

WSSA Board Zoom Meeting

October 14, 2020

In attendance:

Bill Curran, Eric Gustafson, Larry Steckel, Anita Dille, Dawn Refsell, Rakesh Chandran, Phil Banks, Lee Van Wychen, John Byrd, Darrin Dodds, Lynn Sosnoskie, Wykle Green, John Lindquist. Marty Schraer, Stanley Culpepper, Francois Tardif, and Christian Willenborg (joined after break).

Call to order:

Bill Curran at 9:00 a.m. CST.

Approval of agenda

Motion to approve by Anita Dille, seconded by John Byrd.

Approval of minutes:

Motion to summer board meeting minutes made by Anita Dille, seconded by John Byrd.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to September 9 board meeting minutes made by John Byrd, seconded by Larry Steckel. Motion passed unanimously.

Annual Meeting Update – Anita Dille & Eric Gustafson

Community Brands has presented a potentially reasonable cost, visually appealing option for the 2021 virtual annual meeting. Anita Dille worked with APEX and the website is currently open for title submissions for the 2021 virtual annual meeting. Titles are due November 9, 2020. Abstracts are due January 31, 2021. Discussion and visual aids outlining meeting program and layout provided by Anita Dille. Concern was expressed regarding number of title submissions given virtual format in 2021. Bill Curran inquired about thought on opening session. Anita Dille indicated Bill Curran would provide 5-minute welcome and she was working on guest presenter. Further discussion held regarding fee structure for meeting: do we have one price for meeting and membership or do we separate to convey where money is going given the virtual format.

Student Contest Update – Marty Schraer and Darrin Dodds

Asynchronous format proposed for student poster contest. Posters would be pre-judged; however, a chat feature would be available for those who have questions on individual posters.

3MT oral presentation contest preliminary round also be asynchronous with potential for championship round. Chat feature would also exist for those who wanted to ask questions of presenters in 3MT section.

GSO Update – Wykle Greene

Working to determine where GSO meeting fits into virtual annual meeting format and schedule. A few cursory suggestions were offered regarding creative ways to get students to participate. Wykle expressed need to hold elections, etc. highlighting need for student participation.

Regional/Affiliate Rep Updates – Francois Tardiff, Rakesh Chandran, John Byrd, Marty Schraer

Rakesh Chandran – NEWSS will use Pathable platform for annual meeting. NEWSS is hoping for 140-150 attendance to break even on cost of online platform. Meeting will be second week of January.

Francois Tardiff - CWSS will use Fourwave as provider for online meeting. CWSS will charge \$175 for online meeting with membership being separate. Goal is 140-150 attendance at annual meeting. Francois noted stronger than anticipated support from sponsors.

John Byrd – SWSS meeting will be virtual. SWSS kept meeting registration at \$350 which includes membership. Virtual provider is uncertain at this time. Board appeared to be in favor of joint meeting in 2024 but preferred to wait until new WSSA BOD is seated to begin planning session for joint meeting.

Marty Schraer – WSSW will be March 1-4. WSSW will utilize same virtual platform provider as WSSA.

NCWSS Rep – Eric Gustafson indicated NCWSS is working to finalize web platform provider. Call for papers has been released and extended. Registration is \$300 with students \$100.

EPA Liaison Update – Bill Curran

Bill Curran presented document outlining responsibilities of WSSA-EPA Liaison as well as advisory committee for this position. Particular emphasis was given to term of appointment. The WSSA-EPA Liaison will potentially serve a term of three years and a following year mentoring the new Liaison. However, the incumbent may serve two terms. Final document will come to WSSA BOD for approval. Greg Kruger had indicated that he will step down at the conclusion of this term necessitating the need for a new liaison with the goal of having this person in place by 2021 WSSA Annual Meeting.

NIFA Fellow Update – Bill Curran

Jim Kells currently serves as NIFA Fellow with third year concluding in August 2021. Document has been drafted establishing an advisory committee for this position. As with EPA Liaison position, document providing guidelines for NIFA Fellow will come to WSSA BOD for approval. Jim Kells has indicated willingness to serve second term if deemed appropriate.

CAST Rep Update – Bill Curran

Jill Schroeder indicated biggest need was for members to communicate potential issues that could be developed into an issue paper her so she could bring forward.

