

**South Dakota Chapter
Soil & Water Conservation Society
Annual Meeting-Chamberlain
Oct 3-4, 2013**

Present: President-Kirt Peterson, Secretary-Val DeVine, Central Director-Andy Oxford, NE Director-Judi Schultz, Treasurer-Doug Vik, Awards Chair-Tammy Sommer, Cons Ed Chair-Jason Gilb, Newsletter Chair-Yvonne Haefner, History Chair-Penny, Member-Merissa Dominguez

The meeting was called to order by Kirt Peterson.

Agenda was reviewed and approved. Moved by Valeree D. and seconded by Judi S. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's report was emailed out and last year's annual meeting minutes were read. Yvonne H. moved to approve minutes and Penny G. seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's report- Doug Vik gave report. Stated dues are paid in 1 lump sum at beginning of the year. There should be about \$22 more added into the teleconference costs from last month's meeting. Judi moved to approve the treasurer's report and Andy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Directors' Reports:

NE-plans to volunteer for the Environthon next year in Webster.

Central-completed about 50 earth bracelets at Pierre Water Festival with Yvonne.

Committees:

Awards-Tammy S. nominated Valeree DeVine for commendation award at the International meeting in Reno, which she was awarded.

Conservation Education-Jason G. explained his involvement in helping Bob Scouts achieve merit badges for Plant Science, Soil & Water Conservation, & Geology this spring for ages 12-17. The chapter also is involved in donating to the Bald Eagle Awareness. Val D developed Earth Bracelets for 220 kids at the Aberdeen Water Festival.

History-Provide Penny with any documents with historical value.

Website-Penny inquired about having an archived section for newsletters and minutes on the website. Penny will email Tom Schumacher to see if it would be possible to add an archive section.

Annual Meeting-2013 meeting has been a success thus far. Yvonne thought the registration and auction process should go back to electronic records.

New Business:

2014 Annual Meeting-rotation is scheduled for the NE. Aberdeen location was suggested. Interested in joining up with SRM &/or ND SWCS. Judi will contact Richard Webb from ND to see who is organizing their meeting for next year. Suggested speaker is Brad Tennant from Presentation. Excellent speaker on why Aberdeen was built on a swamp and Lewis & Clark.

Nominations-Tamri Israel has declined the position of Pres-Elect. The West & SE Director positions should be expiring this year. Jeff Stewart and Sandy Huber are willing to run for the 2 expiring director positions. Steve is wanting further suggestions for the Pres-Elect position.

Soil Painting Kits-suggested adding a fact sheet card to the kit for additional educational information. Need to put more kits together. Considered putting some together after the meeting, but ran out of time. Need to consider the costs of labor, plastic bags, acrylic, and containers to hold the acrylic. Val D. moved to increase the kit cost to \$15, \$5 for the acrylic, and \$10 for the shipping & handling. Penny seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Andy will talk to Colette about updating the kit order sheet posted on the web.

Environthon-Andy read a letter from Ann Lewis with the Environthon. They are looking for \$500 donations to put study kits together for each participating team and volunteers to help at next year's contest. It will be held at NESoDak April 24-25. It was noted the chapter used to donate \$1000 to NESoDak. Yvonne moved to donate \$500 to the Environthon. Judi S. seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SWCS Grazing Lands Coalition-Rod Baumberger stopped in at the meeting to mention he is currently the SWCS Grazing Lands Coalition committee member, which recently held a meeting in Wichita, KS.

National Bylaws Changes-webinar currently on swcs.org explaining the bylaws for national board members. Cost concerns have been raised for travel expenses so proposing to reduce the number of board members. Regions will be realigned. 30 years ago membership was 10,000 and now it's less than 5,000. Penny noted nationals highlighted the book of *Race for Relevance* inspired the organization to keep relevant.

<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
9 elected	6 elected
1 student	0 student
3 at-large	4 at-large-not elected, but asked to be on the board with the focus on corporations

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Val DeVine
Secretary