



Minutes of the WSWs Board Meeting
Thursday, March 13, 2014
Hotel Elegante Conference and Event Center
Colorado Springs, CO

Prepared by Curtis Rainbolt, WSWs Secretary

Board Members (past and present) in attendance: Joe Yenish, Jane Mangold, Pat Clay, Corey Ransom, Ed Davis, Brian Jenks, Kirk Howatt, Sandra McDonald, Roger Gast, Andy Hulting, Joel Felix, Curtis Rainbolt, Drew Lyon, Marcelo Moretti, Phil Westra, Jesse Richardson, and Andrew Kniss. Business Manager Phil Banks was also present.

The meeting was called to order by Drew Lyon at 11:37 am

Brief introductions were made around the room. New Board members were welcomed: Joe Yenish-President Elect, Jane Mangold-Research Chair Elect., Sandra McDonald-Education & Regulatory Chair Elect, and Curtis Rainbolt-Secretary.

Drew asked if there were any new business items to be added to the agenda. Phil Westra requested to give a CAST update. This will be placed in the agenda after the annual meeting review. Corey Ransom requested a discussion of the new ethics statement.

Approval of new appointment

Mike Hubbard has been nominated for Member at Large- Private Sector. Discussion on his contributions to the society was followed by a motion from Andrew Kniss, a second from Kirk Howatt. The motion was unanimously approved.

Annual Meeting Review

Venue Discussion. Phil Westra commented that the farthest meeting room had considerable hotel background noise. Phil Banks agreed to discuss this with the hotel. Several members had complaints about difficulty logging into hotel wifi service. Phil Banks addressed this with the hotel on the first day, but some issues lingered. There was also a room key problem for many guests due to a computer glitch.

Meeting Rooms and A/V Equipment. A comment was made that some rooms had screens that were too small to see. Andrew Kniss discussed that projectors were brought by section chairs as well as several backups. Due to compatibility and other problems all of the backups were utilized. In the future it should be specified on the project chair needs that a VGA input is required on both the computer (will be a problem on some newer laptops) and projector. If this leads to issues, it may be necessary to rent larger and more appropriate projectors in the future.

Presentation issues. Multiple presentations had issues with tables dropping out due to MS PowerPoint compatibility issues. Possible solutions include specifying a PowerPoint (PPT) file version in the request for papers or switching to PDF file format. Discussion focused on issues about having a mix

of PDF and PPT files for hyperlink and a lack of animation in PDF slides. It was suggested to make PDF files highly recommended but not required. Drew Lyon asked that Ed Davis test using both file formats and make a recommendation at the summer board meeting. Sandra McDonald and Andrew Kniss offered to help if needed.

Student Paper Contest. There were some student presentations where the moderator cut off questions even though there was adequate time. Drew Lyon suggested having a moderator training session and compiling a Best Management Practices list to remind session moderators of their responsibilities.

Corey Ransom also mentioned that some students were complaining about a wide range of scores and that this was confusing to them, especially when the score sheets don't include any comments. It was recommended that judges meet to come to a consensus. Phil Banks confirmed that the judges did meet to discuss scores and select winners. Many agreed that it is difficult for judges to provide comments and even more so when student papers are scheduled back to back. There was general consensus that student papers should be separated by at least one non-student paper to allow for notes and comments.

The group also strongly suggests an organized approach to student awards presentation to avoid mistakes. Suggestions include a written list of winners that includes their academic affiliation, major professor, and research focus. It was also suggested to use a team approach with one handing out awards and one announcing winners.

Poster Section. Drew suggested that the poster take down should happen early so that people can go to the "What's New in Industry" section. It was suggested that they could be taken down at noon and that an earlier take down time be listed in the program.

Notes from Dirk Baker were presented for board consideration on the benefits of hauling vs renting poster boards at meeting sites. Phil Banks commented that in the past it has typically been less expensive to haul or ship than to rent. Shipping is approximately \$900. Posterboards will go from CO Springs to Logan, UT for now and will be transported from Logan to Portland, OR by Ralph Whitesides. We will need to revisit rental versus shipping options for the Albuquerque meeting because of the long distance from Oregon.

