



# California-Nevada Chapter SWCS

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## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE/MEETING May 14, 2010

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 Erik Beardsley at 10:05 a.m. on Friday, May 14, 2010. The following Executive Council Members were present for the first Roll Call: President, Erik Beardsley; Secretary, Rebecca Hale; Treasurer, Tom Esgate; Director Tina Vander Hoek, President-Elect Andrea Casey. Also participating was Parliamentarian Pat Grover. Past President Lisa Hockholt joined the call at approximately 10:40, thereby making a quorum. Unable to participate were Directors Ladi Asgill, Eric Berntsen, Bill Daily, Michael Hogan, Phil Hogan, Dan Martynn; Financial Oversight Chair, Mark Steffek, Michael Simmons, Western Region Director SWCS Don Wysocki, Wendy Rash, and Newsletter Publisher, Walt Bunter. The position of Student Representative is vacant as this time. A quorum was present for the last forty minutes of the call. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20AM.

It was moved by Tom Esgate, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2010, Executive Council Planning meeting as distributed and corrected.

Treasurer Esgate emailed the Treasurer's Report on May 13th. Only change /edit to the Financial Statement will be a check for less than \$10.00, relating to the State Board of Equalization. All deposits were made with exception of a \$100.00 cash conference sponsorship donation from Big Valley Seed Company which Esgate will take care of soon. It was moved by Casey, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

Committee reports made during the meeting were as follows:

➤ Annual Conference – Andrea Casey, Chair

Andrea is working with Tom Esgate on this. To Do:

Put notice in California bulletin to NRCS about conference as soon as possible.

Please have nametags ready, pre-typed and some blanks.

Get paperwork ready for conference folders. Separate folders needed for  
SWCS CA/NV Chapter Executive Council Business Meeting 7AM - 8AM June 25th

SWCS CA/NV Chapter Business Meeting 8-10AM June 24th

CSSRI Conference Folder inserts - insert Membership Form for our SWCS Chapter

Some help still needed at Registration Table.

Walt and Wendy please distribute the Sponsorship Form (attached as .PDF).

Tom will let the hotel know we will be having a breakfast meeting June 25th.

Tina is in charge of the Silent Auction and Raffle. Tom will make sure paperwork is prepared.

➤ Awards – Ladi Asgill, Chair

No report.

➤ Scholarship – Tina Vander Hoek, Chair

Vander Hoek reports that the scholarship winner Ariana Gerhrig contacted her. Gerhrig thinks she will be able to attend the conference, and appreciates offer of stipend for expenses.

➤ Communications – Bill Daily, Chair

No report.

➤ Financial Oversight – Mark Steffek, Chair

No report.

➤ Membership – Dan Martynn, Chair

No report.

➤ Nominations – Lisa Hokholt, Chair

➤ No report.

➤ Newsletter - Walt Bunter and Wendy Rash

➤ No report. Reminder: May 20 deadline for photos and articles; Esgate will write something about the Conference.

➤ Policy – Ladi Asgill, Chair No report.

➤ Student Chapters – Vacant

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

➤ Bank Accounts - The CD was moved to Checking. Esgate will wait to move the checking account until the new President is installed and have the Signature Card for the next account ready at that time.

➤ Annual Conference, Training and Business Meeting – Gayle Norman of USDA / NRCS will be speaking at the conference. There was about half and hour of discussion regarding suggested "Topics for Remarks":

➤ Public-Private collaboration can help facilitate optimal land-use and remediation, please talk further about how best to connect with Federal Agencies such as Forest Service and BLM. Please help us identify the barriers that keep us all from "getting to the next level" in working together more effectively, on a landscape-scale. Discuss policies relating to allotments and easements.

➤ What are some opportunities and challenges regarding burning cellulose for power? ('Cellulosic ethanol is a biofuel produced from wood, grasses, or the non-edible parts of plants.') Loads sometimes transport over ninety miles from site to power plant. Discuss transportation as it relates to energy and food. Examples of long-term "sustainable" business models?

- Discuss recent USDA Sage-Grouse Initiative regarding intersection of biomass remediation, habitat restoration and community stakeholders. Declining quality of the watershed as a whole is a concern as well as invasive species and changing habitats.
- Sustainable cross-boundary treatments and projects working on a landscape scale. Can she recommend more technical solutions and partners?
- Beardsley will contact Norman this week.
- The Pit Resource Conservation District (Pit RCD) <http://www.pitriverralliance.net/pitrcd/> is not requesting any split from the proceeds of this Conference. Grover notes this is contrary to the existing Policy of dividing any proceeds with partners. Beardsley says the Executive Council will address how to direct the proceeds after the Conference.

The following New Business was brought before the Executive Council at this meeting:

➤ Chapter Report -

Beardsley completed and filed the Chapter Report.

➤ SWCS National Annual Conference –

Our Chapter will send a delegate to the upcoming conference in July. Regular procedure is to ask the incoming President Elect to attend. Register by June 2nd for best rates. It was moved by Casey, seconded and approved to ask the President to appoint an attendee if Daily is unable to attend.

The next regular meeting of the Executive Council, with Committee Chairs and interested members encouraged to participate, will be a teleconference/meeting at **10 a.m. on Friday, June 11, 2010**. 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.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

s/REBECCA HALE, SECRETARY

s/ERIK BEARDSLEY, PRESIDENT