

Minutes of 2020 NCWSS Summer Board of Directors Meeting

Date: July 22, 2020

Place: Zoom meeting

Time: 8.30 am to 11.45 am Central Time

Roll Call and Voting Results:

Officer	Name	Roll Call	Motion 1	Motion 2	Motion 3
President	Stott Howard	X	No	Virtual	Yes
President Elect	Harlene Hatterman-Valenti	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Vice President	David Simpson	Absent			
Secretary-Treasurer	Amit Jhala	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Editor-NCWSS Proceedings	Joe Wuerffel	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Editor- Communication/Newsletter	Joe Ikley	X	No	Virtual	Yes
WSSA Representative	Greg Elmore	X	No	Virtual	Yes
CAST Representative	Reid Smeda	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Past President	Aaron Hager	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Executive Secretary	Kelley Mazur	X	Ex-Officio (non-voting members)		
Director of Science Policy	Lee Van Wychen	X			
Strategic Planning	Sarah Lancaster	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Extension	Parminder Chahal	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Industry	Lowell Sandell	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Resident Education	Garrison Gundy	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Graduate Student	Milos Zaric	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Central Region	Mike Weber	X	No	Virtual	Yes
Western Region	Trevor Israel	Absent			
Eastern Region	Erin Haramoto	X	No	Virtual	Yes

President – Stott Howard

Motions:

- **Motion 1:** Do we proceed with the traditional face-to-face annual meeting? Moved: Aaron Hager, Second: Amit Jhala. Unanimous ‘no’ vote.
- **Motion 2:** Do we cancel the annual meeting or hold it as virtual? Moved: Greg Elmore, Second: Amit Jhala. Unanimous ‘virtual’ vote.

Action:

- Discuss with Anita Dille whether the harassment language used in the WSSA ‘code of conduct’ can also be used by the NCWSS (Stott)

President Elect – Harlene Hatterman-Valenti

Action:

- Schedule program committee meeting ASAP to develop ‘architecture’ for virtual annual meeting (Harlene)
- Check with symposia leads to determine whether there are any financial support requirements and discuss with Stott and Amit (Harlene)

Vice-President – David Simpson

Action:

- Request vote on two changes to the NCWSS MOP (see report for more information). To be handled via e-mail (Amit/Stott)

Executive Secretary – Kelley Mazur

Action:

- Renewal of IMI/NCWSS Contract to be voted on via email (Amit)

Secretary/Treasurer – Amit Jhala

Action:

- Organize a meeting with the Finance Committee and Stan to discuss implications of pandemic on investments. Deadline = end August (Amit/Kelley)
- Provide analysis of investments to BOD during December meeting (Amit)
- Contact potential candidates for the WSSA representatives and include in the ballot with the vice president candidates

Motion:

- Request vote of BOD members by e-mail on two changes to the NCWSS MOP suggested by David Simpson
- Request vote of BOD members by e-mail for IMI Contract Renewal

Proceedings Editor – Joe Wuerffel

Action:

- Schedule APEX software training for Joe and Harlene. Key bits to understand = use of server for virtual poster session, setting limits on abstract word count may be up to 300 word to match the limit as in Weed Technology/ Weed Science (Joe)

Communications /Newsletter Editor – Joe Ikley

Action:

- Prior to publishing the Summer Newsletter touch base with Mark Loux, Joe Wuerffel, and Stott Howard regarding hotel considerations (Joe Ikley)

- Active handling of NCWSS Twitter account and develop a series of “Week in a life of weed scientists” to capture short video of NCWSS weed scientists and share on NCWSS Twitter account (Joe Ikley)
- Gather information for 2020 NCWSS virtual meeting and include in Summer Newsletter

WSSA Representative – Greg Elmore

Action:

- Greg’s term will end this year. Nominations committee needs to include replacement candidates on ballot with vote for vice-president (Amit/Stott)
- Explore possibility to organize a joint NCWSS and WSSA meeting in 2025 or beyond (discuss in fall BOD meeting)

Past President – Aaron Hager

- **Motion 3:** Delay deadline for Distinguished Achievement Awards from 30 September to 15 October. Moved: Reid Smeda, Second: Greg Elmore. Motion passed without objection.

