**Weed Science Society of America**

**Annual Meeting Board Meeting**

**February 9, 2019**

Meeting called to order by Scott Senseman at 8:00 am

Present: Eric Gustafson, John Byrd, Phil Banks, Mark Bernards, Lee Van Wychen, Marty Schraer, Bill Curran, Dawn Refsell, Darrin Dodds, Greg Elmore, Rakesh Chandran, Rob Richardson, Larry Steckel, Janis McFarland, Scott Senseman, Bryan Young, Francois Tardiff, Jess Buncheck

**Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve by Bill Curran, seconded by Janis McFarland – unanimously passed**

**Approval of summer board meeting minutes – Motion to approve by Bill Curran, seconded by Dawn Refsell – unanimously passed**

**Presidents Report – Scott Senseman –** graduate student enrichment committee. $10,000 in funding for 2018 – 5 students selected who each received $2,000. Dr. Jim Kells selected as NIFA Fellow. San Antonio selected as meeting location for 2021. Graduate student contest has seen record enrollment at 117 students of 136 registered. Dr. Janis McFarland will take over as chair of Director of Science Policy committee at the conclusion of the 2019 WSSA Annual Meeting. Paul Tseng from Mississippi State University has been selected as the WSSA APHIS TAG (Technical Advisory Group for Biocontrol of Weeds) Representative. Scott Senseman discussed board meetings and potential ways to shorten time commitment by board members. Scott Senseman suggested quarterly meetings via some form of distance communication in an effort to maximize time commitment and financial resources. Dicamba research workshop – took large amount of time from Lee Van Wychen, Scott Senseman, Bob Nichols, Greg Kruger, Phil Banks – report now available on WSSA website. IMI Contract for meeting management will expire in March 2020 and society management will expire in December 2020 and each will require re-negotiation. Past history of meeting management and society management by two different companies has driven different dates of contract expiration. Efforts will be made to secure similar contract expiration dates.

**2019 Program Committee and Local Arrangements – Larry Steckel –** 474 poster and paper presentations. This number is similar to 2018 meeting. Women in Weed Science and Graduate student contest rooms had to be moved to larger rooms due to interest in these events. No Tuesday reception will be held in 2019 due to lack of sponsorship. More budgetary commitments will be required from WSSA in order to meet food and beverage minimums per contract with hotel. Two tours on Sunday afternoon – one to Mardi Gras World and one to WWII museum. Eric Gustafson discussed tours, etc. for 2020 annual meeting. Eric indicated that working with third party vendor and/or provide links to tour operators may be result in greater coordination than IMI coordinating tours. Eric Gustafson discussed annual meeting app. Numerous issues vendor for meeting app – went back to using Guidebooks as in years past. Hotel is providing projectors, screens, etc.

**Executive Secretary’s Report and Future Meeting Update – Eric Gustafson –** Membership renewals: regular members - 627 of 836; student members – 166 of 194; overall members 1,055 of 1,297. WSSA is financially sound. WSSA has met room block with hotel. WSSA has 522 registrants for 2019 annual meeting. AV and food and beverage costs are areas of concern for 2019 annual meeting. Future meetings – 2020 – Maui, HI; 2021 – San Antonio, TX; 2022 – Canada; 2023; Arlington, VA. Discussion on future joint meetings with WSSA and concerns of back to back dates of SWSS and WSSA if future joint meetings are not held. Mark Bernards suggested discussion at WSSA Presidents Breakfast regarding joint meetings at specific intervals such as every 3 – 5 years.

**2020 WSSA Meeting Update – covered above**

**Treasurer’s Report – Phil Banks –** Changes were made in 2018 – 2019 – signatory authority was adjusted to where direct payment are now made to IMI pending approval from Phil Banks. Move allows for Treasurer to not be on bank account having signatory authority as this is a cumbersome process. Phil Banks was contact person for Enrichment Experience. Discussion on how Enrichment Scholars are selected and where funding originates. Additional discussion on funding Enrichment Experience from general WSSA budget. Should some level of funding come from Endowment as opposed to Endowment only supporting undergraduate awards?

