



NCWSS Executive Board of Directors Meeting
Microtel Inn, Carlyle, IL
August 13, 2008

1. Call to Order. 8:05 a.m. President Bill Johnson presiding.
2. Roll Call by Christy Sprague (Secretary-Treasurer). Executive Board Members: B. Johnson, C. Boerboom, C. Sprague, B. Hartlzer, J.A. Dille, K. Renner, R. Schmidt. Additional attendees: Bryan Young - Long Range Planning and Organizational Affairs Committee (afternoon), John Hinz - Industry Committee (afternoon), Valarie Mock - Graduate Student Committee, Bob Wolf (visitor), and Greg Steckel - NCWSS Summer Contest Host (morning).
3. President's Report. President Bill Johnson started his term by working on committee assignments. At WSSA Bill attended the President's breakfast. He also attended the International Weed Science Society (IWSS) Meeting in Vancouver. Bill indicated that the meeting had an excellent program and tours of local agriculture. There were over 47 countries that participated in the IWSS meetings. This year's NCWSS meeting will have a component with the Midwest Invasive Pest Network (MIPN). Bill along with President-Elect Mick Holm has been working with this group to get ready for the combined meeting.
4. Summer Contest Host's Report. Greg Steckel with Alvey Ag Research handed out an agenda and small informational packet about this year's contest. Attendance this year will be 51 students including nine graduate teams and two undergraduate teams. There are also 4 graduate individuals and 3 undergraduate individuals competing. Participant numbers are up and good this year. Greg is happy with the turnout for volunteers. He also indicated that the group from Southern Illinois University grew the weeds for the weed identification portion of the contest.
5. Secretary-Treasurer's Report. Secretary-Treasurer Christy Sprague asked for the approval of minutes from the December 10th and 12th Board of Directors' Meeting at the 2007 North Central Weed Science Society in St. Louis, MO. Karen Renner moved to approve the minutes and Anita Dille seconded the motion. Motion passed. Christy also indicated that the Manual of Operating Procedures was updated for the North Central Weed Science Society Graduate Student Paper Contest, Graduate Student Poster Contest, Undergraduate Poster Contest, and North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest that were passed at the December 12, 2007 NCWSS Board of Directors Meeting. This year the 3-year terms of the state and provincial directors that will expire include: Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ontario, and Wyoming. Robert Schmidt (Executive Secretary) provided the budget update. Currently, with the 6-month budget we are in good shape financially. The Sustaining Membership is +\$1270, Membership +\$ 778, Proceedings +\$471, Weed DVD +\$448, Annual Meeting Registration -\$700. Everything else is good.
6. Executive Secretary's Report. Executive Secretary Robert Schmidt presented membership and NCWSS Meeting attendance and the 2007 NCWSS Proceedings and NCWSS Annual Meeting income and expenses. Membership as of June 30 is 502 (464 members and 58 student members). Renewal notices were emailed to all 2005; 2006, and 2007 past participants. There were 357 people that attended the 2007 Meeting in St. Louis (299 members and 58 student members). There were 46 people who registered for the Gene Flow symposium. The total income was \$62,556 from the 2007 NCWSS Annual Meeting and expenses were \$41,199. The total gain is

\$18,811. The mixer was paid for from industry donations. The left over funds from this will go to help support the summer contest. The NCWSS contributes \$8,500 to the Summer Contest.