Resident Education Committee Report – Garrison Gundy

Actions:

- Develop/adapt judging criteria for student contest in a virtual meeting format (Garrison)
- Determine whether changes in criteria require a vote of the BOD (Stott)

Extension – Parminder Chahal

Action:

- Survey students on video contest regarding opportunity for new students to present their research proposal (Parminder); survey sent to NCWSS members on July 23

Industry – Lowell Sandell

Action:

- Update contacts list for NCWSS Industry Sustaining Membership (Lowell)

NCWSS Committee and Officer Reports

President – Stott Howard

Date of Preparation: July 20, 2020

Officer/committee Activities during the Year:

Kelley Mazur and I provided Program Chair orientation for Harlene Hatterman-Valenti in late March. Topics covered included review of 2019 annual meeting committee reports, organizing symposia and program software.

We held a special election this spring for two society positions.

- Secretary/Treasurer – Amit Jhala. Filling the position vacated by David Simpson after he was elected Vice President.
- Communications Director – Joe Ikley. This was a newly created role for the society that incorporates oversight of newsletter and social media activities.

- Thanks to the Nominations Committee for developing an excellent slate of candidates for the election!

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented our society with significant challenges.

- The summer weed contest scheduled to be hosted by North Dakota State University was postponed until 2021. Corteva delayed their hosting of the summer weed contest until 2022. Thanks to each organization for their flexibility and support!
- The fate of the annual meeting presently scheduled for Minneapolis will be determined during our summer Board of Directors meeting.
 - Several meetings have been held with the 2020 Program Committee to determine whether to proceed with the annual meeting as face-to-face, change the format to virtual or cancel the meeting.
 - To help the board understand the views and opinions of the membership a survey was conducted. Approximately 250 members participated, and the results are attached to these minutes. It was very clear that the 'preference' of the membership is to have a face-to-face meeting, however the health and safety of the membership is the priority for the society and will direct the final decision.
 - Mark Loux has been extremely helpful in coordinating the negotiations with the hotel should the decision be made to not have a face-to-face meeting.
 - Eric Spandl has led the effort to understand the format and considerations for holding the meeting as virtual. He and his team believe that a successful virtual meeting is entirely possible.
 - Amit Jhala has completed a financial analysis that suggests that should the registration numbers for a virtual meeting be consistent with previous years the society could afford a virtual meeting service provider and cover our annual operating costs. The registration fees would be slightly reduced for a virtual compared to a face-to-face meeting.
 - Thanks to all the Board of Directors for helping navigate the challenges to help keep our society as vital!

Motions/Action Items:

- Determine the fate (and format) of the 2020 annual meeting
 - Should the NCWSS adopt a 'Code of Conduct' policy similar to what has been put in place with the WSSA?
 - IMI and NCWSS Contract 2020-2025.
-

President Elect - Harlene Hatterman-Valenti

Date of Preparation:

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- Received 6 Symposia request for the 2020 NCWSS virtual meeting
 - Preparing program for the NCWSS virtual meeting and will arrange a meeting of programs committee in the near future
-

Resident Education Committee Chair – Garrison Gundy

Date of Preparation: July 20, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- Virtual meeting to discuss 2020 NCWSS weeds contest.
- North Dakota State will host in 2021, Corteva will host in 2022.
- Provided input to NCWSS survey sent out regarding COVID-19 situation.

Motions/Action Items:

Need to alter student contest rules/rubrics depending on how 2020 meeting will be carried out.

