

**WSSA Board Meeting  
Hilton Baltimore  
February 1, 2014  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**ATTENDING:**

**Board Members and Ex Officio:** James Anderson, Jacob Barney, Hugh Beckie, Mark Bernards, Ian Burke, Pat Clay, Joe DiTomaso, Darrin Dodds, Les Glasgow, Cody Gray, Jim Kells, Alexandra Knight, Andrew Kniss, Daniel Kunkel, Rod Lym, John Madsen, Dallas Peterson, Peter Propiglia, Sarah Ward

**Ex Officio:** Joyce Lancaster, Lee Van Wychen,

**Non-Board Members:** Kevin Bradley, incoming Vice President; Larry Steckel, incoming Secretary; Tony Ballard, Meeting Planner

**CALL TO ORDER**

Jim Kells called the meeting to order at 8:16. He began with introductions of the attendees.

Jim Kells called for additions or changes to the agenda. He presented some corrections of his own.

No other items for agenda were proposed.

Motion to approve the agenda by Rod Lym, seconded by Peter Propiglia. Jim Kells will revise the agenda and resend it out.

Motion was passed unanimously.

**Reports of the Committees**

Approval of all reports not requesting funds of consent agenda. Motion by Les Glasgow, Second by Dallas Peterson.

Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

John Madsen sent out minutes, motion by Joe DiTomaso to approve and seconded by Hugh Beckie. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve e-votes by Dallas Peterson, second by Mark Bernard. Motion passed unanimously.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Jim Kells will present his report of highlights at the Business Meeting. He gave an overview of the comments he will make, including:

- Muthu working on website content
- Finalized the final of three contracts for services.
- Mike Barrett selected as EPA Subject Matter Expert
- Herbicide handbook will go to publishing in April
- Herbicide Resistance meeting and summit is being planned for later in 2014.
- New modules on herbicide resistance for turf.
- Kate Counter has been replaced as meeting manager by subcontract to Kansas State, with Tony Ballard the individual organizing the conferences

Some discussion on soon-to-be vacant positions.

## **Executive Secretary Report**

Joyce had sent out a report, and highlighted the main points of the report. Main points:

- Allen Press has subcontracted with Kansas State University for meeting management services, and Kansas State has designated Tony Ballard as the person to handle WSSA meeting management.
- Membership is down slightly, to around 1250 members.
- Database conversion has gone more smoothly than anticipated, but there have been some glitches.
- The goal is to have a single login for all the various systems for WSSA.
- We have money; it's okay to spend money this year.

Some discussion ensued regarding marketing to younger faculty and scientists, targeting new younger members.

## **Annual Business Meeting**

Jim Kells presented the draft agenda for the 2014 business meeting. He will bring this up under new business for approval.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Ian Burke sent out a summary report.

We are in a healthy financial situation. We have almost \$950,000 in our general fund, and almost \$377,000 in our endowment fund. We will have a budget surplus, in part due to a more

accurate assessment of costs and revenue. Our 2013 revenues were over \$820,000, and our expenses were almost \$677,000. Ian suggests looking further at investment revenue prediction, which has not been included the budget estimate.

Ian and the finance committee will look at a different approach at how the board decides on spending money. He suggests investing more funds into weed science activities.

Some discussion on representation on the committee.

Discussion also occurred on investment philosophy and the investment advisor.

On Thursday, the budget presentation will include information that looks less dire than last year.

We also discussed collaborating/partnering with other societies on specific issues.

### **Meeting Management – Joyce Lancaster / Tony Ballard**

With Kate Counter leaving Allen Press, Allen Press decided to handle Meeting Management by subcontracting the service to Kansas State University Division of Continuing Education, Office of Conference Services. Tony Ballard was selected by Kansas State University to work on WSSA meeting management.

Tony Ballard left to take care of some conference business.

Joyce reported. She indicated that we more than met the room guarantee rate of 75%; we currently have 92% of the room block.

Joyce reports that the hotel has been very responsive to society needs and issues.

Kansas State University is bringing in another person (Nicole) to help with registration beginning Sunday.

There has been some confusion with CWSS and WSSA running separate registrations, but that is being worked out.

Kansas State University sent Tony up before the conference to become familiar with the hotel.