**Finance Committee – Phil Banks –** Committee holds quarterly conference calls. Calls designed to cover financial position. Changes in regional society structure fee toward WSSA Director of Science Policy position held by Lee Van Wychen. Lee Van Wychen discussed funding for interns as well as joint Entomology Society of America and WSSA funding for EPA tour in western Iowa. WSSA Endowment investment policy has been updated and will require approval by WSSA BOD. Finance committee voted to hold 2019 meeting registration fees at same level of 2018. Substantial funding came in from publications but this trend will not continue. Funding was coming into WSSA checking account which lead to large sum in checking. A policy was developed that stated when greater than $125,000 was present in checking, amounts over this level are now invested in short term CD’s in order to increase financial returns to WSSA which are based in interest rates. WSSA general fund and Endowment fund have increased value substantially over the past several years. General fund was at $832,287 on 12/31/2012 and were at $1,107,125 on 12/31/2018. Endowment fund was at $338,975 on 12/31/2012 and at $455,124 on 12/31/2018. Phil Banks suggested that WSSA as a whole must keep economy in mind. Economic volatility continues to occur and will likely continue for next 12-24 months. Finance committee will discuss uncertainty within WSSA regarding sustaining members and how this has/will be affected by company mergers. Finance committee will consider request for Weed Bingo from Lee Van Wychen on Wednesday.

**Graduate Student Organization Report – Jess Buncheck –** Enrichment Experience – graduate students felt the experience as a whole was very successful. Over 50 different folks from across the U.S. and Canada agreed to serve as hosts. Goal is to get call for applications and notification of winners done sooner than in 2018. Goal is to have hosts lined up by March and winners identified by the end of the spring semester. Winners from 2018 will present on experience on Wednesday of 2019 annual meeting. WSSA GSO worked to increase social media presence. Developed Instagram account – started strong but hasn’t worked out as well as hoped. Plan to revisit social media goals at the 2019 annual meeting. Jess Buncheck indicated that there are no guidelines on what responsibilities of WSSA GSO representative are – she is working to develop list of tasks and dates to pass on to future WSSA GSO representatives. Jess Buncheck was encouraged to discuss potential new contest format with WSSA GSO at their meeting in New Orleans.

**Reporting on Graduating Students – Lee Van Wychen –** Develop a way to recognize M.S. and Ph.D. graduates in some format. Tri-societies do this and question was raised does WSSA need to as well? Phil Banks suggested accomplishing this through the newsletter editor. Scott Senseman will follow up with newsletter editor about publishing list of graduating students on some predetermined interval.

**Recording Voting Record by email and MOP Procedures – Scott Senseman –** Disappointed that he didn’t set Presidential record for number of votes taken via email. Discussion on who maintains voting record and who troublesome it has been to keep up with votes, motions, etc. Eric Gustafson indicated the IMI has a system in place in which he/IMI can receive a motion and a second after which time IMI can collect votes in a formal manner as opposed to keeping track of numerous emails. Mark Bernards will send out guidelines that WSWS uses which may potentially be modified for use by WSSA.

**Proposed Changes/Updates to MOP and Constitution – Mark Bernards –** Mark indicated he would like to have a timeline of responsibilities for President-Elect. Numerous other changes to MOP as outlined in report from Mark Bernards to WSSA BOD. Discussion on EPA subject matter expert and length of time each person should remain in this role. **Motion by Bryan Young for the EPA Subject Matter Expert to have a term of approximately three years and when term of service is completed serve as a mentor to incoming candidate. Seconded by Janis McFarland. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Bryan Young – If no qualified applicants are found to start new term as EPA subject matter expert, WSSA president has discretion to extend current term of service by up to one year. Seconded by Phil Banks. Yea – 6; Nay – 3; Abstention - 5. Motions does not carry.**

**Meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:54 am.**

**Meeting resumed at 1 pm: Sarah Ward new attendee.**

**Mark Bernards – Discussion regarding language for NIFA Fellow position.** **Motion by Mark Bernards to have NIFA Fellow term of approximately three years and when term of service is completed serve as a mentor to incoming candidate. Seconded Janis McFarland. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Mark Bernards for NIFA Fellow to serve on Research and Competitive Grants/Science Policy committee as ex-officio member. Seconded by Janis McFarland. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Action Item: Send Lee Van Wychen reminder to adopt language on APHIS TAG committee regarding Fellow position. Completed 2/9/2019 – 1:30 pm.**

**Motion by Janis McFarland to add the President and Vice-President of the WSSA GSO to Professional Development Committee as an ex-officio member. Jess Buncheck seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Janis McFarland to incorporate the WSSA GSO into a standing committee of the WSSA. Seconded by Dawn Refsell. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by John Byrd to accept the following with respect to electronic voting (add executive secretary):**

i) Topics of business may be brought up at any time by any Board member or the President. All members of the Board (including the Business Manager) must be included on all communications. Each Board member should ensure that their e-mail server has been instructed to not block any message originating from the President’s e-mail address.

ii) A motion may be made by any member of the Board and must be seconded within seven (7) days, otherwise the motion dies. The President will transmit the motion with second to the Board within a short period of time. The motion will be open for discussion for seven (7) business days. Those that do not confirm receipt may be contacted by the President via telephone prior to expiration of the discussion period. After the discussion period has elapsed or after a call for a vote by a majority of the voting Board members, whichever comes first, the President will call for a vote to approve or disapprove the motion. Voting Board members will have seven (7) days to respond. Board members should send their vote only to the President to avoid influencing later voting members. The President will report the result of the vote with how each member voted after the voting period has elapsed.

iii) Under situations where a vote of the Board is necessary in less time than noted above, the President can reduce the discussion and voting time limits as needed. Once a majority of the Board has voted to approve or disapprove the motion, the results will be determined to be final. This procedure should be used only when the motion involves matters of urgency and time is of the essence. The President and the President-Elect will determine when this procedure is appropriate.

iv) The Secretary will record minutes related to each motion, discussion, and vote in the same manner as at a regular meeting of the Board. A copy of Society business conducted by electronic exchange will be presented by the Secretary at the beginning of each regular (summer and annual) meeting of the Board. These minutes will be published in the annual Proceedings.

**Seconded by Phil Banks. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Mark Bernards to add language to MOP 5.2.1. giving flexibility for date of annual meeting given that preferred date is first to second week of February. Seconded by Larry Steckel. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Mark Bernards to allow additional gratuitous registration to members of the press and others to the WSSA annual meeting not enumerated under MOP 5.2.4. per approval from the WSSA Board of Directors. Seconded by Janis McFarland. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Mark Bernards to strike original language in MOP 5.2.4. and add language in MOP 5.2.4. to: newly selected honorary members will receive up to $1,000 to supplement travel to meeting to receive award as well as complimentary lifetime membership (which includes meeting registration). Seconded by Sarah Ward. Motion passed unanimously.**

**EPA Liaison Report – Greg Kruger –** no anticipated trips to EPA in next one to two months due to government shutdown. Feedback from EPA regarding tour was very positive. Conducted three webinars (application technology, aerial application, ground application) in 2018 which were well received. Made five trips to EPA in 2018. Conducted at least one seminar to EPA during each visit. Conducted EPA tour through Nebraska and western Iowa to demonstrate positives and negatives of dicamba and atrazine applications. Janis McFarland asked if a tour and subsequent budget would be proposed to the finance committee for 2019. Greg Kruger felt a similar amount of funding for 2019 would be requested as in 2018. However, triazine network sponsored at $7,500. 2019 EPA tour will be in Iowa and will be joint effort with Entomology Society of America. Suggestion for regional society liaisons to have input to Greg Kruger for next tour. Greg Kruger felt it would be beneficial to develop three to five year strategy for EPA tours to prevent last minute planning. Scott Senseman will work to develop group to provide input regarding 2020 EPA tour.