Proceedings Editor – Joe Wuerffel

Date of Preparation: July 14, 2020

Officer/committee Activities during the Year:

- **Abstract availability** – In 2019 we made abstracts available **PRIOR** to the annual meeting in two ways: Unofficial proceedings and in Guidebook. This made abstracts available prior to the meeting, then final proceedings were published and posted to the website in January once all final edits had been made. Feedback on this process was been positive and I plan to continue in this fashion. I believe access to abstracts prior to the meeting will be increasingly important for a virtual meeting to help promote the meeting and help membership select what talks they will attend.
- **Proposed Abstract submission deadline:** Friday, November 20, 2020
 - Below are the past several abstract submission deadlines... I have no reason to request a change the timing, so the Nov 15th date will fall right in line with previous years.
 - Friday, November 15, 2019
 - Friday, November 16, 2018
 - Friday, November 17, 2017
 - Friday, November 11, 2016
- **Additional Abstract Submission Guidelines**
 - Last year I proposed that we request authors to follow a subset of Weed Science manuscript submission guidelines when submitting abstracts for NCWSS to help catch editing inconsistencies and to provide more guidance. The guidelines were distributed to the membership in the Summer newsletter. No feedback, positive or otherwise was noted from the membership regarding the guidelines so I plan to keep them in place for 2020:
 - Limit abstract length to 500 words.
 - Report all units in SI units (metric).
 - Use exponents to express units of measure, e.g. kg ha⁻¹.
 - Do not include references to literature in the abstract.
 - At first mention for each species, use complete scientific names with abbreviated authority, e.g. henbit (*Lamium amplexicaule* L.)

- For herbicides, other pesticides, and adjuvants avoid trade names when possible and use common names, e.g. glyphosate.
 - **Changes to ways of working in 2020:**
 - Last year there was confusion from a few presenters in symposium and general sessions about abstracts. We will include a note in the call for abstracts that abstracts are not required for symposium and general session presentations and can be submitted at the discretion of the author or symposium organizers.
-

Communication/ Newsletter Editor – Joe Ikley

Date of Preparation: July 15, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- Call for items for Summer Newsletter went out July 6th, with a deadline of August 3rd.
 - Two items received as of July 15th.
 - Kelley sent me the login information for the NCWSS Twitter account, which I plan to make more active.
-

Vice President – David Simpson

Date of Preparation: July 21, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

Proposed Edits to the NCWSS MOP were discussed at February meeting to address the duties of the Communications Editor. Additionally, there were edits suggested to the Executive Secretary duties to align with current responsibilities.

I present the changes to the MOP to the board for a vote of the recommended changes to Section II of the MOP as it pertains to the Executive Secretary.

In item 9. Delete the words Fax number.

Add item 11: Work with the Weed Science Communications Editor to solicit and post content on NCWSS social media platform. (Note that this will change the numbering of following existing duties by one)

The Duties of the Executive Secretary found on pages 9 and 10 will now read as the following
The NCWSS shall contract with the Executive Secretary to:

1. Receive and disburse the monies of the Society in accordance with prescribed policies.
2. Maintain financial records and records of property including back issues of publications.
3. Maintain database of membership, email list services, and other mailing lists.
4. Prepare records for annual audit. Present current statement of financial position at the annual Board of Directors meeting and summer Executive committee meeting.
5. Develop and maintain NCWSS communications through the NCWSS website (www.ncwss.org) and newsletter. The website will be maintained through contracted web services. The content of

newsletter will be provided by the Communications Editor and laid out by the Executive Secretary and submitted for posting.

