

IL Chapter of SWCS Board Meeting
May 17, 2007

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 8:05 AM by Rich Stewart. Those attending the teleconference: Rich Stewart, Kent Bohnhoff, Annette Holmes, Mark Kaiser, Harry Hendrickson, Jeff Hyett, John Church, Jim McQuilken, Bob Frazee and Deborah Cavanaugh Grant. In Shannon Allen's absence, Annette took the minutes.

Minutes: Shannon had submitted the Minutes from the February 15 meeting. Mark made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Jeff. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Mark submitted the updated Treasurer's Report. Harry made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Bob seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Additionally, Mark reported that the 15 month CD would be maturing August 3, 2007 and the Board would need to decide whether to rollover the CD or to change the amount of the CD if additional funds were needed in the checking account. After discussion, Bob made the motion to rollover the CD with its interest. John seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Awards: No report given

Claude Soil Educational Committee: Bob reported that the Claude Soil CD has been a popular link on the U of I website. At this time there were more than 11,000 hits on the site.

Watershed Park soils display: No report given

Newsletter deadline and article assignment: Rich reported that the newsletter articles were due 5-15-07. Get any articles to Jim Rospopo as soon as possible. Currently, the following articles are going to be submitted: Fall Tour update, Membership and the West North-Central Meeting in Dubuque, IA.

Combined natural resources professional meeting: Kent reported that the committee met and there was a lack of support from some of the groups involved. A November meeting has been called to re-group and the date has been tentatively pushed back to 2009.

CPSEC: In Shannon's absence, Annette reported that Shannon had met with Mike Hirchi. Mike is now an instructor. Shannon will update more at a later meeting.

Chapter Website: Jim was absent. Harry reported that he has been working with Chuck Wheeler, a prospective web designer. Chuck is interested in updating the IL SWCS

website. Harry wanted to know how much money the board would want to approve for website updates. A comment was made to check the accuracy of the website's content. Rich and Harry volunteered to oversee content on the website. After discussion, Mark made a motion to authorize the web designer \$30.00/hour for up to \$600.00 to update the website. Kent seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Membership: Deborah reported that she had recently attended a Strategic Planning 2-day retreat held by the national membership committee. The national SWCS is hiring a consultant to provide more guidance on a plan for membership for SWCS. She informed us that the dues are going to be raised and will be discussed more in detail in Tampa at the National Meeting. Deborah gave updates on membership and discussed ways she has been reaching out to prior members whose membership has lapsed. She will develop a Membership packet and will provide the information to the Section Directors. Rich encouraged all members of SWCS to continue to solicit members.

IL SWCS Chapter Apparel: No report given

New Business:

Partners in Conservation: Harry reported that things were coming together for the Farm Progress Show (FPS) tent. The Partners in Conservation tent is being coordinated by Stacy Stremsterfer, AISWCD. The FPS show dates are August 28-30. Mark reminded us that 2 years ago, National SWCS paid a portion of the booth space. Annette provided additional updates about FPS. Annette reported that from the last Conservation Partner Tent meeting, the final dollar amounts for the booth spaces have not been given out and that there is discussion about taking out an ad space in the July/August copy of the Prairie Farmer. Jeff and Annette will keep track of volunteers needed for FPS. Annette will update Rich with the final number of volunteers for number of tickets/lapel pins needed.

Fall Tour: No report given

West North-Central Meeting: Deborah reported that the speakers are set and the dates for the meeting are October 16-18. October 16-17 would be the actual meeting and October 18 would be leadership training. The meeting is in Dubuque, IA. The IL chapter will set up a display.

Spring Leadership Workshop: Rich informed the group that the workshop was cancelled in Platteville, WI. Rich will follow-up to see when it will be rescheduled.

AISWCD Summer Conference: Rich received a letter inviting the SWCS to have a display space. Prices for the space range from \$75-\$265. The Summer Conference will be in Springfield at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel. The dates are July 29-31. Rich is going to contact Erin Pate to discuss prices for display space.

Student Chapter Report:

Rich and Deborah reported that there are no students attending the National SWCS conference.

Univ. of Illinois: Deborah reported that there are 2 new members and the chapter is becoming more active. The chapter is planning for fundraisers in Fall 2007. She discussed the need of financial support for the student chapters of SWCS. Jim made a motion to give University of Illinois and Southern Illinois University \$250.00 to support the student chapters. Motion was seconded by Kent. Motion passed unanimously.

Southern Illinois University: Rich reported that he made contact with the SIU chapter.

Section Activities Report:

No Section Reports were given.

Planned Upcoming Meetings:

West North Central Meeting: October 16-18

ILICA Show: Kent Bohnhoff reported that the week prior to the Farm Progress Show in August 2007 will be the ILICA show in McLean County. This show will showcase ponds and wetlands.

Harry updated the group that the SWCS Handbook has been updated and all members are to review and let him know of any corrections or comments.

FFA Awards: Harry informed the group that the FFA Awards are coming up in early June. Harry made a motion to purchase a \$100.00 Savings Bond. John seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Biannual Water Conference: October 2-4. SWCS will present the Lt. Governor with an award. For more information about the conference: www.conferences.uiuc.edu/ilriver

Next meeting:

August 16 – Hartzold Farms. Details will come out later.

John made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting ended at 9:31 AM.