



# California-Nevada Chapter SWCS

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## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE/MEETING October 12, 2011

A teleconference/meeting of the Executive Council of the California-Nevada Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society was called to order by President Bill Daily at 10:05 a.m. on Wednesday, October 12, 2011. The following Executive Council Members were present: President Bill Daily; President-Elect Tibor Horvath, Treasurer Tom Esgate; Secretary Rebecca Hale, Directors Wendy Rash, Tina Vander Hoek, and Ladi Asgill. Also present was Walt Bunter (Communications). A quorum was present.

Horvath made the Motion and Wendy seconded to approve the Minutes from the September 14, 2011 teleconference. All approved, none opposed. The Motion was passed.

### Treasurer's Report

No changes in the Treasurer's Report submitted by Treasurer Esgate from last month, however one bill is due. Esgate made the Motion and Asgill seconded to begin process of adding Tibor Horvath as a signer on the bank account. Horvath will become President in May of 2012. All approved, none opposed. The Motion was passed.

It was agreed that Rebecca will be paid approximately \$275.00 for formatting the Landscape-4-Learning.com website and posting content from the Tri-County Dairy Conference. (Actual invoice amount \$300.00). She was allocated up to \$600.00 and did not use any funds for travel (did not attend in -person).

Total cash in Everbank account approximately \$26,000.00.

The Motion was made by Wendy and seconded by Tina to reimburse Walt Bunter \$171.54 for his expenses printing and mailing the Fall issue of our RUNOFF newsletter.

### Committee Reports

#### **Fall Conference - Tibor**

Despite concerns up to nearly the last-minute, the Tri-County Dairy Conference attracted 30 professionals and created opportunities for knowledge-sharing and professional networking.

\*\*Bill Green from Cal State University Fresno gave a presentation about their work with a grant from PG &E to improve technology in the transportation of groundwater: Water Pump Efficiency Improvements. Bill brought his special van that carries examples of the technology out to workshops in the field, such as ours. Bill has a "Road Show"! Fuel -pump efficiency can save up to 40% in energy costs in feed-lot operations.

**\*\*Marsha Campbell-Matthews** from Stanislaus County Cooperative Extension gave a presentation on nitrogen-leaching. Adjusting the nutrient-ratio in animal feed can reduce nitrogen output from manure very significantly. Marsha has data and graphs backing up her field work. For example, topsoil leaches up to 50% of available nitrogen during a storm-event. It is considered a serious toxic threat to groundwater when nitrogen and nitrates infiltrate groundwater and accumulate.

**\*\*Lee Waddle** from Valmont Irrigation Systems gave a presentation on the advantages of overhead versus flooding irrigation when complying with water-quality regulations.

**\*\*Jerry Higginbothom, PhD,** gave a presentation on adjusting nutrients in livestock feed.

**\*\*Brook Gale** from NRCS gave a presentation on a government program which provides pay-out of approximately \$8/cow for a dairy that complies with a Feed Management Plan developed by a Certified Nutrient Management Specialist.

Lee Waddle and Jerry Higginbothom provided links to their presentations for the Landscape-4-Learning.com website. They are very in-depth and provide a lot of information. Other information from the conference is posted and will be stored on that site.

### **Annual Spring Conference** (ASC) - group

The 'break-out' committee (Ladi, Bill, Tibor, Michael, Tom) will arrange time for their next planning teleconference over email.

### **Communications** - Walt

Walt will instruct the webmaster for the CA-NV SWCS website to create a link to the Landscape-4-Learning.com website.

### **Scholarship Committee** - Tina

Tina sent Notices to 44 Universities and Colleges with information on the CA-NV SWCS Chapter Scholarship. The deadline for applications is January 31, 2012. Information will be posted on the CASWCS.org website.

### **Chapter Officer Elections** - Andrea

No report.

### **Old Business**

Cal-Poly Student Representative? None. Tabled.

Update regarding logo'ed apparel:

Walt has contacted Mike Larkin from "American Solutions for Business" to create a proposal for 100-150 baseball caps with CANV SWCS logo.

Informational Survey from President Daily

It was agreed that Walt will re-send the link from President Daily requesting response to Survey about our SWCS Chapter. Although a good percentage of responses were received we are hoping to get an even better response rate from the repeat request.

**New Business**

Ladi Asgill was asked if he would accept the nomination for the national board of directors as "At-Large Director" by Don Wysocki of the SWCS National Nominations Committee. Don consulted with President Daily via phone, before making the offer to Ladi. Daily sought the needed approval of our Chapter Executive Committee and emailed the Executive Council Members requesting a Motion and a Second which was completed and approved in a timely manner. The nomination is due by Oct 26th so time is of the essence. Ladi received additional information about the nomination and the details of what the position requirements would be from Don. Ladi accepted the nomination. National elections take place Spring 2012 and Daily, Andrea Casey and Don Wysocki will be in communication regarding this process.

CARCD [California Association of Resource Conservation Districts carcd.org] Annual Meeting is taking place November 8 - 11 at the Hilton Hotel, Stockton, CA. <http://www.carcd.org/conference/districtoftheyear.pdf> Daily was in contact with their organizers and CA-NV SWCS Chapter will have access to a meeting room during the conference. Daily notes that our Chapter needs to continue drafting our "Plan of Work" and it will be advantageous for as many of us to meet in Stockton to discuss, as possible. Teleconference / call-in will also be available and this will coincide with our next Chapter teleconference on November 9th, 2011.

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Annual Conference Dates to Remember:

- July 22 - 25 2012 Fort Worth, Texas
- July 21 - 24 2013 Reno, Nevada
- July 27 - 30 2014 Chicago, Illinois

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The meeting was adjourned at 10:50AM. The next meeting of the Executive Council, with Committee Chairs and interested members encouraged to participate, is scheduled for Wednesday, November 9th, 2011<sup>th</sup>, time To Be Determined. It was agreed that the next teleconference will take place during the CARCD Annual Meeting in Stockton, CA. Any member with an item of New Business to be included on the agenda is requested to submit it to the Chapter President prior to the meeting.

REBECCA HALE, SECRETARY

BILL DAILY, PRESIDENT