

2004 NSCSS Annual Business Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2004

San Diego, California

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by President Bob Kendall.

Old Business.

II. Minutes were approved as summarized by Secretary Phil Small. MSC (Van Eck/Ralston)

III. Treasurer's Report. Pierre Bordenave reported that NSCSS is in very good financial shape.

A.	Current Assets: Checking:	\$7,862.72
	Savings:	\$10,199.96
	CD#1:	\$10,000.00
	CD #2:	\$10,000.00
	Scholarship:	\$4,213.28
	Total:	\$42,265.96

B. Budget Report: Pierre Bordenave reported that the Proposed Budget for 2003 had been \$22,400.00; however, the actual 2003 budget came in at \$16,131.34. This was because some items cost less than expected, and some ended up falling into the 2004 billables.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented MSC (van Eck/Owens)

C. Liability Insurance Program Report. Pierre Bordenave reported that the program is currently available and working well. Discussion.

IV. Chapter Reports. Bob Kendall reported that the Board of Directors had received an update from the Carolinas Chapter. They had held their first meeting to organize as a chapter under the NSCSS Bylaws.

V. Bob Kendall reported that the Consortium of Soil Science Societies of the United States is working to unify the voices of all of the soil scientists in 50 states, and are currently soliciting feedback to understand how they can serve the members better.

VI. ARCPACS – SSSA Update. Bob Kendall invited Mike Singer, past president of SSSA to provide an update. Mike Singer reported that ARCPACS has been dismantled for all practical purposes, but clarified that there would remain a "shell" entitled "ARCPACS" but the SSSA will, in the future, administer the CPSS certification, and other certifications will fall under the domain of another of the Tri-Societies auspices. Discussion. Mike Singer encourage professional societies to partner with the university folks to offer input into the process. Mike Singer pointed out that soil scientists in the public sector and in the academic sector were all decreasing, and so he felt that there would be many opportunities for the consulting soil scientists to "take up the slack."

VII. Registry Discussion. Bob Kendall reported that as the Board of Examiners worked to update the

registry application process, it had been proposed to only allow examinations from other states that equivocated to the CPSS certification exam as developed by the Council of Soil Science Examiners operating under the umbrella of SSSA.

- VIII. Thank you's. Bob Kendall concluded his term as NSCSS President and thanked all of the members of the Board of Directors, Phil Small as Secretary, Pierre Bordenave as Treasurer, John Dickey as Past President, and Tom Flack who served as President-elect and took a big responsibility in organizing the wonderful meeting in San Diego. Thanked Executive Secretary. Thanked Mike Singer, Past President of SSSA for taking the time to attend the meeting and share his thoughts and remarks. He also thanked members of the Board of Examiners, thanked those who attended and participating in the meeting, and passed the gavel to incoming president Tom Flack.

New Business.

- IX. President's Priorities for 2004. Tom Flack reported that he and President-elect Phil Scoles had met and discussed long-term plans for the future of NSCSS, they will continue to be further developed over the next year.
- A. Present goals include:
1. Better communication by the society: newsletter, e-mail, website, phone calls.
 2. Increased student contact within universities that have a soils program.
 3. Increased participation in annual meetings.
 4. Outreach to smaller consulting firms. Encourage folks to re-join who might have let membership lapse.
 5. Encourage "new blood" at leadership level of NSCSS.
- X. Election Results. Tom Flack reported election results for the 2004 positions.
- A. South Central Regional Director. With nobody in attendance from Regiona, ballot will be mailed out and the position will remain vacant until the results have been tallied.
 - B. Northeast Regional Director: Laurel Mueller (2-year term)
 - C. Northwest Regional Director: Phil Scoles (2-year term)
 - D. Director-at-Large: Larry Baldwin (3-year term)
 - E. Director-at-Large: Richard Joslyn (3-year term)
 - F. Secretary: Phil Small (2-year term)
 - G. President-elect: Phil Scoles

- XI. 2005 Annual Meeting. Hawaii! Pierre Bordenave reported that the current agenda begins with a state-side departure on a Friday or Saturday, then 2 days of training workshop (primarily via tour bus), 2 days of travel time to a second island, 2 more days of training workshop; then travel home. Terry Cook and Ken Stevens will assist with local tour guides. Attendees were encouraged to bring family, kids, spouses; it will be planned to be “family friendly.” It will be scheduled so that if folks can only attend half of the session it will work okay, either half would be able to “stand alone.” The meeting will be held the last week of January or the first week of February, 2005.

Potential highlights and costs: \$450-\$550 R/T air from west coast (estimated), and each participant will make their own reservations. Possibly gather at Volcano House on the island of Hawaii. Possibly have some training at University of Hawaii, considered Hilo side tour, visiting tropical rain forests, and where tropical wave damaged a large area. Possibly overnight in Kona Kahlua to continue the Monday/Tuesday “training workshop.” Wednesday and Thursday open for travel/family time; arrive new island Thursday (Kauai or Maui), visit wettest and driest spots on earth, continue training workshop tour on Friday. Expenses for tour busses, most meals, and lodging during the four training workshop days would be approximately \$700.00. Comprehensive meeting costs are currently estimated at \$1150.00, which would include most housing and meals, but does not include the two interim days of travel time that individuals would be responsible for on their own. Members should plan on making a commitment by the end of August. Discussion. Most attending the meeting raised their hands as intending to attend the 2005 meeting in Hawaii.

- XII. Open Forum.
- A. Tom Flack announced field tour departure time and other arrangements.
 - B. Tom Flack thanked Pierre Bordenave for assistance with AV arrangements and set-up.
 - C. Terry Cook reported that he continues as associate editor of the SSSA “Soil Survey Horizons.” The publication is presently at the “break-even” point for subscriptions. Everyone is encouraged to write articles for this publication, and articles may be submitted to Terry Cook. It is a good medium for consultants to let others know what they are doing. He also encouraged folks to subscribe to this publication.
- XIII. Meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m. MSC (Ralston/Fincham)