Rod asked about how the subcontract with Kansas State University affects our finances. Joyce said that it will not appreciably change the amount that will be charged from Allen Press.

### **2014 Program – Joe DiTomaso**

393 presentations, about 2:1 oral posters to posters. We are up some from last two meetings.

Four symposia, for which the organizers have done a great job.

General session on Monday will be different from previous GS. The Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia will give a presentation; she is a rancher and will give a presentation on invasive species.

After keynote, the awards will be given. We will go directly to the awards reception.

Changes to the agenda: a lot of cancellations, a few additions. He will not make an announcement of all changes, the changes will be given to session chairs.

### **WSSA 2015 Meeting – Dallas Peterson**

Meeting at Hilton Lexington Downtown. Mike Barrett will be local arrangements chair.

Tours not yet decided, but two primary choices are the horse farms and the distilleries tours.

Dallas asks for any suggestions on speakers, topics, keynote, and tours.

He mentioned having a meeting app. He would prefer not mailing out hard copies of the program before the meeting, but have hard copies at the meeting.

The response to having a student contest has met with mixed emotions and responses.

Discussion ensued on having a poster contest for graduate students, possibly at 2015 meeting.

Board consensus was to pursue a poster contest for students; a proposal will be forthcoming.

GSO will develop the poster contest proposal.

### **Graduate Student Organization – Alexandra Knight**

Alexandra gave her report on the GSO activities for the program.

She also relayed an inquiry about students serving on committees. The WSSA allows students to serve on committees; they should contact chairs.

### **Publications – Jim Anderson / Sarah Ward**

Publications will be asking for money in the near future. Nilda Burgos was developing a series of papers to be published as a book on standard methods on doing weed science research. Jim proposed that this be published as a special issue of Weed Science. He grossly underestimated the cost the publication if authors do not pay for page costs. The book would be available to members to on-line access. E-book would be available for sale.

Jim Anderson makes a motion that the board approve not to exceed \$18,000, which includes the \$2,400 previously approved, to pay for composition, e-book conversion, and online access to members for this special issue in Weed Science.

Mark Bernards seconds the motion.

Discussion – Book will be 13 chapters, about 213 pages.

E-book could be marketed to anyone, including libraries.

No hard copy will be printed, only available as e-book or online version.

Special issue will be the “fifth” issue of the volume.

We could do a print-on-demand through Allen Press.

Rod Lym teaches a lab class. How can he assign chapters to read to his students? Jim: The students could buy the e-book, or they could get it through the library subscription.

Discussion ensued on how to specifically make this available for educational use.

Discussion on the 50-70% of fees and commissions on the sale of the e-book.

Jim Anderson reinforced that he is only asking for permission to proceed; this is not intended to present a marketing or sale plan. The Publication Committee may come later with a proposal.

Rod Lym called for the question.

Question Aye: 13, opposed: 6. The question has passed.

Motion voting in favor: 14 Opposed: 4. The motion has passed.

Sarah Ward will be taking over as Director of Publications after the business meeting. Joe DiTomaso will continue one more year as editor of IPISM; therefore, Sarah will be working with Joe to identify a replacement.

Impact factor has been increasing in Weed Science. IPISM revenue increased, though it is still losing money. Some discussion concerning discontinuing the printing of hard copies of either IPISM or of all weed science journals.

Joyce reminded the board that the new contract for all journals the only concern will be revenue; society does not have to worry about paying costs first.

Sarah had contacted Liz Simpson concerning taking over as newsletter editor, which carries a small stipend. She has worked on extension publications, has a journalistic background. She has an agronomy background. She is a member of WSSA.

Sarah presented a motion to offer the position of newsletter editor to Liz Simpson, starting immediately. Seconded by Jim Anderson.

Motion passed unanimously.

Dale Shaner will have final reviews for Herbicide Handbook in March, and should go to publishing in April.

Some discussion on printing cost.

Publication committee, public affairs committee, and Allen Press will be meeting regarding press release issues.

We ended the morning session for lunch at 11:55. Lunch break until 1:00pm.

Meeting called to order once more at 12:59.

### **Director of Science Policy – Lee Van Wychen**

First issue was the issue of press releases.

