



Minutes of NCWSS April 14, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting

Date: April 14, 2023

Time: 2 pm central time; Zoom meeting

Roll Call: [18/19]

Position	Officer	April 14
President	Reid Smeda	X
President Elect	Dawn Refsell	X
Vice President	Mark Bernards	X
Secretary-Treasurer	Amit Jhala	X
Editor-NCWSS Proceedings	Karla Gage	X
Editor- Communication/Newsletter	Joe Ikley	
WSSA Representative	Brett Miller	X
CAST Representative	John Hinz	X
Past President	David Simpson	X
Ex-Officio (Non-Voting Members)		
Executive Secretary	Kelley Mazur	X
Director of Science Policy	Lee VanWychen	X
NCWSS Committee Chairs		
Strategic Planning	Travis Legleiter	X
Extension	Nathaniel Drewitz	X
Industry	Ryan Henry	X
Resident Education	Nick Arneson	X
Graduate Student	Claudia Bland	X
Directors at Large		
Central Region	Dan Smith	X
Western Region	Angela Kazmierczak	X
Eastern Region	Steve Meyers	X

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President Smeda called the meeting to order at 2 pm on April 14, 2023.

1. Update on 2023 WSSA National Weed Contest to be held in Union City, Tennessee during July 25 to 27, 2023 (Matthew Wiggins, FMC: Email: Matthew.Wiggins@fmc.com).

- July 25: Travel Day & welcome ceremony (student arrive in the afternoon).
- July 26: Weed contest and awards; July 27 = travel home.
- Location: 120 N Highway 45 W, Union City, TN 38261 for the actual contest. Memphis TN is the closest airport
- Going to be a big event; 220 students are registered.
- All regional societies will be represented.
- Several undergraduate students (about 40)
- 80 volunteers as of now. Need more. About 100 to 120 volunteers would be ideal.
- Bayer is sponsoring awards.

2. Update on NCWSS Video Contest by Extension Committee (Nathan Drewitz).

- **Video Production Workshop Webinar:** Organized on April 14. Nic Arneson discussed the trial-and-error process of building an Extension and Outreach quality video. He provided insights on the pros and cons of video editing software programs. This was followed by a discussion on the proposed new rules for the NCWSS Extension Video Contest in 2023.
- Recording of Video Production Workshop Webinar will be made available.
- Proposal for the Symposia will be submitted to the Program Chair.

3. Update on Graduate Student activities in 2023 (Claudia Bland).

- Student tour before 2023 NCWSS meeting at United Winfield research facility in River Falls, Wisconsin. Logistics (lodging, food, transportation, etc.) will be discussed and communicated with the society members.
- Mentorship plan: Survey will be sent out to students. Proposal? Next meeting discussion.
- Coffee & Conversation with retirees.
- Graduate Student Luncheon sponsored by Corteva. Speaker from Corteva? More time needed for Luncheon. Discuss with Program Chair.
- 2023 Symposia in annual meeting: Video making, and panel discussion will include academia, industry, and government representatives.
- Presentation by Nick Arneson: Basics of preparing video and editing.
- Panel: about 6 members; breakout sessions.
- Smeda: Work with program chair and local arrangement committee for planning and logistics.

- Dawn: Starting the tour at midafternoon will help students to travel on the same day.

4. Update from Resident Education Committee: Content Score Sheet and late submission penalty (Nick Arneson).

- Nick: Major changes to be approved.
- 10 Points category for on-time submission; Title, Abstract, Presentation, Poster, Paper & Poster; 0 point for late submission.
- 5 Points for abstract. When will judges have access to abstracts? Before NCWSS meeting? This topic was discussed but will not be implemented.
- Description of comments made by judges.
- Program Chair will have information about lack of information such as abstract, poster, etc.
- Change in authors, etc. is time consuming.
- Proceedings Editor. Ask for opinion (Joe W). Karla can help provide abstracts.
- No change in abstract once submitted.
- **Motion:** 10 Points for on-time submission of Title, Abstract, Presentation/Poster/Video; 0 point for late submission of Title, Abstract, or Presentation/Poster/Video. *Motion approved with all in favor.*