**Merging Contracts and Contract Renewal – Eric Gustafson –**

**Weed Science Job Announcements – Eric Gustafson –** Discussion regarding email announcements of new job postings. Many BOD members felt as if more emails were counterproductive. Brian Young asked why not all job postings are treated equally with respect to distribution. Eric Gustafson felt that we should not distribute some jobs and not others. More appropriate to post on WSSA website. Additional discussion to develop new WSSA twitter feed targeting jobs only as to not de-value the existing WSSA twitter feed.

**Publications Committee Report – Sarah Ward –** Just completed second full year with Cambridge University press. Sarah indicated there was a significant gap between when a paper was accepted and when it was actually published – she has addressed this with Cambridge University Press and they have been receptive and worked to correct the issue. Single biggest contributor to WSSA journal income is BioOne. WSSA is guaranteed 75% of projected royalties for each year. Projected royalties gets complicated as accounting for a given year does not close immediately upon beginning of a new year. WSSA journals performed better than projected in 2018 which should lead to additional income from Cambridge University Press at some point in 2019.

Weed Science and Weed Technology are doing well. Weed Science had 233 articles submitted with a 40.2% acceptance rate. Weed Technology had 205 articles submitted with a 50% acceptance rate. IPSM had 67 articles submitted with a 48% acceptance rate. Concern with IPSM article submissions – journal has not rebounded from 2014-2015 and IPSM is currently operating at 75-80% of peak. Impact factor for all three journals have increased over the past year.

Discussion on abstracts including current format. Sarah Ward indicated that any abstracts published prior to 2005(?) are unavailable unless you have book/CD. Sarah Ward recognized Carl Libbey for his excellent work on the newsletter.

**Director of Science Policy Report/Public Awareness Committee Report – Lee Van Wychen –** Janis McFarland will rotate in as DSP Committee Chair. Harold Coble plans to resign from committee after over two decades of service. Composite List of Weeds and Plants Database – conference call was held in fall 2018 addressed differing common names amongst databases. National Invasive Species Awareness Week – Monday, February 25th will kick off NISAW and will conclude Sunday, March 3.

**Weed Bingo – Lee Van Wychen –** 42 species of weeds with 40-50 word description on back and accompanying pictures. Weed Bingo will be a board game similar to Bug Bingo.

**Motion to adjourn meeting made by Darrin Dodds at 4:24. Seconded by Marty Schraer. Motion passed unanimously.**

**January 10, 2019**

Meeting called to order by Scott Senseman at 9:00 am

Present: Darrin Dodds, Scott Senseman, Larry Steckel, Janis McFarland, Jess Buncheck, Francois Tardiff, Sarah Ward, Rob Richardson, John Byrd, Marty Schraer, Jim Kells, Rakesh Chandran, Eric Gustafson, Lee Van Wychen, Phil Banks, Bryan Young, Greg Elmore, Bill Curran, Dawn Refsell, Ramon Leon, Donn Schilling

**NIFA Liaison Report – Jim Kells and Donn Schilling –** Jim Kells is Chair of the Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Science but will be stepping down in the next year. Donn Schilling and Jim Kells have made two trips to NIFA and were hosted by Mike Fitzner. Jim Kells indicated that NIFA is complex and dynamic. Spent second trip mining data to determine past NIFA funding for Weed Science. Jim Kells has identified future priorities: funding – precision mechanical control and molecular biology and genomic tools; communication with WSSA members – Jim Kells felt there are funding opportunities for Weed Science that the community is not aware of. Current challenges – government shutdown presented a large challenge as NIFA was shutdown for 35 days. NIFA is currently behind on everything. Second major challenge – Secretary of Agriculture announced intentions to move NIFA out of Washington D.C. area. To date, 136 proposals have been received to with regard to future of NIFA.

Mike Fitzner contacted Jim Kells asking what NIFA is doing with respect to herbicide resistant weeds. Jim Kells provided document that WSSA had previously supplied to NIFA. Jim Kells felt as if this has provided him an opportunity to gain the confidence of those within NIFA.

