



Western Society of Weed Science
Summer Board of Directors Meeting, 2020
(Online)
August 6-7, 2020

August 6, 2020
Roll Call:

Board Members present: Judit Barroso, Pat Clay, Carl Coburn, John Coyle, Jodie Crose, D. Chad Cummings, Gregory Dahl, Eric Gustafson, Mithila Juglulam, Julie Kraft, John Madsen, Sandra McDonald, George Newberry, Mirella Ortiz, Corey Ransom, Marty Schraer, Todd Neel.

Board Members not present: None

Other Attendees: Lee Van Wychen,

12:00 pm Mountain Time Board

<https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/97059651132?pwd=ejNIUEIEWTdFMzZQN3NjNm12dlp2UT09>

Welcome and Introductions

Call to order and Approval of Agenda – Corey Ransom

President Ransom called meeting to order and sought additions to the agenda. There were none.

Officer Reports

Secretary – *John Madsen*

Secretary Madsen introduced the minutes of the 2020 Annual Business Meeting, Business Breakfast, and Post-conference minutes.

Motion to approve – Pat Clay

Second – Mithila Jugulam

The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Business Manager and Treasurer Report – *Eric Gustafson*

He worked on reconciling finances and paying bills. Further considerations of how to handle upcoming annual meeting. Financially, society is doing well. WSWS earned \$54,000 from the Maui joint meeting with WSSA.

Boise is scheduled for 2021

Newport Beach is scheduled for 2022.

The current asset total for WSWS is \$427,904.82.

President Ransom commended Eric for the work he has done with the current COVID-related issues.

President – *Corey Ransom*

He has been working on filling committees with members.

He needs members for:

Public Relations Committee

Site Selection Committee

Location Arrangements Committee

Eric Gustafson moved to approve the slate of committee members

Sandra McDonald seconded the motion

Unanimous approval

Past President – *Pat Clay*

Nominations Committee is working on the slate of candidates, namely, we need to find candidates for President-Elect.

Sustaining members committee is working on the sustaining membership.

We need to amend the Ops Manual to include the Treasurer position.

President Elect/Program Chair – *Sandra McDonald*

WAPMS is still interested in a joint meeting in 2021.

Boise Centre is a lovely facility and is compatible with social distancing.

Discussed how to do a joint meeting with WAPMS. Still planning for possibility of an in-person meeting in March.

Would we still do a joint meeting if it has to be a virtual meeting? Have to discuss with relevant WSWS and WAPMS committee members. Further discussion and a decision on day 2 of the board meeting.

Research Section Chair – *Mithila Jugulam*

Discussed the logistics of the papers and posters, and discussing if they should have a limit to the number of presentations.

Further discussion of issues with virtual meetings and pre-recording presentations.

Education and Regulatory – *Todd Neel*

Received three proposals for symposia in 2020; two for half-day and one for full day.

1. Annual Invasive Grass Management (Julie Kraft, Derek Sebastian, Brian Mealor and Todd Neel; Half-day).
 2. Are Herbicide-Resistant Crops the Solution to Herbicide-Resistant Weeds? (Caio Brunharo, WSSS HRS Committee, Half-day).
 3. Updates from Weed Biocontrol- An Unsung Component of Integrated Weed Management on Land and in Water (Carol Randall, Joey Milan, and Jenn Andreas; Full-day).
- Need to spend more time looking into CEUs.
If virtual, some of the events and symposia can be posted as separate events.

Member-at-Large Public – Julie Kraft

Report moved to Friday Morning.

Member-at-Large Private – John Coyle

Discussed removing barriers for non-traditional attendees, such as applicators.

WSSA Representative – Marty Schraer

No report.

His term ends during the WSSA meeting in 2021.

WSSA is having a meeting in September to discuss results of the COVID-related survey, when they may make a decision regarding the type of meeting to hold.

WSSA is scheduled for the Hyatt in San Antonio on the Riverwalk.

Student Liaison – Mirella Ortiz

Some students were not judged at the annual meeting, only four of the 13 students not judged replied, and only one did not want to participate in a summer contest. Apparently, not a lot of interest in a summer event.

Mithila Jugulam will work with section chairs on some guidelines for students to put their presentations in the correct section. Main issue is between horticultural and agronomic crops.

Director of Science Policy – Lee van Wychen

As usual, Lee reports on a lot of activity related to congressional action and federal committees. More details are in his report.

Good news in the appropriations bill, refer to the report.

Dicamba court cases have resulted in a lot of pressure on US EPA regarding the labeling of dicamba for GMO crops. The 9th circuit court has vacated the labels of three post-emergent dicamba herbicides.

WSSA is sponsoring WEBEX events for US EPA and other agencies.

Discussion of the mystery weed seeds from China and potential action by APHIS.

National Program Leader for Weed Science in USDA ARS – has not gone smoothly.

4:00 pm Discussion of Annual Meeting format and Issues – Sandra McDonald

WSSA survey results from 2020 meeting – discussion

More than 40% would be uncertain if they can attend a 2021 meeting

More than 70% respond that the permission of employer is critical to attendees.

