WSSA Board of Directors Conference Call

October 28, 2019

Meeting called to order at 1:04 pm CST by Larry Steckel.

Motion to approve agenda by John Byrd. Seconded by Anita Dille. Motion passed unanimously.

**Status of Upgrade on Abstract System – Eric Gustafson –** SWSS, WSWS, and WSSA are currently taking submissions on new abstract submission site. We currently do not have access to administrative tools; however, access should be coming soon. John Byrd indicated site was non-functional with Internet Explorer. Eric indicated that Microsoft has not supported Internet Explorer in a number of years thus Apex does not either.

**Update on WSSA 2022 Annual Meeting in Vancouver – Eric Gustafson –** Contracts are signed. Working on MOU with CWSS. Property is locked up and ready to go.

**Joint WSSA/WSWS Meeting in Maui Update – Bill Curran/Darrin Dodds –** Call for papers went out October 22, 2019. Title submission deadline is December 9, 2019. Abstract submission deadline is in February 2020. Bill Curran will contact committee chairs to determine needs for committee meetings at annual meeting. Bill Curran indicated one issue – David Shaw submitted symposium proposal which was rejected. Correspondence with David Shaw via email was minimal and tentative program did not include any reference to weed resistance activities. David Shaw and WSSA (Eric Gustafson and Bill Curran) had minor miscommunication – will hold weed resistance workshop on Thursday afternoon of annual meeting. New tentative agenda will be released soon.

**Three Minute Thesis Research Update – Bill Curran/Darrin Dodds –** WSWS will have regular oral competition and WSSA will have 3MT oral contest and poster contest. WSWS will coordinate regular oral contest for WSWS members only. Eric Gustafson – WSWS and WSSA will work together on joint 3MT and poster judging. Awards will be given for WSSA as well as for WSWS. Awards ceremony will be Wednesday afternoon. WSSA and WSWS business meetings will be Thursday morning.

**WSSA Representative for ASTA Noxious Weed Seed Working Group – Larry Steckel –** Carroll Moseley indicated that he attends ASTA meetings and would be willing to represent WSSA. Dawn Refsell indicated that she will likely start attending ASTA as well.

**APCO (Association of Pesticide Control Officials) Request for WSSA Representative to Attend Annual Meeting/WSSA Representative at APS (American Phytopathological Society) Functions in Washington D.C. – Larry Steckel –** APCO approached Bryan Young at field day regarding a WSSA “liaison” at their annual meeting. Tom Mueller was specifically requested to attend and present material regarding his research. APS annual meeting conflicts with WSSA annual meeting in 2020 thus an attendee from WSSA may be challenging. April timeframe may be better for attendance at other functions.

**Update on Search for Future BOD Vacant Positions – Scott Senseman –** Scott is having issues finding volunteers for future board of director positions. Sarah Ward indicated that we have candidates for WSSA Director of Publications position. Rakesh Chandran has one candidate for constitution and operating procedures position. Anita Dille has two applications for CAST Representative.

**Resistance Portal Vote – Larry Steckel –** Started by David Shaw and Mike Hroak facilitated development. Portal was further championed by Ramon Leon. EPA appeared to be a primary proponent of developing a HR Portal. Several concerns regarding continual updating, maintenance, etc. Bryan Young – felt that if we abandoned effort, it would be wasted time and effort. $750 is minor investment – suggested proceeding and seeing how it goes. Sarah Ward voiced similar concern to Larry Steckel regarding maintenance, updating, etc. Mark Bernards felt that maintenance could fall under Herbicide Education committee. Sarah Ward asked what $750 per year was needed to accommodate. Larry Steckel indicated that it was not overly clear what funding would be used for. Bill Curran asked for vote on Resistance Portal to occur at Board meeting in Maui given lack of information. Dawn Refsell indicated that this area has been passed along numerous time and felt it was time for action. Phil Banks felt that if WSSA was not in the business of providing educational resources on herbicide resistance, then what are we as a society doing? Dawn Refsell stated that numerous WSSA members are involved in Take Action effort. Larry Steckel indicated that Take Action has required fair amount of effort and other organizations/disciplines have partnered with effort. Bill Curran and Larry Steckel moved for WSSA to reach out to Ramon Leon for update and table discussion to annual meeting.