Allen Press has a contractor that writes and edits press releases for journal articles. The public affairs committee is inquiring about the possibility of taking over the job of writing and editing all press releases, including those for the journals.

Sarah will discuss the issue of press release writing with Karen of Allen Press, and alter the process for generating journal press releases.

Publications board will discuss this issue and come back to the board for action on Thursday.

His report had twelve issue areas, he will focus on a couple.

2014 budget is in place, and AFRI received its highest allocation ever.

Proposal in Farm Bill for the Foundation for Food and Agriculture may be the biggest thing for weed science. A fund of \$200M will go to provide funding for research on food production.

The USDA NIFA subject matter expert proposal might provide an opportunity to go in and provide that weed science will get a portion of this new fund for weed management activities.

More discussion ensued.

NPDES fix was not put into the Farm Bill. Sen. Boxer has adamantly opposed to this, so Sen. Stabenow elected to not include this fix. Several stakeholders are very unhappy about this change in position with Sen. Stabenow.

Right now, EPA is working on the next Clean Water regulations that would greatly expand the jurisdiction of EPA over “waters of the US” from navigable waters to all waters. This may expand NPDES to new areas.

National Invasive Species Awareness Week – NISAW was curtailed last year because Department of Interior withdrew funding for it, and for the hotel amenities. There will be a declaration of the last week of February as National Invasive Species Awareness Week but not have a central activity.

USDA ARS. The five year review was held last week. Lee would like to solicit ideas on how to steer activities back from entomology to weed science. Generally, there is an under-investment in weed science by USDA ARS. Request was for WSSA to send in a letter. Send a detailed letter signed by regional presidents, and need focus on weed science issues other than biological control. The letter will be coming to the board soon.

USDA ARS is without leadership, with Administrator Ed Knipling retiring.

Suggested that WSSA work closer with commodity groups to provide support to ARS for weed science in ARS.

The time limit for the website is a week, a letter can be added later.

Discussion of having a resolution on GMO food labeling. Discussed the resolution process, and some views exchanged on whether that was within the mission of WSSA.

Mark Bernards shared the American Phytopathological Society statement on GMO food labeling.

Some discussion about the importance of supporting the science and educating the public.

DSP and SPC will craft a statement for consideration for the board.

Mark Bernards, Sarah Ward, Kevin Bradley, Andrew Kniss will help SPC on drafting a statement for Board consideration.

### **MOP and Constitutional Committee – Peter Porpiglia**

We have done an extensive re-write of the MOP, which will go to Muthu for posting on the webpage.

Peter noted that some areas of the constitution and the MOP are not in line. For instance, MOP lists DSP as a part of the board, but constitution does not. IPSM is not listed in the Constitution. Peter will go through constitution before next meeting to find areas which may need to have a constitutional change.

Joyce points out that the constitution needs to be broad based, and the MOP is more specific and detailed.

Constitutional Amendments would be done in the fall, with the officers voting.

### **The Past President's Corner Proposal – Jim Kells**

Submitted by Harold Coble, with three past presidents.

Requesting WSSA approve an area on the website entitled President's Corner that has information on activity of past presidents: updated roster of past president, a brief statement of issues on past President's terms, and obituaries of past presidents.

They will provide content, and are not requesting any funds.

A history was done of WSSA for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but that is the only history that has been done on the society.

Andrew Kniss moved that we accept the proposal, Dan Kunkel seconded. Discussion: The material should go through the chair of the website committee.

Proposal passed unanimously.

Adjourned from general meeting at 3:00, reconvene at 3:20 for executive session.

### **Executive Session**

Motion to go into executive session by Cody Gray, seconded Lew Glasgow. Vote was unanimous.

Joe DiTomaso moved to adjourn executive session, Mark Bernards seconded. Vote was unanimous to end executive session.

We adjourned the Executive Session at 4:05pm.

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2014**

### **Attendees:**

**Board Members:** James Anderson, Jacob Barney, Hugh Beckie, Mark Bernards, Ian Burke, Pat Clay, Joe DiTomaso, Darrin Dodds, Les Glasgow, Cody Gray, Jim Kells, Alexandra Knight, Andrew Kniss, Dan Kunkel, Rod Lym, John Madsen, Dallas Peterson, Peter Propiglia, Sarah Ward

**Ex Officio:** Joyce Lancaster, Lee Van Wychen,



**Non-Board Members:** Michael Barrett, Kevin Bradley, Larry Steckel, Dwight Lingenfelter, John Soteres

Jim Kells called us to order at 8:20am. Jim commented on the fire alarm in the hotel last night.