7. **President-Elect's Report.** President-Elect Mick Holm led a discussion on the 2008 NCWSS Annual Meeting program agenda. The Keynote speaker will be Tom Stohlgren. He will be speaking on invasive species. He will also speak on Wednesday at the Invasive Species symposium. NCWSS will be paying for travel. It was also proposed that Christy give a financial status of the Society at the General Session. Another suggestion was to have Fred Whitford from Purdue be the welcoming speaker (Bill Johnson will contact him). Karen Renner will contact John Bonner on whether it would be alright for Bill Johnson to cover the CAST report in his Presidential report. The symposiums for this year include: Integrated Weed Management (hosts Karen Renner, Erin Taylor, and Christy Sprague), Herbicide Resistant Crops (host Kevin Bradley), and Statistics Symposium (host graduate students, Valerie Mock). The speakers for this symposium include: Sasha Kravchanko (MSU), and Fernando Miguez (UI Post-Doc). One approach to the symposium would be to send manuscripts and/or data on how they can approach certain types of models. Another option would be to present field situations to students and figure out what analysis may be used. Other possible speakers would include Leigh Murray (Kansas State University) and Stevan Knezavic (dose-response), or Dave Mortensen (diversity indices). It was suggested that a \$500 honorarium be paid per outside speaker. The final symposium will be on Invasive Plants and the Midwest Invasive Plant Network is very excited about this symposium. One challenge that we have is to integrate the MIPM group more with the NCWSS meeting. Mick has been working with Mark Renz, and Kate and Ellen from MIPM on different registration costs. There was some discussion on what should be the cost for MIPN registration for their symposium and if they would be able to register online. Glenn Nice will need to set this up. We may want to have a bigger room for MIPN symposium. MIPN also has several displays from commercial exhibitors. Typically the NCWSS charges \$250, \$500, and \$1,000 for booths depending on company size. *Mick Holm made a motion to charge non-sustaining members of NCWSS \$250 per booth if commercial and not for profit organizations (i.e., CAST) would be free. Bill Johnson seconded and the motion passes.* The MIPN group would like to leave the posters up through Thursday. We will need to know how many posters MIPN will have to set the poster area up. There was a suggestion that maybe we should have both NCWSS and MIPN on the name tags. The group thought that this may be a great way to recognize the joint meeting. Mick is suggesting that the AWARD ceremony be at a luncheon on Wednesday, instead of the typical banquet. Several pros and cons were brought up. The luncheon would be for NCWSS members only and one way to possibly keep the MIPN attendees from the luncheon would be to hold their session into the start of the luncheon. There will probably be 100% attendance at a luncheon banquet. There was a suggestion to have the graduate student luncheon moved to a breakfast on Thursday morning concurrent with the industry breakfast. There was also a suggestion for a possible tour of Dow's facilities for graduate students on Monday afternoon. Another thought was to read the Necrology report and announce new officers at the general session. We may want to have someone in the society take pictures, instead of hiring a professional photographer this year. Mick is going to suggest to the MIPN group the cost of registration to be \$75 for the session instead of \$60 for one day and \$80 per 2-day.
8. **Vice-President's Report.** Vice-President Chris Boerboom has been the liaison for the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) Policy Committee to help advise Lee VanWycken. Chris has also been involved with the WSSA Public Relations/Awareness Committee (Janice McFarland chair). This is an active committee with teleconferences every other week for 2 hours. This committee generates press releases. Currently some of the press releases have been on giant ragweed, purple loosestrife, flood relief, and giant hogweed. Other releases will be on hydrilla and birds dying, wild rice genomics, and labor. If you would like to be involved in a Press

Release contact Chris. Bill Johnson asked if meeting promotion would be an appropriate action for this committee. This has not been brought up yet. What about publicizing Extension bulletins? Karen Renner asked about composting as a topic. Chris suggested drafting up a page on the idea and information to send to the writers. One suggestion would be to publicize the NCWSS joint meeting with MIPN (Mick and Ellen would be the appropriate contacts). Chris' question for the Board was should representation on these committees be longer than one year? There would need to be a change in the MOP. The Vice-President's duties need to be clearly defined with representation on these committees. Another suggestion was to remove the Legislation and Science Policy committee from the MOP. This task needs to be assigned to someone. Maybe the President should appoint the liaison for the Policy Committee as a 2-year role. That was agreed to as an informal process. The Public Relations side of these duties may continue to be a good role for the Vice-President. *At the upcoming meeting we need to have a Ballot to remove the Legislative Committee and change the Vice-President's duties and add the WSSA Public Awareness Committee.*

