

**South Dakota Chapter
Soil & Water Conservation Society
Wednesday August 7th, 2019
Meeting, Via Phone**

Call to Order: Val DeVine called the meeting to order at 11:03am, with 10 members present via phone: Matti Osterman, Andy Oxford, Arlene Brandt-Jenson, Judi Schultz, Jessica Dowler, Carrie Werkmeister-Karki, and John McMaine. Michelle Burke and Jeff Zimprich joined at 11:23am after the conclusion of another meeting.

Agenda: Andy moved to approve the amended agenda, adding discussion on the website and nominations. Carrie seconded. Agenda approved.

Secretary's Report: Judi moved to approve the previous meeting minutes with no corrections. Jessica seconded. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Andy Oxford

- **Report-** Haven't had any income or expenses since May. Andy asked that if there are any expenses from sending delegates to the International SWCS meeting to let him know. Arlene moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Judi seconded. Motion carried.
- **Financial Audit-** The 2017 and 2018 financial audit has been completed by Michelle Burke and Deron Ruesch, it is just awaiting Deron's signature and then it will be final. Just a few minor expenses were not documented since we didn't have a debit card at the time. It is assumed that now we have a debit card it'll be easier to make sure everything has documentation and members won't need to pay with their personal cards and seek reimbursement as often. Matti moved to accept the results of the 2017 and 2018 financial audit findings, Arlene seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- **Membership Recruitment-** Val- Still need the list of new NRCS employees so far this year from Jeff, he said he will send it on by the end of the day to Val. Selections have been made for 18 new soil con positions in the state that we can try to recruit from. We also need a way to reach non-NRCS potential members. John volunteered to send an email to SDSU departments to recruit. Arlene will work with John on a recruitment letter/email he can send out to SDSU folks in related departments.
- **Internship** - Arlene- Jordenne DuCheny is planning to do her volunteer hours through the Aberdeen FO. She is currently in a study abroad trip to Southeast Asia, then will be in touch with DC Jaime Rindels when she returns. She had

already been volunteering at the NRCS office prior to receiving this internship. Val will also stop in to the Aberdeen FO and greet her as President of SD SWCS and encourage membership. Michelle has also talked with Jaime about ideas for how Jordenne can spend some time learning about other natural resource careers. There will be more to report on at next meeting once Jordenne has started her time.

- **SWCS International Meeting** - Val and Judi attended the International SWCS meeting in Pittsburgh July 28-31st sponsored by NRCS. They met NRCS Chief Lohr, attended sessions on CART and other NRCS specific topics, learned about recruitment opportunities and what other states are doing. They found the meeting to be rewarding and a great professional development experience. Next year will be the 75th Anniversary and the meeting will be in Des Moines, IA. Hopefully we can get a large delegation to attend.

New Business:

- **Annual Meeting**- Carrie- Will be in conjunction with AgHorizons December 10-11th in Pierre at the Ramkota Conference Center. We have asked Jeff Zimprich to be the speaker that our organization sponsors, and he has agreed. That will save us expense as we are required to pay for our speakers, and his presentation will count as CEU credits. No registration costs are included as hosts, so the cost is \$85/2 days or \$50/one day per person. We are allowed a booth for our club. Speakers registration fees are covered by the conference. A silent auction has been approved on a table at least, Jeff was going to ask Angela Ehlers (SDACD) about when they are doing their silent auction so we can try to not be conflicting.
- **Nominating Committee**- Arlene- Be thinking of nominations for Vice-President and Secretary for election at the Annual Meeting in December.
- **Website**- Tom Schumacher is meeting with someone next week to look at a new web design that uses wix.com to develop web pages. Hosting the website is free (we currently pay \$25/year) and it would be easier for more than one person to make edits to the site. Our domain name would not need to change. The website development would also be free. Tom will get us a draft ready for reviews and suggestions before switching websites, any ideas for improvements at this time can be emailed to him.

Andy moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:55pm. Judi seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Matti Osterman

Secretary

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 23rd, 11am Central