Jim Kells has been asked to provide names for panel members and a panel chair for ARDP(?) which will provide up to $20 million in funding. Bill Curran and Ramon Leon indicated that had been past recipients of CPPD grants and they were very applied in nature. Jim Kells also indicated that as part of the proposal, a viable outreach component will be essential. Jim Kells indicated that the Weedy and Invasive Plants national program has been lost. The program was active from 2005 – 2016 but has since been eliminated. Donn Schilling stressed that participation is key to success. USDA does not have a job classification for weed scientists and issue begins there. However, developing relationships with National Program Leaders and RMA’s will provide long term benefits. Donn Schilling indicated the need for submission for competitive grants and that younger faculty are key to success. Donn also indicated need for NPL dedicated to Weed Science. The need for a seat at the table with EPA is also critical for future funding opportunities. Jim Kells stated that NIFA has a new director and that he will visit Michigan State and Jim will serve as a host for this visit. Jim plans to use this opportunity to further stress the need for funding for weed science research. NIFA has a dedicated weed science web page which assists with locating funding opportunities; however, it is very challenging to locate funding opportunities for weed science on NIFA website.

**Science Policy Committee Report – Donn Schilling –** Donn Schilling will be stepping down during the 2019 WSSA Annual Meeting as Chair of the Science Policy Committee. Donn indicated that level of engagement from the weed science community has increased exponentially over the past 10 years that he has served as Chair of the Science Policy Committee. Donn cautioned for WSSA not to engage in areas in which we do not have data to support our position such as with GMO labeling of food products. Science Policy Committee meets once per year and they also have numerous teleconferences per year. Sarah Ward stated that her experience serving on funding panels was challenging as weed science has many folks that collaborate with each other that leads to conflict of interest. When conflict of interest arises with a member of the funding panel, that panel member must exit the room when funding decisions are made which results in people making funding decisions who may or may not have subject matter knowledge.

**HR Portal – Ramon Leon –** HR portal was supposed to be launched in 2015. HR Portal was started by David Shaw as an online tool for dissemination of information on herbicide resistance management. Michael Hroak facilitated development and implementation of HR Portal. Ramon Leon indicated the WSSA has invested in $12,000 - $15,000 on the HR Portal. Currently, the HR Portal is locked out and requires a password to access and upload documents. Concerns were raised over documents aging out or becoming unavailable – Ramon indicated that the person submitting the document would be notified regarding updates. Further concern was raised about time commitment required to continually monitor the website and ensure that documents are kept up to date. Ramon asked permission from the WSSA BOD for the HR Portal to go live with hopes of more documents being uploaded if/when this takes place. Ramon indicated that future financial commitment would likely be $750 per year.

**New Business –** Janis McFarland indicted the need to develop an ad-hoc committee to develop a new WSSA Strategic Plan. Lee Van Wychen indicated the need to develop and ad-hoc committee for membership and recruitment. Dawn Refsell referenced emails circulated regarding herbicide mode of action/site of action and that it has been mis-understood that resistance to a given herbicide in a given herbicide group implies that resistance to one herbicide within a given group means that all herbicides within that group are no longer effective. Scott Senseman did not have an immediate solution to this issue. Bryan Young indicated that this issue is recognized at the committee level.

Lee Van Wychen – what is the status of the archives located at Iowa State since Mike Owen retired. Dawn Refsell indicated that these documents are in the library at Iowa State. Sarah Ward indicated that no one is adding to this archive and the Iowa State will continue to hold these documents.

Mark Bernards asked about new Board of Directors meeting schedule in days preceding annual meeting. Scott Senseman indicated he would prefer quarterly meetings via phone, skype, etc. and move BOD meeting to begin at lunch on Saturday and still conclude on Sunday. Scott Senseman also indicated the possibility of meeting for a full day on Sunday and eliminating the Saturday meeting.

**Old Business –** Scott Senseman discussed providing logistical support to Greg Kruger as EPA Liaison for tours, etc. In addition, Scott Senseman discussed need to develop a list of potential topics for tours to provide to Greg Kruger in order to make the tour planning process easier.