6. Receive and fill orders for publications.
7. Arrange for storage of current and back issues of publications.
8. Work with the Local Arrangements Committee and develop a budget for the annual meeting.
9. Develop an electronic registration form and online payment format for each meeting listing registration fees, name of registrant, affiliation, mailing address, e-mail address, phone number, and any other item specific to the annual meeting as suggested by the Program Chair or Local Arrangements Committee Chair. A printed registration form will also be prepared and posted on the website for those wanting to pay by check. Prepare name plate badges with holders. Receive money and issue receipts.
10. Maintain list of Fellows and email them the link to the Proceedings when posted.
11. Work with the Weed Science Communications Editor to solicit and post content on NCWSS social media platform.
12. Annually forward copies of the current NCWSS Proceedings to the WSSA Archives at Iowa State University. Annually email the link to the Proceedings to the Sustaining members.
13. File Federal Income Tax return annually for the Society.
14. Retain copy of current NCWSS Proceedings and approved minutes of Board of Directors meetings for permanent file.
15. Work with Finance, Steering and Policy Committee and the Executive Committee to prepare a budget for the year for submission to the Board of Directors for approval.
16. Print materials (including programs and tickets) for the Society.
17. Serve the correspondence needs of Officers and Committee Chairpersons.
18. Mail annual dues renewal to inactive members. Mail issues of the newsletter to only active members without E-mail access.
19. Send the notice of dues renewal to sustaining members each November.
20. Prepare a document containing a list of responsibilities, specific details of activities, and relevant correspondence.

I present the changes to the MOP to the board for a vote of the recommended changes to Section II of the MOP as it pertains to the Communications Editor. The working proposed by the Strategic Committee was edited to align with the current style of the MOP listing of duties. Changes were too numerous to try and show here but can be seen in the MOP document that has track changes enabled. The Duties of the Communications Editor found on pages 11 and 12 will now read as the following:
The **Communications Editor** shall:

1. Have appropriate weed science knowledge to create new content and to review, edit information provided by NCWSS board or members for posting on social media platforms.
2. Provide oversight to publish the NCWSS Newsletter in either print or e-publication three issues annually (Spring-Feb/Mar; Summer-Jun/July; Fall-Sept/Oct). This will consist of soliciting content, seeking board approval for content as needed, and passing content on to the Executive Secretary to be published.
3. Newsletters should be sent to all members along with renewal notices to those who are inactive members in the spring and subsequent issues to only active members.
4. Newsletter content should include, but is not limited to:

- a. Spring: highlight the annual meeting, introduce the new officers and directors, recognize award and contests winners from annual meeting, call for symposia for the next annual meeting, information about the summer weed science contest
 - b. Summer: results of summer weeds contest and a call for papers, contests, and recognitions for the next annual meeting
 - c. Fall: information about the next annual meeting
 - d. Other timely information: position changes or openings, and necrology reports.
5. Report to the Board of Directors on the publication and provide strategic guidance on enhancing NCWSS communications.
 6. Provide oversight of the NCWSS website and serve as the editor for electronic material posted on the NCWSS website.
 7. Prepare documentation containing a list of responsibilities, specific details of activities, and relevant correspondence to be passed on to the successor who fills the position.

Motions/ Action Items:

Edits in the duties of the NCWSS Executive Secretary
 Edits in the duties of the NCWSS Communications Editor

Past President – Aaron Hager

Date of Preparation: July 12, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- I have actively participated in several Board of Director conversations about the disposition of the 2020 meeting in Minneapolis considering the plethora of “unknowns” related to the Covid pandemic.
- My other primary task as Past President is to solicit nominations for our Society’s six Distinguished Achievement Awards (DAA).
- Additionally, I will solicit nominations for the Outstanding Graduate Student award and the Graduate Student Travel awards and pass along the nominations to the DAA Graduate Student subcommittee.
- Information about the DAA, the Outstanding Graduate Student and Graduate Student Travel awards will appear in the summer newsletter and will be shared on social media. The deadline for all nominations is September 30, 2020.

Motions/ Action Items: Deadline to submit package for the 2020 Distinguished Achievement Awards will be Oct 15, 2020

Executive Secretary – Kelley Mazur

Date of Preparation: July 16, 2020

Executive Secretary Report for Summer 2020 Board Meeting:

Finances: The attached reports detail our financial position as well as our financial activities as of June 30, 2020. See separate report from Stan Cooper with RBC for NCWSS investment account. NCWSS has a

net worth of \$423,397.44 which is relatively steady from last year's 423,955.92. See the chart below for Annual Meeting revenue and expenses.

