

New Mexico SWCS 8/17/06 Teleconference Notes

The New Mexico Chapter SWCS Executive Board met via teleconference on August 17, 2006. Members present included: Corinne Brooks (Pres.), Paul Vanio (Reg. 1 Rep), Juan Gauna, Cliff Sanchez (Reg. 2 Rep), Jean Foster (Sec.) and Steve Kadas (Pres-Elect).

Without a quorum present Corinne welcomed members and began the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Annual Meeting - These notes will be reviewed and any necessary actions taken at our annual meeting (dependent on a quorum) scheduled for November 1, 2006 in Las Cruces. Time of meeting is TBA. Paul suggested having a speaker at the annual meeting and agreed to speak about his mobile irrigation lab. All agreed that we would like to have Mr. Dennis Alexander (State Conservationist, NM) speak for a brief time as he is supportive of membership in professional societies and a member of Colorado SWCS as well. Steve will put an agenda together for the annual meeting.

Elections - Corinne will be moving to California before our annual meeting and tendered her resignation as President effective at the end of the teleconference. Steve will take over at that time. Mike Sporcic (Treasurer) is also moving and stepping down from his position. All agreed to appoint Linda Scheffe to the position temporarily with the hope that she will accept such duty and accept a nomination to the position for the next year. Linda is already a signatory on the chapter bank account. Nominations for the other open positions were discussed, Cliff agreed to accept nomination for Region 2 Representative (and hopes to have some competition at election time) and Juan agreed to contact Robert Flynn to ask if he would accept the nomination for Region 4 Representative. Regions 1, 3 and 5 will come up for election next year. Jean agreed to remain as Secretary if uncontested; the only nomination unfilled is Pres-Elect. Jean will obtain an up to date roster from the National SWCS Chapter and distribute it to the executive board/meeting attendees for review and suggestions to fill this nomination. The nominations need to be finalized and ballots sent out to all members by the end of August. Jean, Steve and Linda Scheffe (upon acceptance) will tally the vote before the annual meeting.

Membership - Corinne has been our representative on the National Membership committee and has spoken with Ken Leiting who agreed to take over those duties. This change needs to be submitted to Harold Kluge, the Southwest Region Director, for approval. Ideas for new members included thinking outside of NRCS, promoting the free memberships and direct pay option, and that each executive board member will attempt to sign up two new members each.

Website - Paul was commended by all for his work in getting the website up and running. He requested submission of ideas, pictures, and articles. Cliff suggested adding an updated membership list.

Awards - Steve requested suggestions for Chapter or individual awards and asked that they be emailed to him and copied to Jean. He pointed out the benefits (pride of accomplishment, positive exposure for our Chapter) and recommended checking out the National SWCS website for more information.

Newsletter - Jean asked for newsletter ideas; some of the ideas were a Keystone write-up (Jean), announcement of elections/annual meeting, a membership drive article, a website notice, mention of Ken Leiting as National Membership Committee Rep. and Harold Kluge as Southwest Region Director.

Adjourn - Corinne thanked everyone and the meeting ended at 3:00 p.m.