Science Policy Update & Updated Position Description – Lee Van Wychen & Janis McFarland

Lee indicated mixed reaction to his participation in online meetings. He is also working on coordinating online meetings with weed science society presidents in the coming days. Topics of interest include increased funding for IR-4, anti-FIFRA issues, glyphosate safety and misinformation, etc. Also indicated goal of expanding awareness of need for USDA National Program Leader with Weed Science background.

Lee Van Wychen worked with Janis McFarland and Leon ?? to update Executive Director of Science Policy position description.

Motion to accept Executive Director of Science Policy position description as presented made by Anita Dille and seconded by Phil Banks. Motion passed unanimously.

Lee emphasized importance of Executive title for position and correction needed in MOP. He also indicated change in funding level and ensuring that funding changes are reflected in appropriate documents. Discussion ensued regarding changes in funding – several folks indicated this would be reflected in the budget and this is the appropriate place to house these changes.

Finance Committee Update – Phil Banks

Finance committee will meet later today to discuss society economics. Phil Banks will provide written report to the WSSA BOD regarding society financials. Phil did indicate that our investments had largely recovered from losses observed following onset of COVID-19 in early 2020.

Nominations Committee Update – Larry Steckel

Two candidates for each office have been identified. Larry Steckel is collecting bio's for each and the vote for each position should occur in the next few weeks.

Awards Update Including HRAC Award – Bill Curran & Anita Dille

Award nomination deadline will occur in two days from this meeting. Dwight Lingenfelter has received nominations for all awards as of today. The US-HRAC Herbicide Resistance Management Award is a new award and the deadline for nomination is October 30, 2020.

The US-HRAC Herbicide Resistance Management Award is new and a committee needs to be formed. Award is designed to highlight activities of a team as opposed to an individual. Further revisions will be made to document governing award.

Anita Dille motioned to award US-HRAC Herbicide Resistance Management Award at 2021 WSSA Annual Meeting with sponsorship by US-HRAC. Seconded by Stanley Culpepper. Motion passed unanimously.

2024 Joint Meeting in San Antonio – Eric Gustafson

SWSS has requested selected concessions as part of hotel contract including hotel rooms for summer board meeting, etc. John Byrd indicated that SWSS will likely want to wait to approve joint meeting at January SWSS annual meeting.

Anita Dille motioned to hold 2024 joint meeting annual meeting with SWSS in San Antonio, TX. Seconded by John Byrd. Motion passed unanimously.

Herbicide Handbook Update – Christian Willenborg

Christian Willenborg provided a document highlighting funding allocated for previous herbicide handbook as well as return on investment for that edition. A return on investment of greater than 3X was realized on last edition.

Proposed fee structure and costs indicate that costs would be recovered in first two years of release of a new digital version of the Herbicide Handbook.

Christian Willenborg moved that WSSA BOD approve funding in the amount of \$19,620 (in addition to original \$18,000) to develop new version of Herbicide Handbook. Seconded by Anita Dille. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding what budget year funding would come from as well as expenditures that have been made to date.

Website Update – Lauren Lazaro, Muthu Bagavathiannan, Dawn Refsell

Discussion held regarding survey on website strategy. Dawn Refsell indicated that responses were minimal but insightful. Muthu Bagavathiannan provided further input regarding the current WSSA website and use, traffic patterns, etc.

Lauren Lazaro stated need to digest survey provided and use that document to guide website re-design. The website committee led by Lauren Lazaro, Dawn Refsell and Muthu Bagavathannian will spearhead effort with website committee and report back to WSSA BOD in February regarding needs to website re-design.

Old Business

Bill Curran indicated selected aspects of language for NIFA Fellow and EPA Liaison positions had been drafted. However, further work is need to get documents outlining roles, responsibilities, and governance of these positions into proper shape. His goal is to have changes made to appropriate MOP by annual meeting for consideration.

New Business

The WSSA Strategic Plan expires in 2020. Bill Curran asked Dawn Refsell to chair a committee tasked to develop the next WSSA Strategic Plan. Bill Curran asked Stanley Culpepper and Larry Steckel to serve as well. John Byrd, Rakesh Chandran, Eric Gustafson, Dan Brainerd and Janis McFarland also were selected/will be asked to serve. Board meeting proposed to meet on 12th

(Friday – all day) and 15th (half day) prior to WSSA annual meeting as opposed to weekend prior.

Motion to Adjourn made by Phil Banks and seconded by John Byrd. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting concluded at 12:11 pm CST.