Annual Meeting Income:	2020		2019
Attendee Registration	\$76,879.16		\$81,996.23
Rebate from Hyatt Regency	\$5,470.45		\$3,965.00
Supplemental Support	\$3,283.79		\$3,391.20
OIPN/MIPN	\$1,760.00		\$0
Total:	\$87,393.40	Vs.	\$89,358.43

Annual Meeting Expenses:			
Food & Beverage	\$42,997.17		\$39,801.09
IPN Food & Beverage	\$718.91		\$0
Audio/Visual	\$16,341.07		\$10,533.60
Poster Board Rental	\$3,150.00		\$2,950.00
Program/Printing	\$3,519.90		\$3,997.04
Mobile App	\$2,220.41		\$2,750.00
IPN Audio Visual	\$781.50		\$0
Total:	\$69,728.96	Vs.	\$61,303.85

Meeting Attendee Numbers:

2013	Columbus, OH	375
2014	Minneapolis, MN	401
2015	Indianapolis, IN	402

2016	Des Moines, IA	426
2017	St. Louis, MO	486
2018	Milwaukee, WI	360
2019	Columbus, OH	345

Columbus, OH: Total Attendance 355: 16 Fellows, 106 Students. 223 Regular Members

Milwaukee, WI: Total Attendance 360: 19 Fellows, 103 students, 228 regular registrations

St. Louis, MO: Total Attendance 486: 22 Fellows, 119 students, 345 regular registrations

Membership: Members who renewed their membership but did not attend the meeting in income below:

Member Renewal Only History:

- 2019 - \$870
- 2018 - \$1140
- 2017 - \$3120
- 2016 - \$2400
- 2015 - \$450 (incomplete?)

Other Business Conducted: Below is a list of business conducted since that last Board of Directors Meeting. This list is in rough chronological order.

- Assembled electronic slate for NCWSS Special Election. Setup electronic ballot and announced the election to membership.
 - Pushed reminders to membership to vote via email and twitter.
- Solicit for Spring Newsletter articles. Compile, design and coordinate with leadership. Sent Spring Newsletter on April 16, 2020 and published to the NCWSS website.
- Met with and participated on the 2020 Student Weed Contest Committee.
 - Tracked all contest support funds.
 - Created and sent contest communications to membership and subsequent postponement.
- Coordinated meetings and communications with Hyatt Regency Minneapolis to discuss the postponing or cancellation of the 75th Annual Meeting.
 - Met via Zoom with Hyatt Catering Manager to discuss hygiene and safety practices.
 - Spoke with Tina Nebuloni regarding penalty deadlines and room block. Communicated the requests of the society for her to begin negotiating down the contract.
- Met with Executive Committee and Program Committee to discuss options for the 75th Annual Meeting.
 - Worked with Finance Committee to determine a price for registration to a “virtual conference”
 - Worked with Virtual Platforms Committee to source and review several virtual platforms and their viability for a virtual Annual Meeting.

- Attended over a dozen demonstrations, researched platforms, and attended other virtual conferences in like-industries.
- Penned solicitation letters and invoices for Sustaining Membership with the approval of the Sustaining Membership Chair.
 - Emailed solicitation and invoices to all Sustaining Members who have supported the society in the past two years.
- Performed the day-to-day operations of the society.

Action Requested: Renewal of IMI/NCWSS Contract to be voted on via email

Secretary-Treasurer – Amit Jhala

Date of Preparation: July 20, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- Started new role in May 2020 and participated in most zoom meetings for organizing 2020 NCWSS Virtual meeting; provided registration fee model for the virtual meeting
- Profit-Loss statement from FY 2018-19 is attached

Update of North Central Investment Account:

\$121,581 12-31-19 Year end value

\$112,397 3-31 20 March account value following the market's crash

\$ -9,274 Unrealized loss of 7.62% vs. stock market loss of 33%

\$119,530 7-17-20 Current market value (a 6.43% rebound from March.)