9. Past-President's Report. Adrian Moses was not able to attend. No report.
10. WSSA Representative's Report. Anita Dille reported on current activities of the WSSA. There was a tactical planning session held to discuss the WSSA Project Review Process and Portfolio development. There are advertisements to replace the USDA-ARS National Program Leader, and the WSSA EPA liaison. Bill Vencil will replace Robert Blackshaw in February 2009 as the Weed Science Editor. There was discussion on the upcoming 2009 joint WSSA-SWSS meeting at the Hilton at the Walt Disney World Resort hotel, Orlando, FL. Currently, the paper and poster sessions will be Monday through Thursday, and Friday if necessary, the WSSA reception will be on Monday and SWSS reception on Wednesday, sessions will finish at 3:00 pm each day to allow for families to go to Walt Disney World, committee meetings will move to each morning: 6:30 to 7:15 am and 7:15 to 8:00 am (45 or 90 minute blocks) in order to accommodate both SWSS and WSSA needs, new approach to poster sessions – breakout with 12 posters – presenters give 3 slide highlight (no 2-hour blocks), board meetings Saturday, Sunday, and Friday afternoon, registration for members – early bird \$295, mid \$400 or at conference \$450, and students \$75 and guests \$80. In 2010, a concurrent meeting of WSSA with Society of Range Management will be held in Denver, CO on Feb. 7-11, 2010. The 2011 meeting may be in San Diego, Seattle, Baltimore, and Phoenix. Anita will be completing her term and would like to step down. She is on the nomination list for the WSSA Treasurer position to begin in February 2009. *The nominations chair needs to be aware of this to find a new WSSA representation.*
11. CAST Representative's Report. Karen Renner reported that the CAST representative attends two meetings per year. This year's fall meeting was in North Carolina. Karen serves on two of the four working groups, the Plant Protection and Editorial group. Recently, there have been issue papers on Bioenergy Crops and their Invasiveness. Another paper has been a discussion on BT refuges. Karen encouraged everyone to join CAST and indicated that the CAST issue papers are now free at the CAST website.
12. Editor, NCWSS Proceedings. Robert Hartzler reported that he is planning on collecting and publishing the abstracts similar to the past. The submission process is working well.
13. Editor, NCWSS newsletter. Harlene Hatterman-Valenti was not able to attend. No report.
14. Resident Education Committee Report. Jess Spotanski sent a report, but was not able to attend. John Hinz presented the Resident Education report. John reported that the 2008 NCWSS annual summer contest to be held at Alvey Ag Research in Carlyle, IL. Committee worked with Greg

Steckel of Alvey in coordinating the event. The Resident Education Committee invited the NEWSS to participate, but they declined. Funding for the 2008 contest was covered by company donations and \$8,500 from the NCWSS. Mike Leetch, chair of Industry Committee and Jess Spotanski, chair of resident education committee sent a letter to industry representatives asking for support for the 2008 contest. A joint contest with the NEWSS is still being considered for 2009 with the NCWSS finding the contest location. Jerry Baron of the NEWSS and John Hinz of the NCWSS had met at the WSSA meeting in January 2008 to discuss the preliminary logistics of the contest. ABG Contract Research near Indianapolis has tentatively agreed to host the event. John Hinz has been in contact with Fritz Koppachek of ABG but no dates have been agreed upon. For 2010, Doug Nord of Diamond Ag Research in Larned, KS has tentatively agreed to host the contest and in 2011, Lenny Lueke of KJ Ag Services in North Dakota has tentatively agreed to host. The NEWSS has proposed a Weed Olympics in 2011 with University of Tennessee hosting and has asked the NCWSS if we would like to participate. The Resident Education committee has put together a Weed Contest "Host" packet of information for potential hosts. This packet includes organizational information and was designed so that the potential host can see what goes into running the contest. Contact Jess Spotanski for a copy. The committee is considering ideas for boosting undergraduate student participation in the poster contest such as scholarships for travel and encouraging industry reps to bring interns to meetings. The committee is discussing poster contest and whether to have a copy of the poster as a handout available for judges to utilize when judging the posters. There was some discussion on the use of handouts for the poster session and poster contest has not been a requirement. The Resident Education committee proposes on a trial basis for the 2008 Poster Contest, handouts of a copy of the poster for the student contest be a requirement and to have them available for the judges to pick up at the poster on the Monday evening before the meeting begins. *Chris Boerboom made the motion that the students in the poster contest have handouts available Monday night for the poster judges. Karen Renner seconded this motion. There was some discussion that 5 points needs to be deducted if the students do not provide a handout (from the appearance section).* The Resident Education committee will need to change the scoring sheet. The budget needs include \$8500 for the summer contest and \$1050 for awards for the NCWSS meeting.

