

# **Empire Chapter – Soil and Water Conservation Society**

Minutes - Council Conference Call

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

July 18, 2012

## **Welcome**

In attendance were Heath Eisele, Jessica Sargis, Scott Fitscher, Lisa Miller, Aaron Weiss, and Patrick Barry.

## **Administrative**

### **1) Review minutes from the May 16, 2012, Council Meeting**

Jessica moved to accept the minutes with attached addendums.

Aaron seconded the motion.

It was approved by unanimous consent

- 2) Committee discussed that in the future we will forward resolution requests to Heath for presentation on the floor and he will handle the urgent ones via email vote as done in the past then add the final decision to the minutes for the next meeting so as to have it on record.

### **3) Treasurer's Report (L. Miller, J. Sargis, H. Eisele, All)**

Jessica led the discussion.

Income went up in the manual and guides category approximately [REDACTED] due to additional book sales. There was a decrease to the Vanguard funds of approximately [REDACTED] due to negative market conditions. The [REDACTED] donation was sent to the Conservation Skills Workshop.

Note mentioned by Lisa that she received information from Lesko (previous money market account holder) and they were requesting updated information from us. Lisa called and person thought the accounts might still be opened, but researched and got back to her stating accounts were not and everything was all set. She kept Lisa's mailing information in case they needed it for anything further. Lisa also noted some trouble ordering the new checks through the new bank, but everything is set and we now have new checks, deposit slips, envelopes and stamp.

Question asked as to why Chemung Co. ordered so many books. Lisa stated that it was not unusual and they keep books on hand for classes, etc. and when they run low they order additional ones.

Aaron moved to accept the treasurer's report.

Pat seconded the motion.

It was approved by unanimous consent

### **4) Lisa's Invoice (All)**

Lisa's invoice has all the hours broken down that were spent on rewriting the publication. Once approved Jessica will sign and send a check to Lisa.

Scott moved to accept Lisa's invoice.  
Aaron seconded the motion.  
It was unanimously accepted.

**5) Membership Report (All)**

a) **Expired memberships** - discussion was made about 6 or 7 memberships that had expired.

**John Giordello** – Garrison, NY

**Exp. 6/12 Ag Engineering Svces.** – Cherie and Aaron were going to follow-up on this and hopefully renewal will be made soon.

**Exp. 6/26/12 Leonard Przorski** – Cobleskill – Scott will follow-up on membership

**Donald Furlow** – Cazenovia

**Eliav Bipan** – nws.org (National Wildlife Federation)

**Karl Czmmek** –

**PJ Emmerick** – Canandaigua

Heath will follow-up on all the above names except for the few that Scott, Cherie and Aaron are following up on. Heath thanked all for the help they were able to give in follow-up.

**6) Resolution Discussion (All)**

Cherie sent information out regarding the proposed resolutions to be brought up at the National meeting. Wanted input from committee on how to vote for the resolutions as delegate.

Resolutions brought forth by the N. Texas Chapter were discussed and consensus was that they needed more information before making a final decision. Heath will contact Bill Boyer for further information and get back to the committee with details via email.

**7) Annual Conference Travel/Registration Support (H. Eisele, All)**

Discussion – Amount budgeted for 2012 was \$2300. Cherie agreed to go and be the delegate and represent the Empire State Chapter in Ft. Worth TX – July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012.

Jessica moved to approve up to [REDACTED] reimbursement for National Mtg. expenses for Cherie.

Scott seconded the motion.

It was approved by unanimous consent

**Programmatic**

**8) Summer Tour Update – August 24<sup>th</sup> (H. Eisele, S. Fitscher, and E. Dalrymple)**

a) **Draft Tour Route** – as proposed on agenda

- Many conferences and made great progress

- Tom Lacko and Sandie Prokop have been very helpful in planning process.

- Bus was donated for free
- Update to agenda is that Gilboa Power Project is the location of main tour and they have a theater where a powerpoint presentation will be given and a pavilion where lunch will be served.
- Food will be provided through The Carrot Barn and E. Dalrymple is working on details.
- A few farm visits
- A bridge that was taken out by the storm will not be replaced.
- Scott confirmed Will VanDeValk for the tour.

**b) Expenses for the Bus Tour**

- Cherie contacted the Holiday Inn in – block of 10 rooms at a rate of [REDACTED] per night. – Deadline to confirm is Aug. 9<sup>th</sup> or rate will then become [REDACTED] per night.
- Registration form being developed and for any not staying over all they will need is to fill out registration form and send in, others will have to send in form and make hotel reservations.
- [REDACTED] meal per person, tip for bus driver, logistics, speakers, etc. making total about [REDACTED] **per person.**
- CCA credits may entice registration. (1 credit hr. per 50 minutes of instruction) will put CCA credits pending on the registration form and look into how to get credits. Heath may try to call Greg Albrecht or look on CCA website.
- [REDACTED] per person registration sounds good to all.
- Buses (similar to city bus – public transportation) 50 people - large bus and 20 people small bus.
- Lisa said shirts are still available for speakers if you would like – just let her know sizes ahead of time and she can get them to Cherie before she leaves for meeting. Only L, XL and larger available in sizes.
- Cost may be a little bit over budgeted amount, but hopefully not.

**c) Reimbursement for travel**

- Heath asked for possible travel reimbursement – NRCS will not fund any for him and wondered if we might and also if anyone else wanted reimbursement.
- Most said close enough for them that they didn't need reimbursement.
- **Make note to amend budget to take [REDACTED] from National Meeting line item and put under summer tour if necessary.**
- Aaron moved to reimburse Heath for travel expenses at [REDACTED] per mile and [REDACTED] for one night hotel expense.
- Scott seconded the motion.
- It was approved by unanimous consent

**9) Field Notebook Update (L. Miller and D. Lake)**

- Still working on book steadily
- 2 or 3 more chapters left to type and finish entering photos.
- Waiting for 2 more standards and construction practices to type from Don Lake.
- Layout
- Peer Review – Unsure how long this process takes

- Hope to have book ready for peer review within one month's time.
- Aiming for presentation in fall hopefully.
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#### **10) November Annual Meeting Planing (All)**

##### **a) Sub Committee Chair and 2 or 3 other volunteers**

- May not be necessary for committee – smaller meeting and will work together on planning.

##### **b) Date, Location, Theme, etc.**

- Date - **November 14th (connected to AEM Training Session, Auburn, NY)**
- Heath will contact Holiday Inn and reserve the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Will provide lunch on the 14<sup>th</sup> and then have voting meeting and couple hours of speakers.
- Will confirm hotel until 5 pm at the latest.

##### **c) Extension of AEM training in November at Holiday Inn Auburn?**

- Yes and theme to consist possibly asking Don Lake to speak about the new Field Notebooks and any changes and also maybe have Pete Wright talk on Rainfall and Soil Changes. Thoughts were that topics might reach AEM audience.
- Also have meeting added to the AEM brochure as to attract more interest for meeting.

#### **11) Next Council Meeting:**

The next council meeting is set for a teleconference on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 1-3 pm.

#### **12) Other?**

Heath made a motion to adjourn at 3:10 pm

Scott seconded the motion.

It was approved by unanimous consent