-1.13% Year to date performance (DJIA -5.26% year to date)

Current Asset Allocation:

13.14% Cash (\$15,706)

38.84% Bonds

26.69% Stock

21.33% Hedge

The only change that I would recommend would be to invest the money market cash (yielding .2%!) into a couple of short maturity bond funds that are yielding between 2.90% and 3.57%.

Please let me know if there are further questions.

Sincerely,

Stan Cooper
Senior Vice President-
Financial Advisor
Senior Consulting Group
RBC Wealth Management
5250 N. Palm Ave, Ste 111
Fresno, CA 93704

2020 NCWSS Registration Fee Model for Virtual Meeting

Regular Member: \$300 (last year \$325; Student Member: \$100; Fellow & Honorary member: \$170
If 250 regular members will attend with regular membership, we will generate \$75,000 + 50 students = \$5,000

Revenue Generation:

Total of \$80,000 revenue generation from the registration fees
Industry Sponsorship: \$30,000 (Total \$40,000)
So, a total revenue generation: \$110,000

Expenses:

NCWSS Operating Cost: \$55,000
Cost for Virtual Media Provider: \$60,000
Total expenses: \$115,000
As of May 2020, total balance of NCWSS is \$424,000

WSSA Representative– Greg Elmore

Date of Preparation: July 18, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

2021 WSSA annual meeting discussion –WSSA will send a survey to members for input regarding an in-person versus a virtual meeting with reply requested by the end of July. Not likely to decide until October. **NCWSS** – Shared survey results and annual meeting ideas. **NEWSS** – Member survey results shared with WSSA BOD (sent to Stott Howard). **SWSS** BOD met Monday July 13 to discuss their annual meeting originally planned for late January in Knoxville, TN. **CWSS** – Decided to have a virtual annual meeting which will be November 22-24. Still working on details. In contact with a company that organizes virtual meetings called “Swap Card”. Cost is \$5,000 for the support (video, breakout rooms, load presentations). **APMS** – The annual meeting was supposed to be July 20-22 but was cancelled. Minimal interest in a virtual meeting. No money lost but committed to book a meeting at the same location in 3 years. **WSWS** – The annual meeting is planned for March in Boise, ID. Will not cancel but will either be virtual or a hybrid meeting. They are not in a hurry to decide.

Graduate Student Report and TEE plans – Wykle Greene – Teaching enrichment - call went out for applications. Received 14. Miscommunication that the call for applications went out when not expected to be able to have in-person visits this year. Instructed the committee to choose the top 5 individuals

but the experience will be rolled over to next year. Unfortunately, any top individuals that are seniors will miss out on the visits next year.

IMI Update (B30 Report) – Eric Gustafson – Next WSSA annual meetings are planned as follows:

2021 San Antonio, TX – February 15-19

2022 Vancouver, BC, Canada – February 21 – 24 (Joint meeting with CWSS)

2023 Arlington, VA – January 30 – February 2 (Joint meeting with NEWSS?)

2024 TBD (Joint meeting with SWSS?)

NIFA Fellow Report – Jim Kells –Communicating opportunities for weed scientists, symposium proposal. Webinars on grantsmanship. Creating opportunities for WS. Weed genomics conference proposal accepted for April of 2021 in KC but not funded yet. (hands on workshop and white paper planned).

Vacancies on the WSSA BOD for next year – Bill Curren – Phil Banks, Darrin Dodds, Greg Elmore, Marty Schraer, Francios Tardiff are all rotating off. John Byrd and Rakesh Chandran end dates are 2023. The nominating committee will fill Darrin Dodds, Phil Banks and Stanley Culpepper’s roles. Other roles will be filled by the regional societies nominating committees.

