



# California-Nevada Chapter SWCS

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## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING October 23, 2012

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-Elect Tibor Horvath at 10:03 a.m. on Tuesday, October 23, 2012. Present were Executive Council Members President-Elect Robert Roy, Treasurer Tom Esgate, Secretary Cathy Dirden and Directors Ladi Asgill, Tina Vander Hoek, Phil Hogan, Kabir Zahangir, and Tony Sunseri. A quorum was present. International Conference Representative, Dewayne Johnson was also present.

### **I. Welcome**

President-Elect Horvath welcomed all.

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Roy, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2012 meeting.

### **III. CA-NV Chapter SWCS Bylaws Amendment**

Horvath felt it was covered sufficiently in the Annual Meeting minutes. Johnson stated National needs to sign-off on the change. He will check to see if it has been approved.

### **IV. Fall Technical Tour**

Roy stated the Twilight Field Tour and Barbeque on September 13, 2012. CA-NV SWCS with the Conservation Agriculture Systems Innovation (CASI) was well attended although he was unable to make it. He will ask Bunter to mention it in the newsletter.

### **V. Financial Report**

Council received for review electronic copies of the Chapter Financial Report as of October 22, 2012. It was moved by Vander Hoek, seconded by Hogan and carried to accept the Treasurer's Report, which will be placed on file.

Mark Steffek was not available to discuss the Audit. Item tabled until the next teleconference.

### **VI. 2012 International Conference Report**

Council discussed December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> to be date for D. Johnson and Esgate and Roy to meet with the State Conservationist. Johnson wants to hand deliver letter of support and

discuss importance of NRCS partnering with us on the Conference. Curtis Carver, Assistant State Conservationist joined the call asking Johnson to hold off on requesting a commitment until they know their budget situation. He proposed sending the letter in January with a list of items of support from the State Conservationist to review. It was decided to change the visit to **January 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013**.

Johnson requests confirmation of field trips by **November 1<sup>st</sup>** in order to meet the preliminary program agenda deadline. Next is the call for abstracts.

## **VII. Preparing for 2013 International Conference in Reno, NV**

Esgate proposed adding Ross Braun to the Bird-Fellows forum committee as he has expressed an interest to be involved. Johnson said we need local oversight and focus on local issues of National interest meeting science and investigative nature. Esgate asked what a Bird-Fellows seminar involved.

Tibor will email recruitment for volunteers. Esgate said he would step up as the local contact for the Conference Committee. The following committees are needed

Audiovisual – responsibility will be for projectors, remote controls, and back-ups; lining up set-up/take-down teams in session rooms. Need 8-10 projectors; possibly borrow from the local NRCS. Laptops are rented. Johnson will email spec requirements.

Tours – Chair Cathy Dirden

Silent Auction/Donations – Rob Roy volunteered as Chair. Chair collects cash, manages volunteers. Chapters solicit; National assists. Spreadsheets work best for donor contact info, donations. Need 25-40 organizational partners, businesses. Recruit locally; other Chapters can participate, RCDs, ski passes, etc. CA-NV can sponsor reception or refreshment break. Esgate will take on entertainment and will use a TSP list for sponsorships. Johnson will send info out re soliciting sponsors.

Fundraising/Sponsorships – Need someone to help Meredith open doors in area for sponsors/exhibitors.

Media Outreach e.g. Ducks Unlimited – Kabir volunteered as Chair

Volunteer Recruiting – Chair Wendy Rash was unavailable.

Fellows Forum – The group volunteered Mark Steffek as Chair

Networking – Social Night – Chair should be a Reno resident. An off-site location with an environmental interest or can have Casino night at the Peppermill.

Johnson has a couple contacts at ARS and UNR.

Next deadline **January 1<sup>st</sup>** for Bird-Fellows, Social Night, and Tours; descriptions of each are required.

## **VIII. Committee reports**

Scholarship – Vander Hoek sent schools scholarship announcement reminders. She suggested a Raffle during the Conference for Scholarships. Johnson cautioned checking the rules/laws in Nevada; every state has different rules.

Annual Work Plan – Horvath will confer with Andrea and email out a draft for Council review.

**Unfinished business** - None reported.

**New business** - None reported.

**IX. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
s/Cathy Dirden, Secretary

s/Tibor Horvath, President

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SWCS Annual Conference Dates to Remember

July 21 – 24, 2013    Reno, Nevada

July 27 – 30, 2014    Chicago, Illinois