



WSWS Annual Business Meeting
Thursday, March 13, 2014
Hotel Elegante Conference & Event Center
Colorado Springs, Co

Roger Gast called the meeting to order at 7:10 AM. The following agenda was followed with short report summaries given of full reports that were presented and discussed earlier at the Board of Directors meeting.

- Andy Hulting indicated past board of director meeting minutes had been approved through voting by the board members and are posted on the website. Andy asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion to approve was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Phil Banks presented the Treasurer-Business Manager report. Phil gave the Treasurer Report indicating the Society is in good financial standing and gave an update on the Weeds of the West book sales and new WSWS website. He thanked the hotel staff and Local Arrangements Committee for hosting a successful meeting.
- Drew Lyon, President-Elect, presented the Program Committee report. Total numbers of papers were down slightly. There were 87 oral papers and 51 posters. 138 total presentations including workshops and general session.
- Kai Umeda presented the Past President report. Kai commented on his activities serving on several nominating committees.
- Andrew Kniss presented the Research Section Chair report. Andrew summarized the program and announced chairs and incoming chairs of each section. He thanked current chairs for their efforts with the program. Andrew encouraged members to submit paper to some of the smaller sections.
- Joel Felix presented the Education and Regulatory report. Joel commented on sessions related to education and regulatory matters being held at this meeting including the discussion on the R statistical software.
- Brian Jenks gave the Member at Large Public report. Brian indicated that he working on trying to understand issue related to declining annual meeting attendance and numbers of papers/posters.
- Monte Anderson gave the Member at Large Public report. Monte commented on his interaction with several organizations in providing information related to GMO food labeling issues.
- Pat Clay gave the WSSA Representative report giving the society a summary of recent WSSA meeting and board activities. Pat indicated that the WSWS is well represented within the WSSA.
- Phil Westra presented the CAST Representative report and discussed ideas on topics and papers that this group is working on. Phil stressed the importance of CAST in disseminating non biased, science based documents on emerging issues in agriculture.

- Craig Beil gave the Student Liaison report. Craig commented on efforts to improve the silent auction, survey results of student membership, efforts to engage students on society committees and introduced Marcel Moretti as incoming Student Liaison.
- Corey Ransom presented the Constitution and Operating Procedures report. Corey has continued to update the Operating Guide and Constitution and indicated that an online version is available in PDF format for those interested in continuing to improve the document. He will be working on several updates over the coming year.

The following Committee reports were presented:

Proceedings Report – Bill McCloskey indicated that the process for generating the Proceedings continues to improve using the electronic system and provided some reminders to the membership.

Research Progress Report – Traci Rauch reported a slight upward trend in submissions (54) and encouraged members to submit reports.

Newsletter Report – Carl Libbey reported that he continues to be sole editor of the newsletter and requested that membership supply him with information for the newsletter.

Local Arrangements Report-. Tim D’Amato had no comments on local arrangements.

Poster Section Report- Dirk Baker indicated that the number of posters was down somewhat, but the quality of posters was excellent.

Nominating Committee Report-Rich Zollinger reviewed winners of society elections. Rich thanked everyone that agreed to run for WSWS offices and strongly encouraged membership to take part in the online voting process.

Legislative Report- Julie Kraft indicated that this committee is seeking to update primary contacts from each state who can serve as point people on legislative issues.

Sustaining Member Report-Dennis Tonks indicated that we have 16 Sustaining Members and thanked them for their support and also indicated efforts are underway to identify others who would be interested in this role.

Fellows and Honorary Members – Rick Boydston reported nominations were received for the Fellow Award and two were selected. The Honorary Member award was also awarded this year.

Awards – Rick Arnold reviewed this year’s award recipients and urged members to nominate a deserving colleague.

Finance Report – Marvin Butler reported that the WSWS is in sound financial condition even though the economy is down. He pointed out that RCB Wealth Management has been doing an excellent job managing our assets and discussions are ongoing about how best to manage society assets.

Public Relations Report – Joel Felix indicated that this is a committee in flux and that the board will be working to redefine the role and mission of the committee in the future with respect securing CEU’s and other public relations roles.

Education- Tim Prather indicated there was no report from this committee.

Herbicide Resistant Plants- Andrew Kniss indicated there was no report from this committee.

Site Selection- Pete Forster gave an update on meeting site selection and the possibility of holding a joint meeting with the WAPMS in 2017 in ID.

Necrology – Greg Dahl read biographies and asked for a moment of silence for WSWS members that had passed away this year.

Ad hoc Ethics Committee- Kai Umeda described the process that the board had worked through to develop a WSWS ethics statement.

Poster and Paper Contest Winners – Kelly Young presented this year’s winners of the student paper and poster contests.

Old Business

Roger Gast commented on the recent name change of the student scholarship program to the “*Elena Sanchez Memorial WSWS Outstanding Student Scholarship Program*”.

Roger Gast also commented on a number of Operating Guide changes that will be made by Corey Ransom over the coming year to better define various committee duties.

A vote of affirmation on the revised WSWS Ethics statement was planned. A motion to affirm the ethics statement by membership was made and seconded. There was discussion by Vanelle Peterson as to the question of why the BOD was not putting the statement into the society Constitution as opposed to the Operating Guide. Feedback from BOD present indicated that this was just a starting point and if membership desired the statement could be moved to Constitution at a later date. The motion to affirm the ethics statement passed unanimously with one abstention.

New Business

The potential joint meeting with WAPMS in 2017 was discussed.

The newly approved 2-YR Business Manager Service Agreement for Phil Banks was discussed.

George Beck discussed the Healthy Habitats Group and related Invasive Species Management Act legislation.

Roger Gast acknowledged Drew Lyon’s efforts this past year and passed him the gavel ‘Hoe’ as incoming president.

New WSWS president, Drew Lyon, thanked Roger Gast for his service to the WSWS.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 AM.