Motions/ Action Items:

CAST Representative – Reid Smeda

Date of Preparation: July 22, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- Discussed with other CAST representatives how we can engage with activities and publications of CAST for weed science discipline.

Motions/ Action Items:

Director of Science Policy – Lee Van Wychen

Date of Preparation: July 18, 2020

Science Policy Committee Meeting Notes

June 17, 2019 at 4 pm E.S.T.

Attendees

Lee Van Wychen

Janis McFarland

Jim Kells

Carroll Moseley

Larry Steckel

Anita Dille
Stanley Culpepper
Jill Schroeder
David Shaw
Bob Nichols
Chandra Aradhya
Rob Richardson
Stott Howard
Greg Elmore
Eric Webster
Camp Hand
Vasiliy Lakoba
Cameron Douglass

AGENDA

Update from USDA Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP) – Dr. Cameron Douglass.

- Was hired as the USDA OPMP Weed Scientist/Agronomist following Jill Schroeder's retirement.
- Working with senior leadership at USDA, supporting EPA decision on dicamba. Two pieces of data that OPMP, and also EPA, are really interested in are: 1) numbers on the adoption of dicamba seed traits; and 2) data on use of cost of alternative herbicides. Will follow up with Lee on this.
- Also working on comments on four herbicide risk assessments under EPA re-registration review.
- Clopyralid is currently being evaluated – Additional restrictions due to residues in compost (primarily from turf applications, but also manure from cattle fed treated forage) seem unwarranted. Requesting extension to clopyralid open comment period. Working with Lee to identify weed scientists with clopyralid expertise.

Dicamba – Van Wychen: EPA defended its “existing stocks” decision on June 16 to allow farmers to continue use of three vacated dicamba herbicides and asked the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to throw out a motion filed to hold the federal agency in contempt.

- EPA argued that vacating the registrations does not technically affect the use of the now-unregistered herbicides. "...Rescission of a pesticide registration (either by judicial or administrative action) only makes it illegal to distribute or sell that pesticide," the agency's response said. "It does not outlaw use of products already legally purchased."
- The plaintiffs have two days, until June 18, to respond to EPA's arguments, and then the judges will issue their ruling on the emergency motion.
- WSSA could/should support EPA on existing stocks?
- It's really in each State's Department of Ag's hands. Unless they pull the tolerances, it can be applied
- Wait for 9th Circuit ruling on the emergency motion. WSSA should focus on what we've been focusing on – get data that the EPA needs and not get into legal issues. Send comments to Lee and he'll analyze and determine next steps for WSSA

Enlist Duo lawsuit by same plaintiffs in 9th Circuit Court. Van Wychen: There are concerns that Enlist Duo could face a similar fate as dicamba. Although this would be due to issues with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and not FIFRA, like in the dicamba case. The 9th Circuit has heard the arguments from both sides and is expected to issue a ruling soon.

Weed Science Presidents visit. Van Wychen: Federal Agencies and Capitol Hill still remain closed. Will reassess this fall if presidents are comfortable flying to DC or instead maybe conducting online “virtual” meetings. Janis McFarland - Important to reach out to Congress and Federal Agencies either way. Although not ideal, online meeting might be necessary.

USDA-NIFA Fellow – Jim Kells. Funding for a weed genomics conference proposal was accepted. The conference is scheduled for April 7-9, 2021 in Kansas City.

- Submitted symposium proposal for WSSA meeting in San Antonio on Federal opportunities in weed science: Funding and career opportunities
- NIFA has hired a weed scientist National Program Leader – Dr. V.J. Nandula.
- USDA is searching for a new NIFA director to replace Scott Angle who took a new position at the University of Florida.
- Grant program RFAs have been timely, but some delays in grant disbursements have occurred due to staff shortages.

EPA Liaison. Van Wychen: The WSSA-EPA Liaison advisory committee met with Greg last week. He is working to put together a series of webinars on weed science topics for EPA staff, similar to the one Anita Dille gave in May in crop yield loss estimates.

