NCWSS Board of Directors Meeting  
Hyatt Regency Milwaukee  
Milwaukee, WI  
December 11, 2006

1. Call to Order.  1:00 pm.  President Stephen Miller presiding.

2. Roll Call by William Witt (substituting for Secretary-Treasurer J. D. Green).  Quorum present.  
   Board members:  S. Miller, A. Moses, B. Johnson, B. Hartzler, H. Hatterman-Valenti, A. Dille, K.  
   Al-Khatib, T. Peters, R. Schmidt, M. Edwards (for B. Henry), P. Tanel, H. Flanagan, L. Lloyd, D.  
   Carmody (for D. Vos), A. Kniss, S. Sanborn, B. Petersen, J. Stachler.

   (Officer and committee reports can be found in Summary of Committee Reports, December 2006)

3. President Report.  Stephen Miller commended President-Elect A. Moses for a tremendous job in  
   developing the program for the 2006 annual meeting.

4. President-Elect Report.  Adrian Moses indicated that several changes have been implemented in the  
   annual meeting program based on feedback from the board of directors, membership, and long range  
   planning committee.  The program includes three main symposia 1) Mechanisms and Genetics of  
   Glyphosate Resistance, 2) Enhancing Weed Control Through Adjuvant Technology, and 3) Invasive  
   plants of the Midwest, plus an Extension section mini-symposia titled “What Makes a Resistant Weed  
   Resistant”.  The 2006 program includes a workshop and poster session held jointly with MIPN  
   (Midwest Invasive Plant Network) and IPAW (Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin).  He met  
   with the Local Arrangements Committee twice in Milwaukee in developing the program.  An  
   advertisement brochure with the condensed program was created and finalized by the time of the  
   summer board meeting which was successful for making early announcements of the annual meeting.  
   The number of paper sessions was reduced from 13 to 8 sections in the 2006 program.  Some of the  
   changes implemented in 2005 were continued including the “What’s New in Industry” session, the  
   society social mixer tied with the Tuesday evening poster session, and interaction with the MIPN.  
   The final program was sent to Bob Schmidt by October 13 and posted on the website on October 16.  
   The program contains 260 volunteer or invited papers (up by 37), 91 of which are posters.  The 50  
   student presentations are near normal levels (25 papers and 25 posters).  He expressed his gratitude to  
   Glenn Nice (website manager), symposia organizers, section chairs, the Long Arrangements  
   Committee, and Executive Committee for their assistance throughout the year.  He encouraged the  
   board to continue sending ideas for the program, building membership, and ways to promote the  
   annual meetings.

5. Vice President Report.  Bill Johnson assisted A. Moses in prioritizing the symposia and helped  
   organize the “What’s New in Industry” session.  Having the brochure on the website and the ability to  
   send out email through the NCWSS listserv was used to advertise the annual meeting.  He has already  
   received a few ideas for symposia and workshops for next year.

6. Past President Report.  Tom Peters reported on the Distinguished Achievement Awards.  Thirteen  
   nominations were received for five of the six categories.  Award recipients are: Education – Richard  
   Zollinger, Industry – John Hinz, Professional Staff – Christy Stropshire, Service – Glenn Nice, and  
   Young Scientist – Dean Reichers.  A brief discussion was held on the guidelines for evaluating  
   nominees and selecting more than one recipient within an award category if nominations are not  
   received for all the categories.  However, no changes in the MOP guidelines for the Distinguishing  
   Achievement Award were recommended at this time.
7. Secretary/Treasurer. The minutes for December 12, 2005 and December 14, 2005 (previously approved) and the July 24, 2006 minutes were presented. A correction within the WSSA Representative report (Item 11) in the July 24 minutes was noted. B. Johnson moved to approve the July 24, 2006 minutes with the noted correction. H. Valenti-Hatterman seconded the motion. Motion passed to approve the minutes. New directors elected to begin their 3-year terms in 2007 are: Michael Edwards – Colorado, Bruce Maddy – Indiana, Joseph Masabni – Kentucky, Reid Smeda – Missouri, and Terence Carmody – South Dakota.

The treasurer’s report (part of the Finance, Steering, and Policy Committee written report) was presented. This past fiscal year (December 1, 2005 through November 30, 2006) total income ($99,945) increased significantly from the previous year; but, total operating expenses ($104,463) also increased and exceeded total income. However, with a net profit from the 2005 annual meeting plus investment income the society realized an overall financial gain of ~$7,482. . The society continues to maintain an adequate financial reserve in investments which exceeds twice the annual operating expenses as mandated in our Manual of Operating Procedures. A. Kniss moved to approve the treasurer’s report and D. Nord seconded the motion. Motion passed.

