

**NSCSS Board of Directors Meeting**  
February 7, 2002      5:30 – 7:21 p.m.  
*Phoenix, Arizona*

In attendance: Laurel Mueller (Northeast RD), Donn Smith (Director at Large), Rick Joslyn (Director at Large), Bob Kendall (Southwest RD), Pierre Bordenave (Northwest RD), Sid Davis (Director at Large), Tom Flack (Southwest RD), Ron McNeil (Director at Large), Phil Small (Secretary), Cliff Landers (President), Mary Reed, Executive Secretary

Absent: Barry Dutton (Director at Large)

Vacant: South Central RD, North Central RD, 1 Director at Large Position

- **Board of Examiners Discussion/Update**

Two new members are needed for the Board of Examiners. David Lietzke has asked to be relieved from the Board. Don Owens has been on the Board for 4 years. Jim Thayer is deceased. There is a need to review the examination process. The membership will be asked at the next day's meeting to discuss their evaluation of the RPSS certification process, and the value of the stamp/certification to them in their businesses. It was mentioned that ARCPACS also has a certification process. Proposed contacting the Board of Examiners, and asking them to propose new changes based upon the discussions at the meeting. Additional discussion included an emphasis on ethics, limiting liability to NSCSS. Consensus amongst the Board of Directors was that it continues to be a somewhat valuable tool for those who are RPSS certified.

- **Policy and Procedures**

A new policy was forwarded by NSCSS Secretary P. Small and recommended by the Executive Committee: If nominations and elections are not conducted as stipulated in the Bylaws, nominations and elections are conducted by a floor vote of the qualified members in attendance at the annual meeting. Discussion. It was motioned to accept the policy as written. (M/S/C Bordenave/Mueller) Discussion regarding the existing Policy & Procedure's manuals. L. Mueller has several other policies that were set up when she was President, she will research to see if she can locate these.

- **Upcoming Elections**

Two regional directors will be voted on at the meeting, P. Scoles is the candidate for the Northwest Region, and L. Mueller is the candidate for the Northeast Region, the ballot will be distributed at tomorrow's annual meeting. There are three candidates for two open Directors At Large positions.

- **Annual Meetings**

Discussion regarding the historical process of planning meetings. Review of previous annual meetings. The board is resolved to basically continue having our own meetings. (Not in conjunction with any other groups' meetings.) Location discussion. "Alternating coasts" was suggested, and, if held in winter, then meetings should be in the south. L. Mueller encouraged connecting with the state soil scientists organization in whichever state we meet. C. Landers suggested Texas since they have just recently gotten state licensed and their state organization has over 100 members. B. Kendall suggested Florida or Atlanta. P. Bordenave mentioned that IECA meets in February annually, and will be meeting in Las Vegas next year.

Mueller motioned that we have our next annual meeting in Florida, S. Davis seconded. Discussion. B. Kendall suggested that the motion be tabled, and readdressed at the General Annual Meeting, and then decided by the new board which was scheduled to convene the next day. This was acceptable to L. Mueller.

- **Committee Activities**

Discussion regarding getting committees re-established and refilled. J. Dickey will be responsible for this at the annual business meeting tomorrow.

- **Transition**

B. Kendall indicated he would like to "pass the gavel" since he is assuming responsibility as President-elect of NSCSS, and will be carrying responsibility for planning the annual meeting in 2003. R. McNeil also indicated that he would like to step down from serving on the Board.

- **Bylaws Vote**

Changes were made in the Bylaws, and these changes were circulated via e-mail to the Board of Directors. M. Reed reported the votes had come back "approved" from T. Flack, B. Kendall and B. Dutton. Voice votes received at the meeting included R. McNeil, P. Bordenave, and S. Davis. The NSCSS Bylaws proposals have been adopted according to this combined vote.

- **Treasurer's Report**

P. Bordenave distributed the 2001 Balance Sheet, and Profit & Loss Statement. As per the Balance Sheet, the total assets of NSCSS as of 12/31/01 are at \$28,843.11. He noted that during 2001 expenditures had been significantly reduced. P. Bordenave requested that his books be audited by an independent auditor.

- **Incorporation Status**

Pierre suggested that NSCSS needs to consider re-incorporating as a 501(c)3 instead of the 501(c)6 that we are presently. We have been a non-profit organization incorporated in the state of Alabama, and as such, don't need to file any tax reports if annual income stays below

\$25,000. We are approaching that amount annually, and so need to look at the “next step.” P. Bordenave suggested that NSCSS should consult with a tax attorney to give us an opinion to make sure the organization is functioning legally on a financial basis.

- **Scholarship Activity**

J. Dickey reported that Jim Thayer had established a scholarship endowment at UC Davis. He suggested that NSCSS consider donating some of its scholarship fund to assist in bringing this endowment fund up to the amount needed to make it active.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m. (M/S/C – Flack/Bordenave)

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Reed,  
NSCSS Executive Secretary