There was discussion on appropriate way to handle posters that are submitted, but are not presented at the meeting. Phil Westra suggested removing the abstract from the proceedings and there was a consensus supporting this. Precedence was discussed as well as the need for an official policy. It was suggested that paper and poster instructions clearly specify that you must attend or have someone else present the paper/poster for you in order for the abstract to appear in the proceedings. President elect Joe Yenish will make a recommendation to the board at the summer meeting on the proposed policy.

CAST Report- Phil Westra

There is a pending publication on recruiting and training future scientists for global food production and CAST would like WSWS board to contribute \$2500-\$5000 to a publication fund. Cost of each is ~\$30,000. WSWS currently pays \$1500 as a Sustaining Member of CAST. Drew Lyon wants to table until the summer board meeting when finances are clearer and also wants clarification on if WSWS can contribute towards a specific publication.

Date for Summer Board Meeting

Drew suggested the week of July 28th or August 4. The goal is for a noon start on day 1 and a noon finish on day 2. Phil Banks will check with the hotel and confirm dates.

Addendum- The summer board meeting is confirmed for a noon start on Wednesday July 30 and ending at noon on July 31 at the Portland Hilton.

Committee Appointment Status and General Discussion- Drew Lyon

Plans to fill vacant positions soon. Filled positions are:

Awards: Alan Helm

Fellows and Honorary Members: Jill Schroeder

Finance Jesse Richardson

Herbicide Resistance: Prashant Jha

Local Arrangements : Brian Schutte, Daniel Curtis

Nominations : Scott Nissen, one position TBD

Student Paper Judging : Ryan Rector

Committee activities

The Education committee is confused on rotation schedule. In the past they did not rotate but the operation guide now has them listed for a 3 year rotation. Drew will pick 3 members of the Education committee to rotate off, so that a proper rotation can begin.

CEU's. There was discussion of moving continuing education units (CEU's) over to the education committee or to a sub-committee or ad hoc committee. Also a discussion on how many people use CEU credits and if the use warrants the efforts. It was stated that credits can be very important for local symposia that are designed to bring in practitioners. The ability to get credits is how some governmental agencies justify their participation in the WSWs meeting. It was suggested that an ad hoc committee identify a person from each state to apply for credits.

Update on dormant committees.

Public relations committee. In the past people have not rotated off. 3 new members will be selected. Kirk Howatt will inform members that they are rotating off committee and may end up on an ad hoc committee if they are willing to serve. The new committee will have terms. Roger Gast recommended that they add a student member.

The resistance committee has a few ideas on activities and will report on them at a later date.

2015/2016 Symposium Ideas. Symposium ideas are now delegated to the Education and Regulatory Committee. Bill Cobb has proposed a standalone symposium that would possibly start Monday. There was some concern that this would conflict with the Monday board meeting. Phil Banks will need to ask hotel if space would be available for a Monday Symposium. Joe Yenish asked for more symposia ideas, and suggested that we will only try for a Thursday symposium if there is a good idea. Corey Ransom suggested that we could run a parallel practitioner style meeting that would offer

training topics. We would have a good base of trainers available and this would possibly keep Monday symposium attendees there for the entire meeting. Joe Yenish will gather ideas for symposium for the summer board review.

Old Business

Update in 2017 Site Selection. Phil Banks and Pete Forster met with Cody Gray (President of the Western Aquatic Weed Society, WAWS) to discuss a joint meeting. Current plan is for a joint registration conducted by WSWS with the same rate for all attendees. The WAWS typically has 20 to 25 exhibitors who pay a fee of \$450 (includes a meeting registration). Format would be the same as normal for WSWS with all times having a breakout session for aquatics. The WAWS would have their own awards luncheon and banquet. The WAWS typically has 60 attendees. WSWS would get all exhibit and registration funds in exchange for a flat fee of \$6500, which is the annual operating budget for WAWS. Phil Banks will prepare an RFP and memorandum of agreement and Cody Gray will take to the WAWS board meeting. The WAWS is interested in Coeur D'Alene as the meeting site. Phil Banks will also try for Spokane locations in order to get a more competitive rate. There will be an e-vote on this before the summer board meeting.

Ethics Statement. Ralph Whiteside assumed the ethics statement would go into the constitution by a member vote. Corey Ransom- since the membership voted for the ethics statement future changes will require a vote. Roger Gast suggested that the ethics statement stay in the operating guide for a few years. Corey Ransom will investigate the constitutional requirements and present at the summer board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.