017 the society should prepare for the possibility that business manager costs could increase.

President's Report

Joe Yenish gave the report. Please refer to the report for specifics. Joe worked with the WSSA and other regional societies to put out a RFP for a business manager. Proposals were reviewed at WSSA and reduced to the 4 best candidates. Those candidates are being asked to review costs and payment structures and will have follow up conference call interviews. Although a joint RFP was sent out the WSWS maintains the option to move forward on our own or as a partner with any of the organizations seeking a business manager.

Discussion was held on the Science Policy Committee and if it would be beneficial to change the terms or appointments in order to provide more continuity. The suggestion was changing WSWS representation on that committee from the current president plus Legislative Committee Chair to the current and past president to allow individuals a two year assignment. Even if the change is made it was suggested that the legislative committee member could still participate in the Science Policy calls. This discussion was tabled until Lee VanWychen, WSSW Director of Science Policy, arrived at the meeting.

Finance Report- The finance report was given at this point to accommodate schedules. Jesse Richardson gave the report. For more details please see the full report. The society remains in solid financial condition, but it was a tough year for all investments. Investments at RBC were valued at approximately \$204,000 in Feb 2015 and are now about \$186,400. There was a discussion on CD investment strategies such as laddering to take advantage if interest rates improve. It was decided to invest \$100,000 from the savings account into 5 laddered CD accounts of \$20,000 each.

President-elect/Program Committee Chair Report

Kirk Howatt gave the report. Please refer to the report for specifics. Kaci Buhl was unable to attend as a general session speaker due to a scheduling conflict. Mary O'Connell, NMSU, will be speaking on native and medicinal plants. Terry Crawford, NMSU, will be speaking on unrest in the agriculture industry and employment opportunities. For papers about 1/3 are from students and there are large agricultural crop and range paper sections. Scoring cards were given to Ryan Rector for the student

contest. There were some issues with the online paper/title submission program with capitalization and punctuation that required manual correction. There is also an issue with inconsistency in the writing of institution names. When these are not uniform it can result in multiple institution names being listed even if all authors are from the same institution. It will be requested that members at the same institution work together to align these. Prior to the meeting all but 13 abstracts had been received. There was also discussion on the use of trade versus chemical names. As per the guidelines authors should use chemical names in titles and abstracts but can use trade names on posters and presentations.

Immediate Past President Report

Drew Lyon gave the report. Prior to the meeting he had 6 retiree names for the reception but is now up to 10. He suggests recognizing those who will be retiring before the next WSWS meeting in order to make sure they are at the meeting at which they are recognized.

Research Section Chair Report

Jane Mangold gave the report. Please see the report for specific details. Only 52 of 88 oral presentations have been uploaded. There were some problems with file upload size. Even though the site lists a 50MB maximum there were issues with files smaller than this. We should continue to encourage presenters to upload presentations rather than wait until just before the session.

Education and Regulatory Chair Report

Sandra McDonald gave the report. Please see the report for specific details. The committee had hoped to have Kaci Buhl of the National Pesticide Information Center for a discussion session on “Communicating Science with the General Public.” But due to scheduling conflicts this session will be submitted as a Symposium for 2017. Instead the discussion will be about “Herbicides and PPE: Label Requirements, Perceptions, and Reality.” It will be led by Carol Black, WSU Pesticide Safety Specialist. CEU’s were applied for in OR. CCA’s can self-report for WSWS credit.

Member at Large- Public Report

Scott Nissen gave the report. Scott explored possibilities for joint meetings with other groups to increase the size of WSWS meetings in order to get better hotel rates and better align expenses and income for the annual meeting. The target group size is about 300 total attendees. He had discussions with the North American Invasive Species Association. At this point, it looks like we have the best alignment with the Western Aquatic Plant Management Society (WAPMS). We are already having a joint meeting in 2017 and this will be a good test on fit for future meetings. The WAPMS prefers to meet on the west coast because they tend to have better attendance due to travel restrictions. It was also mentioned that the Canadian Weed Science Society might be open to a joint meeting.

Member at Large- Private

Mike Hubbard gave the report. Mike discussed that the society might see less industry members in the near and long term future due to industry mergers and cost saving measures due to low commodity prices. Other ideas for increasing attendance included having a symposium on new technology such as biological pesticides, a sage grouse management symposium, and fire reclamation symposium.

WSSA Representative Report

Marty Schraer gave the report. Please see the report for specific details. Marty attended the WSSA meeting in Puerto Rico and presented a summary from the WSSA BOD meeting. WSSA membership is down to about 1000 from 1200 in 2015. WSSA journals will be moving to Cambridge University Press and will be online only. The WSSA will begin holding an annual student poster contest.

CAST Report

Brian Jenks gave the report. Brian attended the CAST meeting with Phil Westra. The objective of CAST is to put out credible science based information. Some of the latest publications look at the contributions of pesticides and the impacts of GMO labeling on foods. Other topics being considered include: the contribution of crop protection, agricultural innovation, plant breeding/genetics, and biological diversity. Anyone can suggest a topic for a paper and making a suggestion does not require that you write the paper.