5. Update Guideline for 2024 NCWSS Weed Contest (Nick Arneson).

- Change in Grading Rubrics proposed by Nick Arneson. Details discussed (see below). This will be discussed in summer 2023 NCWSS BoD meeting.
- **NCWSS Weeds Contest Rules – Summary of Suggested Changes**
 - Subcommittee: Nick Arneson, Rodrigo Werle, Bill Johnson, Pat Tranel, Travis Legleiter, Joe Ikley, Bruce Ackley, Ram Yadav, Adam Striegel
 - Meeting held via Zoom: February 15, 2023

Suggested Changes:

Written Calibration

- Make questions multiple choice (10 answers provided)
- Incorrect answers derived by common mistakes to limit chances of guessing correctly
- Make problems standalone and not build on previous answer

Sprayer Calibration

- Simplify written portion to allow teams to focus on sprayer calibration
 - Provide GPA & speed to teams

Weed Identification

- Spelling is absolute for full credit
- Must be underlined and capitalized appropriately for full credit
- 5 points: correct scientific name, correct common name, correct underline & capitalization

- 3 points: correct scientific name (genus, species, underline) – **minus one point for any of three misspelled, incorrect capitalization, or underline omitted**
- 2 points: correct common name – **minus one point for either misspelled or incorrect capitalization**

Unknown Herbicide Identification

- Provide students with four ‘pick lists’ of families, SOA, trade name, and common name. Each list provided separate of the other and listed alphabetically
- Remove spelling from the grading rubric

Farmer Problem

- No suggested changes

Other Considerations

- Subcommittee to review written calibration exam ahead of contest
- Weed seed collection to share within NCWSS competing Universities for educational purposes

6. NCWSS Finance Update (Amit Jhala)

- Stan Cooper retired, so Franck is a new financial advisor recommend by Stan Cooper. The Finance Committee had a meeting with Franck. Provided good suggestions about CDs. NCWSS has 5 CDs with the value of 44K to 50K with interest rates of 1% to 2% at 4 to 5 years of commitment.
- Better interest rates on CDs have been available in recent times. This topic was discussed in a meeting with Franck. Franck has suggested options for CDs with interest rates in the range of 4.6% to 5.1%.
- Kelley has contacted American Heritage Bank (which has our 5 CDs) to know the penalty fee to break the CDs. Once this information is available, the Finance Committee will decide if it is justifiable to change CDs to earn better interest rates that result in better income for society.

7. NCWSS Website Update (Kelley Mazur)

- It has been 10 years since the NCWSS website updated.
- Apex (David): The same company that handles Abstract system is working on the update of NCWSS website.
- The database is complete and updated.
- Cosmetic update will be made in the next couple of months.
- Removal of some old database in April.
- A new updated webpage of NCWSS should be available in fall 2023.

8. NCWSS Endowment Fund

- Silent auction and add in Endowment Fund
- WSSA and SWSS have Endowment Fund. Reid will ask other society presidents during his trip to Washington DC. David Simpson will ask John Jachetta about the process of opening and operating the Endowment Fund.
- Need a separate board; by laws; MOP changes
- Financial advisor: RBC may take about 10 days
- American Heritage Bank? Fund can be easily accessible compared with RBC.
- The Finance Committee has a meeting with financial advisor on May 19, 2023 at 2.30 pm central time.

Lee VanWychen: President Smeda will be in DC to attend several meetings with other weed science society presidents and policy makers. Proposing regular funding for IR-4 Program; IPM; Pest Management; Invasive Plant, etc.

Next NCWSS BoD Meeting?

- July 21, 2023 at 2 pm central time. Amit sent a Zoom invite.

Adjourn

President Smeda adjourned meeting at 3.47 pm with all in favor.