



Call to Order at 7:02 AM by President Prather

Welcome and Recognition of Incoming and Outgoing Officers- Tim Prather

Officer Reports:

(Secretary's note: to expedite the meeting, President Prather suggested that officers and committee chairs indicate "no report" if they did not feel an oral summary of their posted reports was necessary). Secretary recorded as-such in these meeting notes but in the written reports are available online if they were provided to the business manager.)

Secretary – Brad Hanson

- Presented that 2024 Annual Business Meeting minutes have been posted online. President called for a motion to accept minutes.
 - Moved by Scott Cook, seconded by Sandra McDonald
 - Voice vote: all in favor, no votes against. Minutes of the 2024 business meeting are accepted.

Business Manager Report – Eric Gustafson

- This year's meeting 213 registered (with a late bump in the days prior to the meeting).
 - Significantly reduced compared to 243 registered in 2024.

Treasurer and Finance Committee Report – Ryan Rapp

- Scott Cook will rotate off the committee.
- Full report available online

President – Tim Prather

- Acknowledged officers and committee members rotating off after terms ended.

Past President– Curtis Rainbolt

- Nothing additional to report

President Elect/Program Chair – Carl Coburn

- Oversaw the program committee and worked on assembling the program
 - Carl recognized specifically the efforts of Albert Adjesiwor and Dirk Baker as Research Section and Education/Regulatory Section Chairs on the program
 - Also Tim Prather, Eric Gustofson, and Hillary Sandler (WSSA Pres) for assistance
- This year was the first year using the Confex system.
 - It was a somewhat of a disaster; similar challenges that NCWSS and WSSA had.
 - WSWS will join other societies in a debrief meeting in a few weeks to discuss how/whether to continue with this software in the future.
 - WSSA President Hillary Sandler will lead this discussion
- For 2025, regular and student registrations totaled 213 attendees

- 154 presentations. 67 posters and 87 oral papers submitted
 - Vs 167 total in 2024 and 121 total in 2023

Education and Regulatory – Albert Adjesiwor

- Nothing additional to report

Member-at-Large Public – Erik Lehnhoff

- Nothing additional to report

Member-at-Large Private – Derrick Sebastian

- Not present

Research Section Chair – Dirk Baker

- Reminded everyone to include the chair-elects in the process to facilitate planning and training.
- Reminded Project-Chairs to get discussion reports to Dirk within the next few weeks

WSSA Representative – Alan Helm

- Nothing additional to report

CAST Representative and WSSA President – Greg Dahl

- All US Regional Weed Science Societies and WSSA are members of CAST and having a CAST rep is very valuable to the member societies
- Jill Schroeder was the Liaison for a CAST publication on Invasive Species
- CAST is working on a 2025 paper on invasive grasses and wildfire; led by Matt Bauer Western IPM Center
- CAST is reorganizing and recently moved to new offices at Iowa State University

Student Liaison – McKenzie Barth

- Wes Mann from WSU will be Student Liaison next year
- Silent action so far has ~\$1350 in bids (including a \$1000 donation)
 - Thank you to those that donated items to the silent auction
- Student night out had 43 students and 27 mentors participating.
- Olanrewaju (Ola) Adeyemi from Utah St will be the next Student Liaison in rotation

Constitution and Operating Procedures Representative – Sandra McDonald

- Reminded committee chairs, officers, etc to “read the Operating Procedures”
- Can contact Sandra to get Procedures updated to make current and relevant

Director of Science Policy – Lee Van Wychen

- Lee reported in the general session and submitted a report but was unable to attend the Business Breakfast

Committee Reports:

Publications Committee

Proceedings – Carl Libbey

WSWS Newsletter – Carl Libbey

- Nothing additional to report
- Reminder: Newsletter is 4 times a year. Carl will reach out to members for more reports/info for the proceedings

Website – Eric Gustafson

- nothing to report

Local Arrangements – Rui Liu

- Nothing to report

Nominations – Caleb Dalley

- Nothing additional to report

Public Relations – Mirella F Ortiz

- Social Media Manager reports show growth in all account following. She posts approximately 3x per week on multiple platforms. Content for social media accounts from WSSS members is needed. Can provide directly to Amy or to Mirella or Eric to forward to Amy

Fellows and Honorary Members – Andrew Kniss

- Recognized those that nominated members for awards, and encourage other members to do the same
- Fellows for 2025 are Pat Clay and Marty Schrar.
 - Marty was unable to attend this year due to a family emergency. Andrew suggested we give him moment at the 2026 meeting to acknowledge the award.