**Motion to move into Executive Session made by Mark Bernards and seconded by Larry Steckel at 11:13 am. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to end Executive Session made by Janis McFarland at 11:51 am and seconded by Rakesh Chandran. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to adjourn WSSA Board of Directors meeting made by Darrin Dodds at 11:52 and seconded by Jess Buncheck. Motion passed unanimously.**

**WSSA Board Meeting – February 14, 2019**

Meeting called to order by Larry Steckel at 1:07 pm.

Present: Larry Steckel; Scott Senseman; Bryan Young; Nick Steppig; Rob Richardson; Anita Dille; John Byrd; Francois Tardiff; Rakesh Chandran; Eric Gustafson; Marty Schraer; Phil Banks; Sarah Ward; Mark Bernards; Lee Van Wychen; Bill Curran; Darrin Dodds; Greg Elmore; Dawn Refsell

**Quarterly and Summer Board Meeting Plans – Larry Steckel** – Plans are for Zoom meeting in late March/early May.

**2019 Budget – Phil Banks** – Investment policy for Endowment Foundation has been slightly re-worded (See report from Phil Banks). **Phil Banks made a motion for WSSA BOD to approve new investment policy. Mark Bernards seconded. Motion passed unanimously.** Phil Banks discussed how Finance Committee handles proposals – position of Finance Committee is to determine if submitted proposals are worthy of funding. Finance Committee discussed examining financial position and determining a value in which if our assets are above or below that WSSA will or will not fund proposals, respectively.

Four proposals submitted for funding. Finance committee deemed three worthy to send on to BOD for approval. Herbicide Resistance Portal - $2,500 needed to get site up and running and a $750 yearly fee. ESA/WSSA IPM tour – requested $10,000. Weed Bingo - $10,000. Extensive discussion held regarding proposal for Executive Director of Science Policy request for funding for an intern. Phil Banks indicated that $12,000 is already budgeted and Finance Committee felt is was adequate to maintain this level of funding and let Lee Van Wychen determine how many and what the pay would be with respect to interns. Phil Banks also indicated that the position would be a WSSA Executive Director of Science Policy Fellow position. Lee Van Wychen indicated that he has spoken with two graduate students regarding a Fellowship position. Lee Van Wychen indicated in order to hire both of these students he would need an additional $3,000 above the $12,000 allocated per the Finance Committee. **Phil Banks made an amended motion ($3,000 increase for Executive Director of Science Policy Fellowship) for the WSSA BOD to accept four proposals from the Finance Committee. Motion was seconded by Greg Elmore. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Lee Van Wychen made amendment for the WSSA BOD to approve $15,000 (a $3,000 increase) for the Executive Director of Science Policy Fellowship. Seconded by Marty Schraer. Amendment passed unanimously.**

**Phil Banks made a motion to approve the WSSA budget as presented from the Finance Committee. Motion seconded by Anita Dille. Motion passed unanimously.**

**APEX Discussion – Sarah Ward** – Sarah Ward has been charged to assemble and chair a committee to produce a new Herbicide Handbook. Sarah Ward indicated Dale Shaner left things very well organized which should facilitate this process. Sarah Ward also indicated she will investigate print on demand option if a new edition is produced. Discussion centered around why are we targeting a new Herbicide Handbook with few new herbicides introduced since the last edition. Rob Richardson indicated that fate of aquatic herbicide in existing edition is lacking. APMS has committed to assembling a committee to assist with this if new edition of Herbicide Handbook is produced.

**Mark Bernards made a motion for the Director of Publications to re-populate a committee to evaluate production of a new Herbicide Handbook. Seconded by Phil Banks. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Summer Joint Board Meeting with WSWS – Eric Gustafson** – Goal is to overlap WSWS and WSSA board meetings in order to facilitate 2020 WSSA/WSWS annual meeting in Maui, HI. Bill Curran indicated he may attend WSWS annual meeting in March of 2019 to work with WSWS program chair in planning 2020 WSSA/WSWS annual meeting.

**Conference Status – Eric Gustafson** – No update.

**Conflict of Interest Policy and Code of Conduct – Eric Gustafson/Mark Bernards** – Everyone present signed (Sarah Ward departed 1:50 pm).

