



California-Nevada Chapter SWCS

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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING November 20, 2009

A meeting of the Executive Council of the California-Nevada Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society was called to order by President Erik Beardsley at 9:15 a.m. on Friday, 20, 2009, at the Resort at Squaw Creek, Olympic Valley (Squaw Valley), CA. The Fall Planning Meeting was being held in conjunction with the CARCD Annual Conference. The following Executive Council Members attended the meeting: Lisa Hokholt, Past President; Pat Grover, Interim Secretary; and Bill Daily, Michael Hogan, and Dan Martynn, Council Directors. Unable to participate were President-Elect Andrea Casey, Treasurer Tom Esgate, Council Directors Ladi Asgill, Eric Berntsen, and Tina Vander Hoek, and Secretary-Appointee of the Chapter Rebecca Hale. The position of Student Representative is vacant as this time. A quorum was present. Also participating was Mark Steffek, Financial Oversight Chair. A director of one of the Resource Conservation Districts, who was attending the CARCD Conference, also sat-in on part of the meeting while the 2010 POW was being developed.

It was moved by Martynn, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2009, Executive Council teleconference/meeting as distributed.

As Treasurer Esgate was absent, there was no treasurer's report. However, Esgate had advised President Beardsley there had been no activity since the October 23rd meeting. Therefore, the checkbook balance as of November 20, 2009, remains at **\$10, 018.85**, and the balance of all Chapter funds, is **\$28,588.32**. In addition, the current value of unsold logo clothing is \$730 plus a \$71.72 credit for future clothing purchases.

Regarding correspondence, Beardsley reported on the following items received:

Additional emails from Wenchong Weng seeking help regarding a visiting request to SWCS's CA Chapter on behalf of a Chinese soil and water conservation delegation. This matter will be taken up under the proper order of business.

There were no reports by the following Committee Chairs:

- Annual Conference – Andrea Casey, Chair
- Awards – Ladi Asgill, Chair
- Bylaws – Mike Simmons, Chair
- Financial Oversight – Mark Steffek, Chair
- Leadership Development – Dave Rose, Chair
- Membership – Dan Martynn, Chair
- Newsletter – Wendy Rash, Editor, and Walt Bunter, Publisher
- Nominations – Lisa Hokholt, Chair

- Policy – Ladi Asgill, Chair
- Scholarship – Tina Vander Hoek, Chair
- Student Chapters – Vacant

However, reports were given during the meeting for the following Committees:

- Communications – Bill Daily, Chair

Daily reported he had sent letters to Lesley Gianetti, Port Sonoma Associates, LLC; and Deborah Blanton of Hampton, Virginia, as noted in the October 23rd minutes, but had not received any responses. He also said he will meet with Walt Bunter regarding the Chapter's web site.

- Scholarship –

Daily reported he had provided scholarship applications to the University of Nevada, Reno.

Unfinished Business items discussed and/or transacted during the meeting were as follows:

- Chinese Delegation Request –

The delegates are wondering if the Chapter would like to receive them and share experiences concerning: 1. Current situation of soil and water loss in California and the corresponding solutions; 2. Impact of soil and water loss to economic development; 3. Role government agencies play in soil and water conservation. The main purpose of the 13-member delegation is to gain a better understanding of soil and water conservation in the United States.

Their visit is now proposed for December 9th, 10th, or 11th (2009) in Davis with a two-hour meeting at the NRCS State Office. NRCS State Resource Conservationist Diane Holcomb and Public Affairs Director Anita Brown are willing to participate and possibly Mike Singer from UCD. Hogan is available on the 11th and will contact Singer about having a meeting on the UCD campus. Another alternative, which was suggested by Hokholt, is a four-hour Delta tour by bus. Beardsley will email Weng with these suggestions.

- Fall Technical Meetings –

In lieu of one Fall technical meeting, Beardsley has suggested promoting several short sessions in different areas of the state which would not only be educational, but give members an opportunity for networking at a minimal amount of expense. To date, only one such meeting has been scheduled, which is a guided tour of Hydrogen Fuel Cell and Gasification Systems at the Schatz Energy Research Center on the Humboldt State University Campus in Arcata on Thursday, October 29, 2009, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Although there is no fee to attend the tour and no registration form is required, only two members have indicated they are planning to attend – Casey and Dave Rose.

Newsletter Editor Wendy Rash has suggested to President Beardsley that Executive Council Members without other assignments be responsible for planning technical workshops.

The following future workshops were suggested by Council members present:

- Daily and Hogan – Tahoe Tour, Spring 2010;
- Martynn – Quincy Area, Spring 2011;

Hokholt – NRCS Plant Materials Center (Lockeford)/Delta Tour (no proposed date).

Although Esgate was unable to attend the meeting, he had requested at the October 23rd meeting that possibly co-sponsoring a mid-June field tour in the Susanville area be included in the POW. However, no information has been received by the Executive Council for its consideration.

The following items of Unfinished and New Business from previous meetings were not addressed during this meeting:

➤ Annual Conference Planning Guidelines –

President Beardsley has appointed Casey as chair of an ad hoc committee to meet and develop, using Survey results, a framework of Annual Conference Planning Guidelines with Rose and Beardsley as members of the committee. Discussion and/or action on this item had been tabled at a previous meeting.

➤ Reno Request to Bid on SWCS Annual Meeting –

At the request of President Beardsley, Daily has contacted the parent society regarding hosting the SWCS Annual Conference. According to Dwayne Johnson, SWCS Professional Development Director, the conference site is booked for the next three years, with 2013 the next open date. If the Chapter is interested, it will be added to the list, which currently includes five chapters. According to Daily, the financial liability of the chapter hosting the conference has been reduced from the past, but the big issue, particularly if held in Reno, would be recruiting the 30-50 volunteers needed. Grover pointed out that interest in hosting a conference was indicated at a previous meeting and, if it is determined that Reno is not feasible, another city in California could be considered. More information regarding selection of a conference site can be found on the SWCS web site, under the “conference” link. It was moved by Daily, seconded, and passed to consider submitting an interest to host an SWCS Annual Conference at the Planning Meeting on November 20th.

New Business discussed and/or transacted during the meeting was as follows

➤ 2010 Plan of Work

Following a review of the 2009 Plan of Work (POW), a draft of the 2010 POW was developed (copy attached), which will be submitted to the Executive Council for adoption at its next meeting.

A date for the next regular meeting of the Executive Council and Committee Chairs was not selected at this time. Any member with an item of New Business to be included on the agenda of the meeting, when it is scheduled, is requested to submit it to the Chapter President prior to the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

s/PATRICIA GROVER, INTERIM SECRETARY

s/ERIK BEARDSLEY, PRESIDENT