

**WSSA Board Meeting
Hilton Baltimore
February 7, 2013
Post-conference board meeting
Final Approved Minutes**

ATTENDING:

Board Members and Ex Officio: James Anderson, Jacob Barney, Hugh Beckie, Mark Bernards, Ian Burke, Joe DiTomaso, Les Glasgow, Cody Gray, Jim Kells, Alexandra Knight, Andrew Kniss, Dan Kunkel, Joyce Lancaster, Rod Lym, John Madsen, Dallas Peterson, Peter Porpiglia, Lee Van Wychen, Sarah Ward

Non-Board Members: Kate Counter, Steve Kelly (SWSS President, substitute for Darrin Dodds), Kai Umeda (WSWS President, substitute for Pat Clay), Kurt Vollmer (past GSO Representative)

CALL TO ORDER

President Jim Kells called us to order at 1:20pm

Pres. Kells welcomed Andrew Kniss, Dallas Peterson, and Alex Knight to the board.

Introductions were made of the entire board.

Conference Status

Kate reported that we had 528 attendees. Hotel was moderately helpful.

Feedback from Board on hotel:

AV problems in many sessions, but the local arrangements provided projectors and computers.

Guest rooms were not representative of the cost; rooms were dirty.

Service in rooms was poor

Kate calculates that we are about 5 people-nights short of our room block, so should be okay.

BUDGET – Ian Burke

Ian Burke reported on proposed budget for 2013.

Revenue is expected to be \$754,800.00

Expense is expected to be \$799,358.50

Revenue does not include investment income.

The budget tends to be conservative.

Finance committee has reviewed the numbers and recommend that the budget be approved.

MOTION – Ian Burke moved to approve the budget, Peter Porpiglia seconded.

VOTE was unanimous to approve.

PUBLICATION CONTRACT – James Anderson

Jim reported that Allen Press will send a new contract that has been edited to include changes that are acceptable to WSSA. This contract will be reviewed by legal counsel. Unless there are other concerns, this will be acceptable

Online only publication is still a future consideration. Allen Press will help in developing this survey to membership and subscribers. We may consider this change in a year or two.

Past President Lym thanked Jim for his work on the contract with Allen Press.

MOTION – Rod Lym moved that we accept the new contract, pending review of the contract by legal counsel and the publication subcommittee, and allow the President to sign the contract after contract review by the Director of Publications; seconded by Jim Anderson.

VOTE was unanimous to approve the motion.

UPDATE ON EPA LIAISON – Jim Kells

We have four applicants for the position, one was eliminated as not qualified. Jim will appoint a selection committee, which is two people from EPA, Dan Kunkel, and three former WSSA presidents (Jill Schroeder, Harold Coble, John Jachetta). Jim Kells will sit in on the deliberations. All three candidates are strong members of WSSA.

Expect an e-vote in a few weeks.

Timetable transition will be in the March-April timeframe, at which time Jill will visit EPA with the new liaison.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE – Sarah Ward

Sarah reports that we do not have a website committee; few members were in attendance at the meeting.

Erin Taylor has agreed to work as chair of the web committee, but she will need to solicit new members of the committee.

Sarah volunteered to work with Erin on getting the website committee going again.

Committee chairs may need to have a training session to know what they need to do. A webinar may be helpful.

The committee will need a go-to person from the Board. That person will be the liaison, Mark Bernards. Sarah Ward volunteered to join as a member.

DISCUSSION OF DSP REVIEW – Jim Kells

Evaluation of Director of Science Policy was conducted; he is doing a good job.

Donn Shilling, chair of Science Policy Committee, recommended a 3% increase in pay for this year, given the increases of the past several years. The presidents of WSSA supported this recommendation.

The increase in pay will not affect the rate that regional chapters pay into the “escrow” account for DSP. However, a three-year review of DSP funding from regional chapters will be occurring soon. Escrow account currently has \$252,000.

Donn Shilling indicated to the presidents that Lee has taken the training requested, and he is improving in the areas that were indicated needed improvement.

MOTION: Joe DiTomaso moved that we give a 3% increase in pay for Lee. Seconded by Dan Kunkel.

VOTE was unanimous in favor of the recommended increase.

USDA NIFA TOPIC – Jim Kells

Sonny Ramaswamy suggested that WSSA write a white paper regarding recommendations to NIFA for weed science.

Mike Barrett will develop a more detailed proposal on this topic. He wants the board, however, to consider that we as the BOD consider if we still support this effort given the current budget conditions.

Proposed outcome of this position would be more funding from competitive grant programs for which weed scientists would qualify or benefit.

STRAW VOTE: Board was unanimous in voting in favor of seeing a full proposal on a USDA NIFA liaison.

MOP – Peter Porpiglia

MOP online and ready for comments and review.

San Juan Hotel – Joyce and Kate

The hotel indicated to Kate that they have space needed to meet with SWSS in 2016.

SWSS joint meeting – Dallas

Phil Banks of SWSS indicated interest in meeting with WSSA, and Phil said SWSS was willing to pay any costs of Kate renegotiating a contract.

The guaranteed revenue sharing for SWSS would need to be negotiated.

We need to make a decision as soon as possible before the summer board meeting.

WSWS Joint Meeting

WSWS has made an inquiry regarding interest in having a joint meeting between WSWS and WSSA. We will discuss that at the summer board meeting.

OTHER COMMENTS

Jacob Barney commented on the lack of moderating and keeping sessions on time.

Much extraneous discussion on how to solve the problem.

Sarah Ward suggested we reconsider our membership in CAST.

Jim Kells suggested that the CAST representatives from all regional chapters and WSSA give input on what WSSA and weed science benefits from CAST.

Lee commented on the policy statement on climate change. He will get input from regional chapters.

The WSSA Science Policy Committee recommends that WSSA adopt a position statement that captures the research opportunities presented by the challenge of managing weeds in a changing climate. Only a couple sentences or a small paragraph. Timeframe- May 2013 SPC meeting.

Current statement: "WSSA supports research on the impacts of climate variation on weeds in managed and natural ecosystems"

Summer board meeting – all day on Tuesday July 9 until noon on Wed July 10. We have two days pre and post for special rate.

MOTION: Rod Lym moves to adjourn, seconded by Ian Burke

VOTE was unanimous in favor of adjourning.