

**South Dakota Chapter  
Soil & Water Conservation Society  
Annual Meeting-Kelly Inn  
Bismarck, ND  
Oct 11-12, 2012**

**Present:** President-Steve Auch, Secretary-Val DeVine, West Director-Sandy Huber, Central Director-Penny Galinat, Treasurer-Doug Vik, Membership Chair- Heidi Rients, Newsletter Chair-Yvonne Haefner, members-Andy Oxford, Tom Martin

The meeting was called to order by Steve Auch.

Bob Bird, Northern Plains Committee Member, presented information on National awards. Nationals doesn't get as many awards as they'd like. Suggested starting with the Commendation award as every state can get 1 if the individual qualifies. Bob thanked Tammy Sommer for her submission for SD. Merit award recognizes groups for doing conservation work. Recent award winners include the Research Lab at Mandan and the Living Snow Fence Initiative. Feb 12 is the deadline.

Anita Nein-doesn't plan to run for the 3-year term of Northern Plains Director. If anyone is interested you can send a nomination to Wendall Hastle. Deadline is Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>. Northern Plains meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 10 in Wyoming. Encouraged members to continue to do outreach to schools, other societies, etc. Webinar for new Chapter Leaders is scheduled for Oct 25 at 12pm CST. Dues are increasing to \$90 annually. In the long run, SWCS may be calling members to see if you are interested in gift giving.

Secretary's report was read from last year's annual meeting. Minutes were corrected to reflect 84 students at the Water Festival rather than 64. Motion to approve the corrected minutes made by Penny, seconded by Heidi. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report- Doug Vik presented treasurer's report. Checking contains \$5,345, Money Market account contains \$13,826.27 (scholarship fund), Savings contains 642.52, and M Fund Investment contains \$19,768.10. Doug will follow-up to make sure he gets on annual list to be contacted about Bald Eagle Awareness. Legislative Social-no one contacted-usually \$40/both. Brenda Forman would be best contact and Collette should have contact info. Tom Martin motioned and Yvonne seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ft Worth International Mtg-Congrats to Yvonne who was a recipient of the Commendation award. Cheryl Reese, Tom Schumacher, Yvonne, and Penny attended. Next year will be in Reno, NV in July 2013.

Annual Meeting-Everyone agreed this meeting was a success. With more people in attendance, we bring more ideas and discussion. 2013 meeting was discussed. Possible options may be coordinating meeting with Wildlife Federation meeting or bringing a joint meeting to Aberdeen with ND organizations and any SD organizations. The last one in Aberdeen (2005?) was very successful. Everyone in attendance was in favor of the Aberdeen location. Was mentioned to ND chapter in Bismarck and they said they would consider it.

Ag Day-250 people made Earth Bracelets; Water Festivals: Pierre-100 & Aberdeen-180 Earth Bracelets made.

Activities and Fundraising Committees are open.

Membership-about 6 new members. Heidi said she visited with Jeff Zimprich and he stressed the importance of active membership. He would like to do a joint brochure with SRM on the objectives, how to join, what can get out of membership, and benefits of joining. Concerns voiced that our student chapter has no members registered. Suggested having a member from Brookings (Val Dupraz, Michelle Burke, Cheryl Reese) visit with the Agronomy club about also joining the SWCS student chapter.

2012 Scholarship Winners-Courtney Moore from Isanti, MN attending Augustana for Biology and Chemistry and Thomas Erickson from Aberdeen, SD attending SDSU for Agronomy.

Summer Tour-was very successful. Would like to continue and increase attendance.

**New Business:**

Nominations--President-Elect, NE and Central Director nominees are due in November. Suggested Tom Schumacher, Arlene Brandt-Jenson, Tamri Israel for Pres-Elect and Andy Oxford for Central Director and need to see if Judy Schultz is willing to run again for NE Director.

Next Meeting is tentatively scheduled via teleconference for 10am CST on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned by Penny and seconded by Doug. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Val DeVine  
Secretary