More than half want mask and PPE requirements.

Most conference attendees are willing to attend or present at a virtual meeting
It is possible that more individuals can attend a virtual meeting since the costs of traveling will not prevent them.

Sandra asked what is the real cost per person for a virtual meeting. Will have to pursue the answer.

Sandra:

Are we having a meeting? Board was unanimous on having some sort of meeting

Three options:

1) In-person meeting, socially distanced

She thinks it is doable, if people can or will attend.

2) Hybrid in-person and virtual

3) Virtual live meeting or Pre-recorded/live combination

Discussion about the format and the risks of waiting to decide on the format.

MOTION: Sandra McDonald moved that the 2021 WSWS be a virtual meeting

Second: Judit Barroso

Tabled a decision until tomorrow's session.

Motion to adjourn until tomorrow - Sandra McDonald

Second by Greg Dahl

The board concurred in a unanimous vote.

2:39 pm Adjourn for the day

August 7, 2020

8:00 am Board Meeting

President called meeting to order.

Board Members present: Judit Barroso, Pat Clay, Carl Coburn, John Coyle, Jodie Crose, D. Chad Cummings, Gregory Dahl, Eric Gustafson, Mithila Jugulam, Julie Kraft, John Madsen, Sandra McDonald, George Newberry, Mirella Ortiz, Corey Ransom, Marty Schraer, Todd Neel.

Others present: Jesse Richardson, Elizabeth Mosqueda, Lee Van Wychen, Rachel Zuger

Follow-up discussion of Annual Meeting Format

MOTION: Sandra McDonald moved that the WSWS March 2021 be a virtual meeting

Second: Judit Barroso (Tabled from August 6)

Discussion: Companies, Universities, and Federal Agencies will not allow official travel.

Board agreed to the motion by a unanimous vote.

Motion (Sandra McDonald): The WSWS 2023 meeting will be in Boise, ID.

Second: Greg Dahl

Discussion: None

Vote was unanimous.

Sense of the board was to invite WAPMS to a joint virtual meeting in 2021, pending further discussions.

Greg Dahl moved that the committee invite WAPMS to a joint in-person meeting in 2023 in Boise.

Second: Marty Schraer

Vote was unanimous.

Program Committee will put together a survey to membership on the format and content of a virtual meeting.

Discussion of platforms and issues.

One feature of WSWS in person meetings that was requested for a virtual meeting is the discussion sessions as part of each section.

9:00 am Discussion of Committee on Diversity and Inclusion – Elizabeth Mosqueda

Introduced a proposal for a Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.

Two main goals: 1) Form an ad hoc Diversity and Inclusion Committee of five members. She has a list of potential members.

2) Developing a diversity and inclusion statement for approval by the society.

Potential members: Elizabeth Mosqueda, Vanelle Peterson, Steven Haring, Albert Adjesiwor, Lesley Beckworth

President Ransom suggested other potential members as board members: Julie Craft and John Coyle (Board Members at Large). Essentially, make the At Large board members part of this committee.

Sandra McDonald makes a motion to accept proposal to form an ad hoc committee Diversity and Inclusion Committee with the primary goal to include the Members at Large to be board representation, and draft a statement for approval at the 2021 annual meeting

Second by Pat Clay

Vote of the board was unanimous, motion carries.

Elizabeth Mosqueda presented a timeline for progress on this committee.

Elizabeth presented some ideas for an annual meeting:

- 1) A booth at the annual meeting to get input on how to measure success in D&I.
- 2) Alternatively, a survey to membership.
- 3) A D&I social hour.
- 4) A D&I working group to broaden input on this issue.

Pat Clay suggested a newsletter article from Elizabeth summarizing the D&I effort.

Committee Reports:

Publications Committee (Sandra McDonald – board contact)

Proceedings – *Carl Libbey*

Carl is in process of compiling abstracts from the WSSA / WSWS joint meeting. Carl did note that not all sections elected chair-elects.

WSWS Newsletter – *Carl Libbey*

Request and compile submissions to the newsletter for electronic delivery to the society and posting to the WSWS website following the Newsletter Editor's Operating Guide. The editions are compiled quarterly (Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall).

A newsletter has been completed and posted on the webpage.

Research Progress Reports – *Traci Rauch*

Currently, the 2020 Call for Research Progress Reports is being updated. Reports will only be submitted electronically. A reply will be sent upon receipt of reports. The Call will be posted online. The deadline will be January 12, 2021.

Website – *Eric Gustafson*

See report.

Local Arrangements – *George Newberry* – chairperson (Sandra McDonald – board contact)

See report.

Finance – *Phil Banks* – chairperson (Julie Kraft – board contact) –

No report available. We also need to put forward names for a Treasurer.

Nominations – *Ryan Edwards* – chairperson (Pat Clay – board contact)

Potential candidates who have agreed to run:

President-Elect: Two candidates have accepted.