8. Executive Secretary Report. R. Schmidt reported that total membership for 2006 at 497 individuals (444 members and 53 students) compared to a total of 484 individual memberships the previous year. Pre-registrations for the annual meeting in Milwaukee include 340 individuals compared to 285 pre-registrations last year at Kansas City. He received 79 first time registrants (or individuals who have not attended since 2002) for the annual meeting. Pre-registrations for only the symposia sessions included 3 for the Adjuvants session, 20 Invasive Species (1 day), and 171 Invasive Species (1.5 day). The methods of payment included 80 by cash/check, 141 by credit card, and 113 by PayPal. There were a few problems with the PayPal system, but they have been worked out.

A discussion was held on the impact of the invasive species group on helping us meet our hotel room block commitments and the potential to partner with the MIPN in the future at other meeting sites. As we continue to dialogue with this group there are still issues that will need to be addressed including a possible position on the NCWSS board and the need to pay full registration if their sessions are incorporated into our 3-day format. Steve Miller indicated there may be opportunities with other meeting partners in the future including the North Central Branch of Agronomy.

9. Proceedings Editor Report. Bob Hartzler reported that submissions of abstracts went well overall, but there were some problems with abstracts associated with the invasive group. Abstracts will be available on-line during the meeting through an Iowa State web server.

10. Communications Editor. Harlene Hatterman-Valenti reported that 3 newsletters were published during 2006. Glenn Nice provided assistance in getting these posted on the NCWSS website. They have accommodated requests to post employment opportunities through the newsletter and website.

11. WSSA Representative. Anita Dille indicated that there was no new information to report since the summer board meeting. The next WSSA meeting will be in San Antonio February 4-8, 2007. She has not heard on how the new abstract system is working for the upcoming WSSA annual meeting in which the regional societies have been asked to consider utilizing. The NCWSS funding support for the WSSA Director of Science Policy is unchanged.

12. CAST Representative. Kassim Al-Khatib thanked the society for the opportunity to work with CAST on behalf of the NCWSS. Dr. John Bonner, Executive Vice-President, will be at the meeting to give a presentation at both the General Session and for the Industry breakfast. He has brought a lot of energy and vision to CAST during the past year. There are 38 currently professional societies in CAST which represent approximately 172,000 members. The number of CAST publications has increased which have been in high demand. CAST has begun to increase the diversity of views about
agriculture and focus on biotechnology, biofuels, environment, food safety, and security. During the fall meeting in St. Louis, MO (October 4-6, 2006) key stakeholders, including our WSSA president, were invited to participate in a half-day session to discuss CAST’s strategic plan. The CAST budget continues to be problem and he encourages non-active individuals to become members of this unique organization designed to serve the “public good”. Dr. Ed Runge, Professor of Agronomy at Texas A&M, is the new President and Kassim is the current President-elect for the CAST organization. The next CAST Board of Directors meeting will be held March 20-22, 2007 in Washington, DC.

13. WSSA Director of Science Policy. (see report by Lee Van Wychen in item 25 below).

14. Extension. Lizabeth Stahl was absent but had submitted a written report (see Summary of Committee Reports, December 2006).

15. Graduate Students. Chris Schuster was absent but had submitted a written report (see Summary of Committee Reports, December 2006). The Career Placement Center will be available during the meeting. The committee is looking for ways to improve this service to the society.

16. Industry. Brent Petersen thanked Jess Spotanski and Midwest Research for an excellent job hosting the 2006 weed science contest. Volunteer support from industry and academia was good to run the contest. Industry funding for the contest had been verbally secured but there have been delays in full receipt of the funding support solicited from industry contacts. Tom Peters moved to pay from NCWSS funds the remaining $7,210 still owed to Midwest Research for hosting the contest. Kassim Al-Khatib seconded the motion. After extensive discussion motion passed. John Bonner will be the speaker for the industry breakfast on Thursday morning. Over $8,000 have been raised from sustaining members for the society mixer on Tuesday night. Two new sustaining members have also been added to the society this past year. The Industry Committee has developed a proposal for funding the weed contest in the future whereby there could be different levels of industry sponsorship of Gold ($2000-$2500), Silver ($1000-$1500), and Bronze ($250-$750). A sponsor for the 2007 contest has not been finalized; there have been some discussions with Bennett Ag in Iowa.

17. Research and Publications. No report. This committee has not been very active during the past few years. Following extensive discussion on the continued need for this committee and position on the board Bill Johnson moved that a 30-day advance notice ballot be conducted to eliminate the Research and Publication Committee within the Manual of Operating Procedures. Motion seconded by Andy Chomas passed.