- Dille: the webinar was well received and viewed by over 1/3 of the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs staff. EPA staff wanted to understand the risk assessment side if we lose tools and what are the alternative options.

USDA-ARS National Program Leader for Invasive Pests/Weeds. Van Wychen: Many thanks to Janis McFarland, Steve Duke and Krishna Reddy for serving on the Outreach Committee. Steve Mirsky and I were 2 of 6 members on the selection/interview panel. There were 25 applicants for the position. Due to military preference, USDA interviewed one candidate (an excellent, highly qualified weed scientist). However, he was not offered the position due to “entomology politics”. Because he was not offered the position, USDA will have to go through the entire hiring process again.

- McFarland: The position will be re-advertised soon. Thanks to Lee for serving on the selection panel. He will also be serving on the next selection panel.

Other Business

- Survey of Most Common and Troublesome Weeds in grass crops, pasture and turf- 140 surveys completed so far. Would like to get to 200. Survey will be open until Labor Day.

- National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Was May 16 – 23, 2020. Had good social media outreach and webinar attendance despite not being able to have local events. Dr. Rob Richardson presented the May 21 webinar titled “Successful Aquatic Plant Management Strategies Across the United States.”

- Slowing the Spread of Harmful Algal Blooms webinar. Was held on June 8 as part of NCFAR’s Lunch-n-Learn Capitol Hill Seminar Series, which WSSA is a sponsor. Dr. Ken Wagner, past president of the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) gave the presentation and Dr. Mark Heilman, moderated and helped organize. Also thanks to Camp and Vasiliy for helping look up contact info for 300 Capitol Hill staffers. This was the 2nd “virtual” lunch-n-learn and we’re finding out that less Capitol Hill staff show up when there isn’t a free lunch. However, we’ve had more stakeholders overall, especially from Federal Agencies, watch the webinar than what we’d typically have participate in an event on Capitol Hill.

- PEST (Pest Elimination Strategies and Tactics) Week is Jun. 22-26. Coordinated by Take Action group. The WSSA Public Awareness committee is working to boost visibility on social media.

-Rick Keigwin, EPA's Director of the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), will be moving up to the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSP) to serve as the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Management starting June 22. Ed Messina will take over Rick's role.

In-Person or Virtual Annual Meetings- Stott Howard: Survey out to NCWSS membership on regional meeting. Initial results indicate people prefer in-person meeting if safe. Open to suggestions since first in line for regional meetings.

Tentative Next Meeting
- July 29 at 4 pm E.S.T.

Strategic Planning Committee Chair – Sarah Lancaster

Date of Preparation: July 21, 2020

Officer/committee Activities during the Year:

The committee has worked with the BOD to develop the Weed Science Communications Editor position, to which Joe Ikley was elected.

Motions/Action Items:

None. If desired by the Board, the Committee can take up discussion regarding the impact of lessons from the 2020 meeting on future meetings, specifically with regard to virtual options.

Extension Chair – Parminder Chahal

Date of Preparation: July 20, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- We are looking forward announcing the video contest in the August Newsletter. Depending on the university, students were not able to travel to their research trials this year so this could be a topic of discussion during BOD meeting to decide if this contest would or would not be a success this year.

Motions/ Action:

Announcement for student video contest in newsletter

Industry Chair – Lowell Sandell

Date of Preparation: July 22, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- Contacted industry members for their honorary membership contribution to the society.
Worked with Kelly to send invoices.

Motions/ Action Items: Will work with Kelley to update the contact information.

Graduate Student Chair– Milos Zaric

Date of Preparation: July 22, 2020

Officer/Committee Activities during the Year:

- Actively participated in zoom meetings to arrange virtual 2020 NCWSS meeting
 - Encouraged student members to participate in survey related with 2020 NCWSS meeting
 - Suggested to revise the rubrics for the student contest for the virtual meeting
 - Provided suggestion to conduct a student survey for video contest
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