Research Section Chair: One candidate has been confirmed, others identified. Board should suggest some names for Research Section Chair

Education and Regulatory: Two candidates have been confirmed.

Treasurer: Two candidates have been confirmed

Public Relations – *Charles Geddes* – chairperson (Todd Neel – board contact)

Corey requested suggestions for other members to this committee.

Sandra asked about the status of the Social Media Administrator. WSWS is apparently still looking for someone to be the Social Media Administrator. See the report.

Fellows and Honorary Members – *Jesse Richardson* – chairperson (Pat Clay – board contact)

Jill Schroeder had made two recommendations last summer: 1) update operating guide and 2) update website to show most recent list of committee members.

The changes to the Operating Manual had already been approved with minor edits by the board.

Jesse has a good list of possible Fellows and Honorary Members.

Site Selection – *Charlie Hicks* – chairperson (Pat Clay – board contact)

Corey discussed adding an additional member to the committee. Based on decision today, the site has been selected for 2023.

Awards – *Craig Alford* – chairperson (Corey Ransom – board contact)

No report

A call for nominations needs to be sent out.

Student travel scholarship – what would a virtual meeting mean for that award.

Poster – *Clarke Alder* – chairperson (Sandra McDonald – board contact)

No report.

Student Paper/Poster Judging – *Dennis Scott* – chairperson (Sandra McDonald – board contact)

The committee needs clarification that this committee judges posters as well as oral papers.

The committee needs to understand the nature of the meeting to be able to judge presentations.

Sandra will discuss the current plan with this committee.

Necrology - *Earl Creech* – chairperson (Chad Cummings – board contact)

Travis Bean of UC Riverside passed away this year.

Sustaining Membership - *Kirk Sager* – chairperson (Pat Clay – board contact)

No report. Pat Clay will follow up with this committee. One concern is that a virtual meeting will not have the same opportunities for in person exchanges, but virtual meeting may have other possibilities for company visibility.

Legislative – *Rachel Zuger* – chairperson (Marty Schraer – board contact)

Rachel Zuger presented a report.

She wants to add a question to the survey – Has the 2020 events impacted funding for noxious and invasive plant programs.

Corey was interested in the impacts on students in weed science.

Rachel also asked for specific additional members to the committee.

Committee will investigate what needs the WWCC has for support from WSWS.

Herbicide Resistant Plants – *Caio Brunharo* (Julie Kraft – board contact)

The committee did a survey on resistant plants, and they are tabulating the responses. Several suggestions were put forth for some members. Also, requested a student liaison on the committee.

The committee did submit a symposium proposal for the next conference.

CAST Representative – *Greg Dahl* – chairperson

He thanked WSWS for the opportunity to serve. Plant Working Group has been meeting monthly online. CAST has released several publications in the past year.

Jill Schroeder is the WSSA CAST representative. The weed people have been meeting on the side to make CAST more useful to the regional societies. There is interest in CAST on doing publications on some invasive species. They are trying to figure out what needs to be brought forward on this topic.

What about the Invasive Species Ad-Hoc Committee?

No report.

The committee has reached out to the WWCC regarding formalizing a relationship between the two organizations.

The suggestion is to have a representative of WSWS to the WWCC.

Unfinished Business:

Election of a Treasurer

We have two candidates for treasurer.

Legislative Committee Request – WSWS Western Weed Coordinators Liaison

Discussed above – see discussion.

New Business: (or resolving old business)

1) We need to approve the symposium proposals. – Todd Neel is in charge of the symposium proposals.

We have three proposals, two for half day and one for a full day.

Motion: Todd Neel proposed that we accept all three proposals.

Second: Sandra McDonald

Discussion: Sandra likes all the proposals, and wants to leave the option open as for the format and access and timing.

Some discussion of other options for training and CEUs in other events.

Board unanimously approved, the motion carries.

Corey suggests the option of registering for the individual symposia or be registered for all of the symposia with the entire program.

2) WWCC Liaison – clarify who will have responsibility for WWCC liaison negotiation and oversight. Chad suggested that we should have a liaison to WWCC rather than an Invasive Species committee.

Corey asked how that would interact with the Legislative Committee. Rachel indicated that the committee would like to be involved so they can get better response from the states on legislative issues.

Todd suggests having a special representative to WWCC, like that with CAST and WSSA.

Corey asked that the two committees come up with a proposal to make that connection and submit that to the board.

Sandra asked if anyone had feedback on the biology and ecology section – they failed to elect section chairs.

Corey thought we should ask section chair for names, and then Corey appoint them with board approval.

Sandra will reach out to incoming chair of section.

Chad asked about meeting registration fee estimates. The total cost for a good meeting platform is \$55,000 and the venue costs of an in-person meeting is \$60,000, so the registration is not likely to be a lot cheaper.

At the outset, we have to assume that the registration fee will be the same.

Corey thanked everyone for their hard work.

He called the meeting adjourned.

11:30 am Mountain Time - Adjourn