15. Outstanding Graduate Student Award. Valerie Mock (Graduate Student Committee chair) presented a proposal for considering M.S. and Ph.D. Outstanding Graduate Student Awards for the NCWSS. Most of the Board members thought that the awards were good in philosophy. However, there was some concern that these awards may be difficult to judge. There was a lot of discussion that ensued about fairness in evaluation. Valarie indicated that there was support from the graduate students for the awards. There was a straw poll and the results were: 1 strongly in favor, 5 undecided, and 2 not in favor. Anita Dille suggested that the graduate student committee move forward in developing a proposal with more detail. They may want to poll the advisors of the NCWSS on their thoughts about these awards. Valerie will report back to committee on the boards concerns and will come back with more concrete ideas on the award.
16. NCWSS Summer Graduate Tour. Chris Boerboom presented a proposal on providing summer educational tours for graduate students instead of the traditional summer weeds contest. The tours would provide unique educational and networking opportunities. The cost of the tour would be much more financially stable as compared with the contest. It could be efficient with camping and cookouts. Tours could be of various cropping systems and the final day could be held at one of the University's diagnostic school, where the students could work through 8 to 10 different farmer problems. Some of the disadvantages would include: a longer event and no contest winners. The advantages include: cost efficiency and less of a labor involved in a summer contest. It was concluded that currently we spend about \$500 per student for the contest. The board liked the idea, but they thought it was important to get the graduate students thoughts. There was some

discussion about conducting a survey of graduate students and advisers. Bill Johnson and Chris Boerboom will put the survey together. The plan is to move forward with the 2009 Summer Contest and talk about a tour for 2010.

17. Long Range Planning and Organizational Affairs Committee. Bryan Young presented a proposal that would streamline the NCWSS Board. This was the recommendation that the consultants had several years ago. They indicated that the board was too large to operate efficiently. If the Board size was reduced there would need to be several changes to the MOP, including changing voting rights. One thought was to move the State Directors to the Long Range Planning Committee and that this committee may have a Director at Large. Additionally there was the thought to add two more industry representatives. *The plan is to have a 30-day ballot that would include: 1) removing the State Directors from the Board of Directors, 2) the election of officers would be from the entire membership, 3) move the State Directors to the Long Range Planning Committee until their term expires, 4) include the industry committee chair, the vice-chair, and the past chair for the Board of Directors (3 year terms- 3 industry reps) and 5) the Long Range Planning and Organizational Affairs committee would be an Interest Committee with a representative on the Board of Directors. The chair can continue to serve at the discretion of the President.* Bryan Young will draft the responsibilities of the State Directors.

The changes need to be formalized with a 30-day ballot for Board Action. Christy Sprague made the motion and Chris Boerboom seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chris Boerboom made a motion to present these changes to the Board for a vote. Mick Holm seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Another recommendation from the Long Range Planning committee would be to have one representative on the Board for communication (Newsletter and Proceedings Editors). Chris brought up the point that these positions spend money so it would probably be good to keep them on the committee. The Executive Board agrees.

The third recommendation is to have a representative from the Invasive Plants Committee as a Special Interest Group. This person would be a member of the NCWSS. Chris Boerboom made the motion and Anita Dille seconded this motion. Karen Renner proposed a friendly amendment to have it as a Standing Committee, Chris Boerboom agrees. The committee chair will report to the Board of Directors. *The vote on the recommendation for the Invasive Plants Committee as a Standing Committee was passed.*

Bill Johnson asked about where the working copy of the NCWSS Mission Statement. Bryan Young will look for the Mission Statement. The thought was the Mission Statement was never voted on for approval.

Bryan Young stated that Mike Owen volunteered to review the duties of the NCWSS committees. Mike will receive help from the Vice-President, Chris Boerboom.

Bryan also brought up Leadership of the Future in running the society. Do we need to have an Executive Director for the NCWSS? This topic will be looked at in the future after some of the proposed changes have been made. There was more discussion about having a shared director between societies, etc.

18. Bill Johnson presented an idea that Mike Horak had for a Gene Flow Symposium for 2010 in Kansas City. In 2007 there was \$2,500 income from the Gene Flow Symposium.

19. Annual Meeting Registration Fee for 2008 will be \$230 (member) and \$115 (students). A late-fee of \$50 will be assessed. One day registration is \$75, except for the Invasive group which will be dictated by the conversation that Mick Holm has with MIPN.
20. Bob Schmidt indicated that we may want to start looking for a replacement for him as the Executive Director in the next couple of years. Anita Dille indicated that Jeff Derr and WSSA are currently accepting proposals for a similar position. The Board has asked Bob to create a list of responsibilities and a monthly itinerary. It was suggested that we have Charlie Slack do the same for the hotel negotiation. Bill Johnson will talk to Bob and Charlie. Bob said he did not want an increase in his management fee. The Executive Board proposed to increase Bob's management fee to \$22,000, an increase of \$2,000.
21. Meeting Adjourned 3:00 p.m. Chris Boerboom made the motion and Anita Dille provided the 2nd. The motion passed.