**HRAC Harmonizing Herbicide MOA Codes with WSSA – Larry Steckel/Rex Liebl –** Rex Liebl is chair of Herbicide Resistance Action Committee. First phase of reclassification is complete and working group was made up of herbicide physiologists and agronomists from five major companies. Discussed naming systems with herbicide mode of actions. Spent considerable amount on time on PPO’s. Reduced number of chemical family names within PPS compounds. Updated three active ingredients and modes of action. One of more substantial changes was to VLCFA group. Group felt numerical code aligning with WSSA was more appropriate moving forward given growth and development opportunities for HRAC in Asia and that letter, etc. groupings held little meaning. Proposed starting numbering with 30 as current codes stop at 29. Larry Steckel asked about input from regulatory agency. Rex Liebl indicated no input was received but that EPA preferred numerical code. Scott Senseman was very pleased with proposed changes. Bryan Young asked about differentiation between mode of action/site of action, etc. Also asked about chemical families and how overlap with modes of action was handled. Working group elected not to include chemical family name with single active ingredient families. Larry Steckel asked about timeline for completion. Rex Liebl indicated that early 2020 is target. Mark Bernards asked about working with proper WSSA committee to deem appropriate. Scott Senseman indicated terminology committee is likely choice.

**Committee Chair Update and To Do List – Anita Dille –** Anita has received feedback from a number of folks. Eric Gustafson indicated that no one has used conference call feature to set up committee meetings. Anita Dille would like to have updates to WSSA committees by November 1 and place on website so folks know who will meet and when at annual meeting. Larry Steckel stated that folks who were session chairs and co-chairs of other sections ran into issues in years past when they were unable to attend meetings. Anita Dille suggested delegating early on in the process in order to avoid delays, etc. at annual meeting. Expectation that chairs and co-chairs will provide computers and projectors at 2020 annual meeting.

**Weed Bingo Update – Lee Van Wychen –** One of cards in provided version (1000 copies) was incorrect. Correct cards were printed and shipped to Eric Gustafson. Eric has original version in storage unit and is going through all copies and adding correct card and resealing.

**Old Business – Larry Steckel –** Lee Van Wychen solicited feedback on science policy fellows. Required to provide written and oral correspondence to the WSSA Board of Directors. Lee Van Wychen asked about WSSA BOD wishes with respect to reporting. Mark Bernards and Larry Steckel would like to hear from them in person. Bill Curran asked about future of program. Lee Van Wychen indicated that he envisioned program and funding continuing. Clarification was provided that original funding was provided for two years. Lee Van Wychen is hopeful to continue program going forward with two interns and a cost of approximately $15,000. Lee also anticipated advertising for 2020 interns in December 2019 with applications due in February 2020. Larry Steckel indicated that interns should report to the WSSA BOD on Sunday board meeting immediately prior to annual meeting. Dawn Refsell asked about action items with respect to code of conduct. Anita Dille sent document out for review and had little feedback. Larry Steckel has reviewed document and was pleased with results. Eric Gustafson stated that there are multiple documents regarding code of conduct for various people. Questioned does need exist to put all together into one document? **Action Item: vote on code of conduct via email in mid-November.**

**New Business – Larry Steckel –** Nicolas Steppig provided input on student luncheon. He is working on finalizing speaker for mental health issues related to graduate students and hopes to have in place by the end of the week. Also working on list of graduating students as well as GSO MOP.

**Motion to adjourn made by Anita Dille and seconded by Dawn Refsell. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:39 pm CST.**