Student Liaison

Report was presented by Carl Coburn. Please see the report for specific details. The committee communicated with students via the WSSS Student Section on Facebook and Twitter. The Facebook page now has 66 followers, up from 44 last year and 32 the year before. The Twitter account has 43 tweets since its establishment last year, but only 16 followers. Solicited for applicants to the Elena-Sanchez Memorial Student Scholarship. Organized the student night out. 45 students signed up to participate while 10 companies, 7 professors, and 1 government agency employee signed up to host students. For the future, students showed a strong interest in going to dinner with government agency employees. It was suggested that government employees could be paired up with industry for the night out. Solicited for donations to the Silent Auction and expects tables full of interesting items.

Constitution and Operating Guide Representative.

Report was presented by Corey Ransom. Please see the report for specific details. Final updated copies of the bylaws and operating guide were submitted to Phil for posting to the website. Tim Miller will be rotating into the role as Corey's term has ended.

Committee Reports:

Publications Committee (Kirk Howatt – board contact)

Discussion was held on the merits of adding terms to the Publication Committee positions. A motion to add terms of 3 years that are renewable to the positions of Proceedings editor, Research Progress Reports editor, and Newsletter editor was made by Drew Lyon. It was seconded by Jane Mangold and passed. The terms for those currently in these roles start at the March 2016 meeting.

Proceedings – **Bill McCloskey** successfully compiled abstracts. The proceedings process has improved due to changes made at the wwsabstract.com website.

Research Progress Reports – **Traci Rauch** the 2016 report was compiled. The number of reports in 2016 is up to 54.

WSWS Newsletter – Carl Libbey newsletters went out in a timely format.

Local Arrangements – Brian Schutte has been helping getting items moved and set up. Renting the poster boards has made set up easier and may be more cost efficient.

Finance – Jesse Richardson – chairperson (Scott Nissen – board contact). This report was covered earlier in the meeting and minutes.

Nominating – D. Chad Cummings – chairperson (Drew Lyon – board contact). For the 2016 election candidates for President-elect, and WSWS Secretary were recruited from the private sector. Research Chair-elect, and Education and Regulatory Chair-elect were recruited from both the private and public sectors. Multiple candidates were identified for all positions. It was suggested that members be surveyed asking what elected positions or other capacity they'd be willing to serve in and that the secretary keep the results of these surveys for the Nominations Committee Chair.

Fellows and Honorary Members – Jill Schroeder – chairperson (Drew Lyon – board contact). Two Fellows were selected from 3 nominees. The committee received no nominations for Honorary Member. Need to continue to encourage nominees for honorary members.

Site Selection – Charlie Hicks – chairperson (Joe Yenish – board contact). See the report for full details. RFP were sent to hotels in Denver, Salt Lake City, Reno, and Boise for the 2019 meeting. Boise did not have a hotel with a large enough meeting space. Denver will be much easier to get to from the airport than in the past because of a new rail system. In general people seem to prefer locations with easy access to dining options.

Awards – Alan Helm – chairperson (Joe Yenish – board contact). It was proposed that for the Elena Sanchez Memorial travel scholarship that graduate and undergraduate students be evaluated separately. A motion was made by Kirk Howatt for the rules to read that the preference is for selection of 2 graduate and 1 undergraduate students. Jane Mangold seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Poster – Travis Ziehl – chairperson (Kirk Howatt – board contact). Easels were rented for the 2016 meeting which make set up very easy. The committee suggested that the Poster committee be incorporated into other areas of the meeting set up structure. After discussion the BOD wants to keep the committee as it currently is.

Student Paper/Poster Judging – Ryan Rector – chairperson (Kirk Howatt – board contact). No report.

Necrology – Ralph Whitesides – chairperson (Curtis Rainbolt – board contact). No report at the time of the meeting.

Sustaining Membership – Wendell Rich – chairperson (Drew Lyon – board contact). 18 of 19 companies renewed their sustaining membership for 2016.

Legislative – Fred Raish – chairperson (Marty Schraer – board contact). No report.

Herbicide Resistant Plants – Brian Jenks – chairperson (Michael Hubbard – board contact)
The committee decided against putting on a herbicide resistant plants symposium at the 2017 WSSA meeting and to instead encourage people to attend the 2017 Global Herbicide Resistance Challenge in Denver.

Education – Sandra McDonald – chairperson (Sandra McDonald – board contact). There have been no activities for the committee for several years. It was suggested that the committee be dissolved. This will be placed on the ballot for the Thursday morning business meeting.

Public Relations – Stott Howard – chairperson (Sandra – board contact). See the full report for details. The committee met 3 times during the year. They reached out to other societies to get ideas on public relations. They will be announcing an online public relations survey and asking for feedback during the meeting. They have developed a list of potential items for communication with Twitter.

Director of Science Policy Report – Lee Van Wychen

Lee discussed several policies regarding funding of weed science research. Discussion was held on ways to have more continuity with the WSWS Legislative Committee interaction with the WSSA Science Policy committee. Currently the Legislative Committee chair participates in the WSSA Science Policy conference calls, but the chair member changes each year. It was decided that the legislative committee chair should serve a 3 year term.

Old Business

Discussion was held on the upcoming need for a new business manager. WSWS will explore options for joining with NAISMA in hiring a business manager. WSWS will also continue in the group search with WSSA and regional societies.

Drew Lyon moved to adjourn the meeting. Marty Schraer seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 pm.