**Committee Updates – Bill Curran** – Bill Curran corrected inaccurate ending year dates for BOD members. Lee Van Wychen indicated that Research and Competitive Grants committee would like to change name Research Priorities.

Rakesh Chandran departed at 2:03 pm.

**Graduate Student Update/Student Contest Discussion - Nick Steppig**- Held an informal mixed on Monday evening of annual meeting. Held graduate student luncheon/panel discussion on Wednesday of annual meeting. Wykle Greene is new VP; Secretary is Spencer Samuelson; Social Media Chair – Lavesta “Camp” Hand. Graduate student wellness breakfast held on Thursday morning of annual meeting. ~40 attended. Nick Steppig indicated that Travel Enrichment Experience was extremely successful and WSSA GSO has strong desire to continue this program. Mark Bernards indicated that process to select winners for GSO Travel Enrichment Experience should be charged to the Professional Development Committee. Mark Bernards asked Nick Steppig to provide WSSA GSO constitution to WSSA BOD and potentially incorporated WSSA GSO as a standing committee.

Student Contest – Darrin Dodds suggested moving to three minute thesis format every other year for WSSA student contest. Pam Smith suggested doing five minute interview contest with ag reporters present at the annual meeting.

Phil Banks departed at 2:33 pm.

**Darrin Dodds made a motion that three minute thesis format be adopted for oral presentation contest at the 2020 annual meeting and determine success thereafter. Seconded by Anita Dille. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Strategic Plan Committee – Larry Steckel** – will develop ad-hoc committee to evaluate and edit strategic plan.

**Development of an ad-hoc committee to assist EPA Liaison – Larry Steckel** – discussion on appointing committee to assist Greg Kruger with his duties. Larry Steckel will appoint ad-hoc committee. Committee will be separate from Science Policy Committee. Need will be assessed after implementation to determine if should be developed into regular committee.

**MOP Edits – Mark Bernards** – Mark Bernards added language to the MOP regarding voting rules. Mark Bernards also added language in Executive Session Section (5.1.3). **Motion to add language Mark Bernards added to voting rules and Executive Session sections of MOP by Scott Senseman and seconded by Dawn Refsell. Motion passed unanimously.**

**New Business -** Lee Van Wychen would like to see ad-hoc committee to recruit new members to the society. Goal is to increase membership in the society. Dawn Refsell indicated need to retain students as regular members and attendees after they graduate and are employed full time.  **Lee Van Wychen motioned to form an ad-hoc committee with the goal to increase membership and meeting attendance.** Extensive discussion regarding committee charges and challenges to recruiting and retaining members. Bill Curran indicated that NEWSS has been struggling with membership issues for over a decade. **Bill Curran seconded motion. Motion failed unanimously.**

Larry Steckel asked BOD members to look at and provide feedback on HR Portal.

John Byrd – voiced concerns over posters and oral presentations as well as abstracts submitted and presentations never given. Eric Gustafson indicated that he will invoice those that did not attend for one day attendance if they have not paid.

**Scott Senseman made a motion that people who submitted titles and/or abstracts and did not present submitted titles be charged one day meeting registration fee. Seconded by Anita Dille. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mark Bernards will work on MOP language to address people submitting titles and abstracts and not attending annual meeting nor presenting data for titles submitted.

Lee Van Wychen indicated that some sustaining members expressed dis-satisfaction with not having the opportunity to sponsor the 2019 Weed Olympics.

Anita Dille expressed need for WSSA annual meeting to be a safe space. Indicated that she had received report of inappropriate behavior at reception on Monday evening. Anita Dille asked if there was language in the code of conduct regarding inappropriate behavior. Mark Bernards indicated that language is present but not clear definition on how to enforce disciplinary measures when code of conduct is violated. Anita Dille indicated need to put something in program or elsewhere regarding safe zone allies and some way to identify these people. Anita Dille will address this issue with parties involved and report findings back to WSSA BOD.

Dallas Peterson is retiring. WSSA will need to identify a new CAST representative.

Old Business – None

Motion to adjourn made by Bill Curran seconded by Scott Senseman. Motion passed unanimously.