**WSSA Board of Directors Conference Call**

**March 28, 2019**

**Meeting Called to order at 9:04 by XX**

**Attending via Zoom:** Larry Steckel, Darrin Dodds, Sarah Ward, Bryan Young, Nick Steppig, Mark Bernards, Bill Curran, Dawn Refsell, Eric Gustafson, Anita Dille, Rakesh Chandran, Scott Senseman, Rob Richardson, Lee Van Wychen, Marty Schraer, GAELMO?, John Byrd,

**Sarah Ward motioned to approve agenda seconded by Anita Dille.**

**New Orleans Meeting Recap – Eric Gustafson –** Printed 571 badges in Arlington and 543 in New Orleans. Financials from 2019 annual meeting look very positive (net income $58,000 currently); however, numerous expenses have yet to be paid. Eric expects to be $20,000 - $30,000 positive return from the annual meeting.

**2019 Summer Board Meeting –** Two options, downtown Denver or Blackhawk Central City. Bill Curran raised concern about getting to Blackhawk location from Denver international airport. Eric Gustafson indicated he is working with a shuttle service to remedy transportation issues. **John Byrd motioned to accept Blackhawk property as location for summer board meeting – seconded by Marty Schraer. Motion passed unanimously.**

Travel dates: August 4, meet on August 5 and 6, travel home on August 7th.

**Lee Van Wychen Compensation Insurance – Eric Gustafson –** in the process of working through insurance and working on appropriate start dates.

**2020 Annual Meeting Plans – Eric Gustafson –** WSWS would like there to be 30-60 minute discussion sessions at the end of each session. WSWS has a student silent auction, awards luncheon, and business breakfast they would like to keep. The call for symposia has went out to WSSA and WSWS. Bill Curran anticipates a large number of symposia requests. Eric Gustafson is working with a national park, the pacific whale foundation, and Bayer seed corn production facilities for tours. Bill Curran inquired about keynote speakers – suggested Josh Atwood – Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Larry Ellison who owns one of the islands. Bill Curran discussed joint poster sessions and student poster contests that are held together but judged separately. Larry Steckel indicated the need for plans for student oral presentation contest prior to summer board meeting.

**2019 Annual Meeting Survey – Anita Dille –** 160 responses. Anita provided summary of results to the board of directors. Sessions were generally rated well. Poster session room was inadequate for our meeting. Number of sessions were appropriate to slightly excessive. Student contest distracted from other sessions. In general, folks wanted to start early and end early in Hawaii. Distribute committee meetings throughout the week.

**Website – Eric Gustafson –** David Kruger indicated he would need $30,000 to rebuild the website. Eric indicated that we need to make decision regarding website in next two months if it is to be completed by the 2020 annual meeting.

**John Byrd motioned to move forward with upgrading the WSSA website via Apex pending input from Phil Banks. Seconded by Marty Schraer.**  Extensive discussion about uploading presentations prior to meeting through the website. In addition, discussion was held about uploading abstracts. **John Byrd withdrew motion.**

**Mark Bernards made a motion that the WSSA solicit the regional society about website needs and WSSA will consult with David Kruger about services that APEX can provide and that David Kruger will provide a detailed proposal regarding Apex services. Seconded by Scott Senseman. Motion passed unanimously.**

**WSSA Press Release on Glyphosate – Larry Steckel –** Extensive discussion regarding the role of the WSSA as well as the role of we as scientists in this debate. Larry Steckel suggested a possible symposium at 2020 annual meeting regarding this topic. Dawn Refsell suggested if we have symposium, we should invite media in order to highlight our efforts. Larry Steckel will likely appoint an ad hoc committee to address WSSA efforts in regard to this issue.

**Old Business –** none.

**New business –** Mark Bernards addressed succession plan for Sarah Ward as Director of Publications. Sarah indicated she has a candidate in mind. Sarah is willing to extend her tenure for one year beyond February 2020 if it was ease transition to new Director of Publications.

Eric Gustafson put together a document outlining code of conduct that needs to be vetted by some members of the WSSA board of directors. Larry Steckel, Scott Senseman, and Anita Dille will provide initial edits and provide copy to the WSSA board of directors at the summer board meeting.

**Motion to adjourn by Sarah Ward, seconded by Dawn Refsell.**

**Meeting closed at 10:45 am CDT.**