WSSS Representative to WSSA Finance Committee – Ryan Rapp

- Society is financially sound
- Nothing additional to report

Site Selection – Craig Alford

- Nothing additional to report
- Tim Prather summarize that the Site Selection committee recommended to the Board that we go to Irvine, CA with Long Beach, CA as a second acceptable location for the 2027 meeting location
 - Reminder 2026 will be in Tuscan, AZ
 - Working to get back to scheduling at least two years in advance. This is becoming more important as we vie for mid-size venues as our attendance has been shrinking over the past several years

Awards – Drew Lyon

- Awardees were honored at Luncheon. Awards committee has been more proactive in recent years soliciting nominations which has been helpful for getting full slates of nominees
- Awardees:
 - Marcelo Moretti, Outstanding Weed Scientist, Early Career Public
 - Kyle Roerig, Outstanding Weed Scientist, Early Career Private
 - Will Hatler, Outstanding Weed Scientist, Private Sector
 - Ian Burke, Outstanding Weed Scientist, Public Sector
 - Lisa Jones, Professional Staff
 - Seth Flanigan, Weed Manager
- Thanks to those who nominate and support nominations

Poster – Shannon Clark

- Thank you to volunteers to set up and tear down poster room
- 67 total posters submitted this year

Necrology – Tim Prather summarized for Earl Creech

- Recognized members who passed away during the past year: Carl Bell and Roland Schirman

Sustaining Membership – Ben Westrich

- Thank you to Sustaining Members for supporting WSWS

Legislative – Lisa Rew

Nothing additional to report

Herbicide Resistant Plants – Stephen Valenti

- In past year, the committee worked on a tri-fold brochure on Herbicide Resistance
- This is complete and ready to be loaded on the WSWS website

Diversity and Inclusion Ad-Hoc Committee – Elizabeth Mosqueda

- Approximately 70 members attended the DEI “social hour” held on Tuesday morning
- Discussed the language changes made to Operating Procedures and the recommendation for this committee to be moved to a Standing Committee
 - This will be voted on during “new business”
- Committee has been ad hoc since 2019
 - Change to standing committee and associated language changes intended to show WSWS support for inclusivity of all members

Invasive Species Ad-Hoc Committee – Lisa Jones

- Committee has been ad hoc for 3 yrs
- Committee will start working on suggested changes to Operating Procedures for a future request to change to a standing committee
 - BoD can discuss in summer 2025 Board meeting; WSWS membership can vote at a future (2026?) annual business meeting

Student Paper/Poster Judging and Awards– Jake Courkamp

- There were 41 student presenters (23 posters, 18 oral presentations).
- Thank you to students and judges.
- Winners:
 - Agronomic Crops (poster) – Newman Teye-Doku, WYO (1), Ola Adeyemi, Utah St (2), Abraham Akuoko, UNL (3)
 - Basic Biology/Technol (poster) – Andre Araujo, CSU (1), Jonah Ziyaaba, WYO (2)
 - Hort/Range combined (poster) – Tia Lawrence, Utah St (1)
 - Agronomic Crops (oral) – Abraham Akuoko, UNL (1)
 - Basic Biol/Technol (oral) – Hayden Lee, NDSU (1)
 - Hort Crops (oral) – Waqas Ahmad, NDSU (1), Sophia Lattes, Montana St (2)
 - Range/Teaching combined (oral) – Erin Teichroew, Montana St (1)

New Business:

- Tim Prather: motion from the Board of Directors to move DEI committee from ad hoc to a WSWS Standing Committee
 - Discussion: Jill Schroeder thanked Elizabeth Mosqueda for her extensive service on this committee.
 - Tim called for a voice vote.
 - All members present voted in favor, none voted in opposition.
 - Motion passes to make DEI committee a WSWS standing committee
- Ceremonial “passing of the gavel” from outgoing president Tim Prather to incoming president Carl Coburn
 - Tim included a new gavel box, handmade from paduk and maple wood
 - Tim also noted a completely peaceful transfer of power
 - Carl thanked Tim for his service to the WSWS
- President Coburn called for a motion to adjourn
 - Moved by Ryan Rapp, seconded by Nevin Lawrence
 - **Meeting adjourned at 7:55am**