

## Chapter Meeting

### SD Chapter of Soil and Water Conservation Society

March 23rd, 2021, 11:00 a.m.

Members present Arlene Brandt-Jenson, John McMaine, Andy Oxford, Tom Schumacher, Jeanne Hamilton, Rachel Frei, Chyenna Julius, Derek Zenk, Hannah Grimm, Jeff Zimprich, Tamara Sommer, Thomas Tran, Valeree Devine, Norman Bliss, Elise Reid, Tyler Tran

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 by Arlene.

Tyler motioned to approve agenda as is, and John seconded. Motion passed.

Andy Oxford gave an update on the Treasurer's Report. The report was sent with the Meeting Agenda. Hannah motioned to approve the report, and Rachel seconded. Motion passed.

Arlene proposed restructuring committees including merging achieved committees into active. The Proposed Committees are Executive, Nominations, Internship, Membership, Publicity/Conservation Education, and Activities/Fundraising. Tom suggested Awards can be under Nominations Committee; if someone wants to nominate someone for an award, the committee can consider the nomination. Rachel motioned to accept the Proposed Committees, and Jeanne seconded. Motion passed.

Next, Arlene proposed new Committee Chairs and Members. The Proposed Chairs are Internship: Michelle Burke, Membership: Rachel Frei, Publicity/Conservation Education: Hannah Grimm, Activities/Fundraising: Jeanne Hamilton. New Chairs gave updates on current activities.

Committees will be tasked with updating Committee Descriptions. The Executive Committee will provide a template for new descriptions for the sake of consistency. John believed having each committee write their own descriptions will allow committees to be successful in their goals. Arlene has done some research on what other chapters have for committee descriptions. Our committees will be able to utilize the Society's Zoom account for meetings.

Members gave a small introduction and update.

Erika Crady, the Soil and Water Conservation Society Membership/Chapter Coordinator, joined the meeting. She explained the new survey, and how consulting firm named Delta Think will be consulting the National Office and helping plan the future of SWCS. The survey will be used to make these changes. She also reminded the Chapter on the International Conference and annual reports. Jeff asked for an update on SWCS National Membership. Erika explained recruitment is down, but there are ways to grow, and the consulting firm data will address that soon. Norman asked if there was a plan on joining local groups in recruitment, and how the society is addressing climate change. Arlene answered that we are collaborating with organizations and SWCS has addressed climate change in the journal and news updates. Erika was unsure when the Consulting Firm's findings will be released.

Potential 2021 Activities include RASDAK on June 9<sup>th</sup>, a Summer Field Day, and the Annual Meeting. Arlene, Michelle, and Tyler presented for the SDSU Agronomy Club on March 4, explaining our career paths and playing conservation trivia games. A student membership was given away to Matthew Sperry. During RASDAK, SD SWCS members will highlight Missouri River Watershed issues and solicit donations. Jeanne Hamilton will be taking ideas and suggestions for the Summer Field Day. As for the Annual Meeting, it may not coincide with

SDSU Extension's annual event Managing Soil: Maximizing Profit. This may leave SD SWCS the option to do their own conference or split the conference from the Annual Meeting.

Next, the Proposed Budget was discussed, and members had input. It will be attached with the minutes. Tammy moved to approve, and Jeff seconded. Motion was approved. There may be more opportunities for members to attend the International Conference. Norman offered to assist with Internships if there are more worthy applicants than funds. There is also an opportunity to meet the Montana SWCS Soil Health Tour on 09/15/2021. If interested, contact Jeanne.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. CT.

Jeff moved to adjourn; Andy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Screenshot taken when Erika Crady was on our call