**EPA Subject Matter Expert – Michael Barrett**

He has sent the third and fourth quarter reports. He is having the EPA staff make sure the report does not include anything that should not be included. He commented on the many opportunities to interact with the staff personally and have off-the-record conversations on how the agency works.

He has prepared a presentation for regional meetings.

He feels that things are going pretty well. The EPA has contacted him several times between visits. EPA is very pleased with the collaboration and resources available through the WSSA SME.

They are reorganizing the OPP and, as a result, new people will be working on registration.

Mike reviewed what a week of working there is like, using the example of the past week.

He will be working on training seminars and a possible weed tour.

Mike discussed several issues with the BOD regarding his interaction with EPA.

Extensive discussion on a letter to EPA regarding herbicide resistance management and the label. More work needs to be done on the letter by the Science Policy Committee.

**Proposal from Parent Awards Committee – Dwight Lingenfelter/John Soteres**

The proposal is for a “Distinguished Public Service Award.” Concern about how to distinguish this from the Extension award.

Intent is to recognize individuals for public outreach and service on behalf of weed science.

This should be directed to individuals going beyond their usual work responsibilities.

Joe DiTomaso asked if this is directed to advocacy of a policy; John Soteres replied that it is more an advocacy or promotion of weed science to the general public. Education of the public relative to the science.

Some discussion on refining this to be less of an advocacy of a position than education on the science to the non-agricultural public.

“Weed Science Advocacy” as a title for the award.

John Soteres and Dwight will revise the proposal and send it back to the BOD for consideration at the Thursday BOD meeting.

Adjourned at 9:46 for a break until 10:00.

Jim Kells called the meeting to order at 10:02 after the break.

### **Proposed letter to EPA on Herbicide Resistance Labeling – Mike Barrett**

The BOD revised the second point of the letter to say:

“2. Develop and encourage industry to adopt label language that cautions against the use of herbicide rates below those specified on the label, as appropriate. It is now well established that lower rates may promote evolution of certain types of resistances. We understand that promotion of lower use rates can be attractive to some from an economic or environmental perspective, but it can be the wrong approach to addressing resistance for certain herbicides.”

In favor: 16 in favor, 4 opposed.

Motion to accept the letter as revised was made by Les Glasgow, seconded by Mark Bernards.

Rod Lym called the question.

The vote in favor of the question was unanimous.

Motion in favor 17, opposed 3.

Cody Gray will take the revised letter back to APMS to see if they will support it.

### **NIFA Liaison Proposal-Mike Barrett**

Proposal to have a liaison to the USDA- NIFA office. This proposal was brought before the BOD previously, and subsequently modified.

Rod Hedberg had significant input on the revision of the proposal regarding duties and activities with the USDA.

Rather than working for Mike Bowers, working with Mike Fitzner in the Division of Plant Systems - Protection.

USDA personnel were very enthusiastic about this opportunity. This is a way for weed science discipline to be promoted within the agency.

Rod Lym moved to accept the proposal to appoint a selection committee and select a Weed Science Fellow to USDA-NIFA, with a \$25,000 commitment per year budget for three years; Dallas Peterson seconded.

Discussion ensued.

The funding of \$25,000 might support more than one fellow; it might be able to support two fellow's travel expenses.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **Business Meeting Agenda – Jim Kells**

Cody Gray moved to accept the Business Meeting Agenda, Dan Kunkel seconded.

Motion approved unanimously.

Jim Kells recognized Rod Lym and John Madsen for their service on the board.

Jim Kells recognized Jim Anderson for his service as the Director of Publications, and recognized Sarah Ward as incoming Director.

Jim also recognized Darrin, Jacob, and Alexandra for their service as representatives, rotating off the board.

Les reminded us to meet on Wednesday at 6:15 pm for the BOD dinner with Syngenta.

Darrin Dodds moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jacob Barney. Motion passed unanimously.

We adjourned at 11:10.