

Chapter Meeting

SD Chapter of Soil and Water Conservation Society

March 5th, 2020, 11:00 a.m.

Members present: Arlene Brandt-Jenson, Andy Oxford, Yvonne Haefner, Jeanne Hamilton, Maddie Rabenhorst, Rachel Frei, Bill Smith, Val Devine, Chuck Lebeda, Bailey Gullikson, Tyler Tran

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 by Arlene.

There were no minutes to approve from the previous meeting.

There were no additions to the agenda. Rachel moved to approve the agenda, Jeanne seconded, and the motion carried.

Val moved to approve the treasurer's report, Rachel seconded, and the motion carried.

Student Travel Awards were discussed. Sandeep had created an announcement that was approved by the executive committee. Applications are currently being solicited, up to \$1000 in awards, with a March 31st deadline.

Andy and Val have reached out to potential new members with some positive feedback. Rachel has contacted six new NRCS employees and will reach out to additional employees at an upcoming training.

The SD SWCS website has been updated by Tom Schumacher. Arlene and Rachel are managing the new Facebook and Instagram accounts. Rachel is posting a weekly article on the Facebook page. Members are encouraged to garner Likes of the page from friends, family, etc. Photos for Instagram of members can be forwarded for posting. More information on that soon. Arlene has ordered a new table runner and tabletop banner for outreach events from Make It Mine in Mitchell. It should be available for the next planned outreach even on March 19th. National headquarters has provided a number of resources for members to utilize for outreach including brochures, books, children's books, and hats. A quarterly e-newsletter for members is being developed. First issue is projected to be done the first week of April 2020.

Upcoming outreach events include presenting and providing soda and pizza at the SDSU Agronomy & Conservation Club Meeting on March 19th at 7:00 PM. Jeanne and Rachel will provide a presence at the Women's Leadership Development program. On April 16th, SWCS will sponsor a field trip for the Environmental Soil Science Management Class. SWCS will also have a table at the Western Hydrology Conference in Rapid City on April 30th. Finally, SWCS will provide water and snacks on a stop on the last day of the RASDak on June 10th. Donations will be accepted.

The SWCS International Annual Conference registration opens April 1st. The chapter is willing to spend up to \$3000 for members to attend. There will be an announcement sent to members to gauge interest from members.

Arlene and Chuck are going to plan a summer picnic/field day for members. Ideas include visiting Good Roots Farm and Garden, the USDA ARS Lab, Adee Honey Farm, and Blue Dasher Farm in the Brookings area. Timeframe is being planned for early August or September.

The society is spending funds to promote the organization and supporting members. Additions to the budget include cookies for Carrie's meeting, discounting shirts for members, magnetic name badges for members. The budget was approved by Rachel, seconded by Chuck, and the motion passed.

The next meeting is being scheduled for May 5th at 11:00 a.m.

A motion to adjourn at 12:50 by Rachel, seconded by Tyler, and the motion passed.