18. Resident Education Committee. Jeff Stachler reported that there are 19 graduate student posters, 28 oral papers, and 5 undergraduate poster participants for the 2006 annual meeting. The committee also has responsibilities for the summer weed contest. They need to do a better job communicating and soliciting sites for future contests. Bennett Ag is a possible host site for 2007 but has not been confirmed. The committee needs to look for other potential sites in the future. One proposal that has been suggested is to conduct the contest every other year. Participation in the 2006 contest included 42 contestants (16 graduate and 25 undergraduate students) which were down from last year. President Miller charged the committee to conduct a thorough review of the summer contest and bring a proposal to the 2007 summer board meeting on appropriate changes that may be needed. He requested the committee to survey graduate students (possibly undergraduates), coaches, universities, industry contacts, and others associated with the contest. President Miller also encouraged the committee to bring back to the board Wednesday evening more information on the location for the 2007 contest.

19. Local Arrangements Committee. Mick Holm indicated everything appears to be in order for the 2006 annual meeting. The room nights are far exceeding the minimal requirements with the hotel and rooms have been sold out for Monday and Tuesday night. The committee made additional signs for
the annual meeting, but would recommend that all new signs be made in the near future. The boxes for storing the easels and signs are in need of repair or replacement. Adrian Moses moved to replace the boxes to store easels and signs. Jeff Stachler seconded the motion. Motion failed. Tom Peters on behalf of Monsanto volunteered to make new storage boxes prior to the 2007 annual meeting in St. Louis.

20. Distinguished Achievement Awards. See discussion with Past President’s report (Item 6 above).


22. Fellow Award. Two individuals will be honored with the Fellow Award during the banquet.

23. Finance, Steering and Policy. A financial report was presented in Secretary/Treasurer report (Item 7 above). Four proposals which would modify the Manual of Operating Procedures were emailed November 10 to the board of directors (30 days prior to the December 11 board meeting). The following actions were taken:

a) Proposal #1. Add to Bylaw 1 Mission and Vision Statements for the NCWSS. Andrew Kniss amended the proposal to reword the first bullet under the Vision statement to read “is the authoritative source of weed science information in the north central region.” Helen Flanigan seconded the amendment. Amendment passed. Bill Johnson moved to accept the proposal as amended. Seconded by Anita Dille. Motion passed.

b) Proposal #2. Add the Long Range Planning Committee as a standing committee. Jeff Stachler moved to accept proposal. Anita Dille seconded the motion. Motion passed.

c) Proposal #3. Add duties to the Nominating Committee. Jeff Stachler moved to accept proposal. Harlene Hatterman-Valenti seconded the motion. Motion passed.


24. Future Site Selection. Charles Slack reported that two potential sites (Kansas City and Columbus) were evaluated for the 2009 annual meeting. The committee recommends the Hyatt Regency in Kansas City as the host site for December 7-10, 2009. Motion by Jeff Stachler to accept the proposal for the future meeting site in Kansas City, MO and seconded by Tom Peters. Motion passed. John Wollam has agreed to be the Local Arrangements Chair for 2009.

25. Legislation, Regulatory and Public Policy. Lee Van Wychen, WSSA Director of Science Policy, reported that the outcome of the November elections resulted in a major political shift that will potentially influence future agriculture, environmental, and science policy. The new Farm Bill and agriculture policy will center around renewable fuels and conservation. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is under development as a proposed means to increase funds for agriculture research through a competitively awarded grants program in addition to currently available resources through USDA-ARS and CSREES. Other Senate and House committee changes are likely to increase the focus on issues such as global warming and climate change research, invasive species, energy technologies, and food safety. A Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control and Demonstration Act was signed by President Bush in October 2006. He is building a coalition with Fish and Wildlife Groups to identify areas of common interest such as invasive species issues. EPA has issued a final rule relative to the Clean Water Act (CWA) which allows registered aquatic pesticide applications without a special permit.

26. Membership. Phil Stahlman provided a written report. In his report he recommended that the Membership Committee not be eliminated, but continue to work closely with the Long Range Planning Committee and coordinate with symposium organizers to target clientele of allied organizations.
27. Nominating. Kirk Howatt presented the names and ballot for five NCWSS Offices which includes the President and President-Elect. Biographies of nominees for the offices of Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and CAST Representative were mailed to the board of directors three weeks prior to the meeting. Mick Holm was elected Vice President, Christy Sprague Secretary/Treasurer, and Karen Renner CAST Representative.

28. Program Committee. See discussion under President-Elect’s report (Item 4 above).


29. Resolutions and Necrology. Brent Peterson indicated that he was notified of two deceased members during the past year – Dr. Marvin M. Schreiber who died April 14, 2006 and Dr. James L. Williams, Jr. who died January 1, 2006. A remembrance of their service to weed science will be read at the banquet.


31. State Director Reports. Dr. Alex Martin will be retiring from the University of Nebraska. Dr. Calvin Messersmith and Dr. Alan Dexter will be retiring from North Dakota State University.

32. Old Business. None.

33. New Business. Bill Johnson requested ideas for symposia for the meeting next year.

34. Adjourn. Bill Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:28 pm. Andy Chomas seconded the motion and motion passed.