

MEETING MINUTES

**NCC Board Meeting
December 9, 2005
Conference Call Format
3:00-4:00 PM EST**

1. Call to order
 - Call was initiated at 15:00 EST, allowed 7-10 minutes for sign-ons.
2. Designate Recording Secretary
 - Blaine will be official secretary, Kurt also will be taking notes
3. Roll call
 - Present: Kurt Kowalski, Beth Nixon, Joe Schubauer-Berigan, Mitch Strain, Blaine Watson
 - Absent: John Freeland
3. Review agenda:
 - Kurt asked for input on agenda, no additions offered
4. Approve minutes from August 1, 2005 meeting
 - Kurt put forth motion to approve prior minutes, all others present at this time (Joe, Mitch, Blaine) agreed. Vote: 4 Yes 0 No
5. 2006 Budget
 - a) Review
 - Format is similar to previous version
 - Kurt proposes dropping “notes” column for final version of budget
 - Changes included removing funds associated with the Chapter Regional Meeting, since we are planning an Alternative Annual Meeting and probably won’t plan to do both meetings in 2006
 - \$3500 cost estimate for putting on field trips for ASWM meeting was based on input from John Freeland’s research on subject. Kurt used John’s input for costs and estimated income side to cover costs plus \$10 per attendee (assuming 75 attendees). Total cost of trips likely would be about \$50 per person.
 - At this point, these numbers are essentially placeholders but should be close.
 - Can cancel trips if pre-registration attendance looks too low.
 - ASWM is still behind their curve on meeting planning, so we are ahead of schedule.
 - Increased the budgeted amount for the display number to \$625 based on preliminary invoice from Jesse Kurylo.
 - Current numbers will represent a budgeted loss of ~\$1,410.

b) Edit

- Kurt asked for input on any additional changes to budget
- There was a short discussion of annual meeting travel costs being relatively high in 2006—related to meeting being held in Australia and should be lower next year.
- Board also discussed general concept of having a deficit budget and deficit level, general consensus is that a small deficit is not really an issue since mission is to support wetland science; we don't have to worry about being balanced.
- The board discussed that existing chapter funds should not be hoarded, but should be used to support existing/new chapter initiatives until the chapter next hosts an SWS annual meeting.

c) Vote to approve

- Kurt made motion to approve budget as described above, all others present at this time (Joe, Mitch, Beth, Blaine) agreed. Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

6. Involvement in 2006 ASWM Meeting

- Kurt has remained in touch with ASWM. They have been dealing with Hurricane Katrina issues and will soon be getting back to annual meeting as 1st priority.
- We will request a list of registrants of ASWM meeting to compare to our list of SWS members.
- SWS will have primary responsibility for whatever of these options we decide to take on.

a) Field trips

- SWS still interested in this as primary involvement
- John has been making good contacts and we should be in good shape here.

b) Workshop

- Kurt is considering talking to a couple people about workshops for plant, remote sensing image processing/interpretation, or GIS workshops, Mitch suggested having attorneys do a workshop on new regulations. He has contacts in Michigan if we want to pursue this idea. Beth will send Kurt her ideas about a remote sensing workshop.
- Beth asked about what workshops ASWM will be hosting and whether ours will compete. Kurt will check into this as planning proceeds.

c) Silent Auction

- Another idea to keep on the table, but is a lower priority. The biggest challenge is how much could be available to auction.

7. 2009/2010 SWS Meeting

- Joe asked about breakdown of cost/income sharing with SWS/Chapters for national meetings; Kurt will inquire about this at mid-year SWS board meeting in February.
- Kurt and Beth briefly reviewed general information behind this.

- BAI has been contacted about providing the chapter with financial information about the Charleston meeting;
 - Joe and Kurt pointed out that whatever venues interest us, we need to make sure there are SWS locals who are interested/capable of leading planning efforts for the meeting.
 - We may be able/want to see about putting together hosting proposals; Kurt will inquire about this at mid-year SWS board meeting.
 - Joe will be working on a draft correspondence before Christmas to solicit meeting location suggestions from chapter membership and recruit committee volunteers.
 - Kurt will be talking with BAI for certain at mid-year meeting to continue expressing our interest in finding out what the current process involves.
- a) NABS in Duluth, MN: Kurt was contacted by Glenn Guntenspergen about interest in having SWS host annual in Duluth in 2009. Kurt informed Glenn that board has been discussing plans. Kurt and Glenn are planning to talk more at SWS Mid-year board meeting, including whether NABS could host in 2010 (as opposed to 2009). Glenn may be able to provide a proposal and there may be a group of people willing to work on meeting preparation. Joe suggested that NABS would be a good organization with which to co-host a national meeting because there is a lot of cross-over. How many SWS members are also NABS members?
- b) Madison, WI: WWA is interested in working with SWS as co-host for a meeting here. SWS has had ongoing relationship with WWA. Madison has at least 17 SWS members within city and others would surely be nearby (map shows up to 35). Also, the University of Wisconsin is nearby (student involvement opportunities). Kurt will contact Laura England again to find out more about what WWA is thinking on subject and to request that she initiate contacts with local SWS members to gauge interest in a local committee.
- c) Grand Rapids, MI: another possible venue that has made contact with Kurt.
- d) Membership maps: good comments from board members about maps. They were put together for board use, but should they go on web page? Is there any reason they could not? Should they just go out to members in an e-mail? General consensus of board is that they are general enough and don't represent a risk to individual members. Beth made a suggestion to add year of development to the maps so we can track changes from year-to-year. Kurt asks for approval to add to website—board consensus to approve this. Vote: 5 Yes 0 No

8. New issues

- No new issues presented
- A little more discussion of ASWM meeting and field trip/workshop options took place.
- Joe mentioned EPA conference in February 2006 regarding wetlands and water-quality trading. This issue is developing interest, and the conference

will be in Chicago. It would be good to have some SWS representation at this meeting. Joe will let us know more as he finds out.

9. Adjournment

- Kurt made a motion to adjourn at 3:06 PM, all present (Joe, Mitch, Blaine, Beth) agreed.