

**South Dakota Chapter
Soil & Water Conservation Society
October 3rd, 2017 Annual Meeting
Wall Community Center, Wall, SD**

Present: President-Carrie Werkmeister-Karki, Secretary-Valeree DeVine (via phone), Central Director- Andy Oxford, Members-Tammy Sommer, Matti Kuykendall, and Arlene Brandt-Jenson (via phone).

Carrie called the meeting to order at 3:34pm, with 4 members present in person and 2 via phone.

The agenda was reviewed and the date was corrected from 2018 to 2017.

Minutes from the April 28th, 2017 Board Meeting were reviewed and Arlene moved to approve them, Andy seconded. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was emailed out by Doug Vik. There were questions about long term capital gains that should be clarified at a later date. The 2017 budget was assumed to have been approved at the last board meeting. Val moved to approve the treasurer's report and Tammy seconded. Motion carried. The 2018 budget should be approved at the next meeting.

Division Reports:

West - Sandra Huber- Absent, no report.

Northeast - Matt Hubers- Absent, no report.

Southeast – Jason Gilb- Absent, no report.

Central - Andy Oxford- There will be no Water Festival in Pierre this year. Instead he is working with the Discovery Center on a soil investigation class with 4th graders, and will be trying to sell soil painting kits to teachers from this. It would be helpful to have a day where SWCS members get together to make a stockpile of soil painting kits so they are ready for sale when a big order comes in. Maybe Craig Veldkamp can provide insight on how he grinds all the soil for the PSSASD texture kits.

Committees:

Activities – No chair, no report.

Fund Raising - No chair, no report.

Annual Conference– No chair, no report.

Conservation Ed/Ad hoc – Jason Gilb – Absent, no report.

History – Penny Galinat– Absent, no report.

Membership – Heidi Reints– Absent, no report.

Memorials – Doug Vik– Absent, no report.

Newsletter – Yvonne Haefner– Absent, no report.

Nominations – Judi Schulz– Absent, no report.

Publicity – Tom Schumacher– Absent, no report. Website needs updated.

Awards – Tammy Sommer – Nothing to report.

Long Range – Tammy Sommer– Nothing to report.

Scholarships – Arlene Brandt-Jensen- This year's recipients are Alec Weber and Jordanne Howe of SDSU. A summary of the scholarship committee's accomplishments was dispersed.

Arlene and Val suggested re-vamping and re-focusing the committees since we are lacking many chairs and participation. Perhaps a re-write of the Bylaws is required to remove the divisions and scale-down on committees.

Old Business:

National Conference: Carrie Werkmeister attended the National Conference in Madison, WI on July 30-Wed 2, 2017. The theme was: Conservation Connection: Creating Pathways to Sustainability.

SWCS banners - Andy- We can loan these from National to use at events like the water festival, AgFest, etc. We will hold off on purchasing our own until we know the direction of the club.

Envirothon - Andy- They are still working to increase the number of teams and get conservation districts to sponsor team travel. The next contest will be April 30th and May 1st, 2018 in Sioux Falls. The 2019 competition will be in Rapid City. They can always use volunteers during the competition as well as mentors to the teams.

Soil Paint Kits – Andy- Andy will update shipping charges and change the mailing address on the order form. The website will need updated to reflect these changes.

South Dakota Discovery Center Water Festival Donation – Andy- Can we get credit somehow for our donation, as in advertisement? There are other water festivals in the state, should we donate to all of them? Maybe they are all connected and we can donate to the overall organization. If not, the consensus was that we don't want to donate to only one of them. Andy will report back next meeting.

Seed Fundraiser - Carrie- Millborn Seed sells a Garden Blend Cover Crop, \$75 for 40-50lb bag. We can sell a pollinator mix in the spring and a garden cover crop mix in the fall. We should pick up seed in February in time for spring pollinator planting. How should we advertise/market or seed?

New Business:

National Conference will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico July 29 – August 1st, 2018. Carrie will ask if Lynsee is available to attend as she is President-elect. NRCS paid for registration last year.

Annual Conference – We need to hold in conjunction with another group if our attendance continues to be dismal. The timing of the PSSASD meeting in the spring was undesirable. ND SWCS doesn't plan their meetings far enough in advance. SRM allowed us to be with them this year. Perhaps we can take advantage of NRCS planning requirements and offer more technical training and ideas for producer alternatives in order to encourage attendance? We could meet in a central location from 10am to 3pm for a one-day technical training/meeting.

Officers- Tammy moved and Andy seconded for Matti Kuykendall to assume the role of secretary. Carrie moved for Lynsee to be President-elect, Tammy seconded. Motions carried unanimously.

Next Meeting: Sometime in November, 2017

- Approve the 2018 Budget
- **Discuss the future of our chapter.** Review By-laws. See if ND would even be interested in us joining them.
- Purchasing SWCS Banners -Andy
- Follow up on updates to soil painting kit -Andy
- Water festival donation –Andy
- Seed Fundraiser -Carrie

Carrie moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:46pm. Matti seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Matti Kuykendall
Secretary