

Executive Council Meeting Minutes  
**Friday, January 9, 2009 – 1:30 PM**

Teleconference

**Attendance:**

Brent Sohngen, Lloyd Owens, Dave Libben, Bob Parkinson, Alan Sundermeier, Mary Ann Core, John Clark, Michelle Lohstroh, Rick Wilson, Jon Rausch, Eugene Braig and Sarah McCarthy (from the Terr Aqua student group), Chris Coulon

Brent Called the Meeting to Order at 1:30.

**Student Chapter Report (moved up on agenda)** – Eugene Braig, Terr Aqua student chapter advisor and Sarah McCarthy, Terr Aqua student chapter president were present on the call.

Sarah was not in the chapter the last time the group met with the AOC. Eugene suggested having the student chapter do a project to get more students interested in Terr Aqua.

Brent suggested working with the Franklin SWCD on stream restoration projects in Franklin County. Sarah mentioned she would be interested in something involving climate change or carbon sequestration.

The group mentioned an event taking place February 4<sup>th</sup> with Karen Chapman on carbon sequestration issues. It was suggested that the AOC sponsor students' registration at this meeting. The executive council decided to brainstorm for ideas.

It was also suggested to invite Terr Aqua students to the AOC Winter Meeting, with registration provided by the AOC.

**Brent welcomed the new executive council members -**

President-elect: Michele Lohstroh  
Secretary: Sandra Chenal  
Treasurer: Rick Wilson  
Member-at-large: Jon Rausch

**Secretary's Report** – minutes were sent out for the November and December teleconferences. The group decided to wait to act on the minutes until Sandy could be present.

**Treasurer's Report –**

Bob submitted a report (attached to minutes). There was a \$200 expenditure for the ODA meeting space. A \$100 donation was made to the scholarship fund.

When the accounts were audited, it was suggested that the scholarship fund be tracked more accurately. Bob created the spreadsheet in the report he submitted. The scholarship fund is down; action needs to be taken to get it sustainable again. John Clark suggested highlighting donations to the scholarship fund at the winter meeting.

During a previous meeting, the executive council discussed awarding Jessica Turner (2008 scholarship winner) a free SWCS membership. Bob took care of that.

A motion was made by Dave Libben to accept the report submitted by Bob as written. Lloyd Owens seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Lloyd Owens moved to transfer \$195.50 from the operating fund to the scholarship fund to correct an overdraw of that amount which would bring the scholarship fund up to its 2007 base level. Dave Libben seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **Committee Reports**

### *Awards (Brent will report for Art if he has information)*

Brent reported that he said he'd work with the committee (Reeder and Gerber) to have an award at the meeting. There were no new nominations for this year but some that were submitted previously may be considered. There is still time to submit names in the next few weeks.

### *Membership – Kara*

Brent reported that Kara is watching the weekly reports from SWCS and is contacting members with expiring memberships. She has contacted about 20 people to date. Brent suggested having something about membership addressed at the winter meeting. Chris has the display board and Dave has the two boxes with the banners, both will bring these respective items to the winter meeting.

### *Publications – Chris*

Chris reported she is ready to put out the January newsletter and asked if there was anything else the executive council wanted to add. John mentioned Samuel Bone, a past president (chairperson at that time), passed away and we should put something on him in the newsletter. Michelle suggested putting something about the student chapter in a subsequent newsletter.

## **Old Business**

*2009 winter meeting* – Brent thanked John Rauch and Rick Wilson for helping with the speakers and for speaking.

CCA CEUs will be available, 4.5 total. Alan coordinated the credit awards.

Brent asked who would be available to assist with set up.

*Policy committee proposal* – This proposal has been in the works for about 7 months, it is part of the strategic plan but prior to this nothing much has been done with it.

Michelle said she supports establishing this committee.

Lloyd Owens moved to create this ad hoc policy committee according to the position description document dated 1/9/09. A small change was suggested to #4. (didn't get what this change is)

Bob Parkinson seconded the motion.

There was discussion about whether or not the executive council would have a representative or a liaison on this committee. It was decided that this would not be necessary as the executive council had to review any policy decisions regardless.

Motion passed.

**New Business**

East North Central Regional Committee Meeting – Lloyd has been working on this, it will be held in Ohio March 12-13 at Malabar Farm. This will be a workshop with representation from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and West Virginia.

John mentioned this meeting is a good opportunity to interact with people from the Society headquarters, as someone from there will attend this meeting.

Brent asked what is covered at this meeting.

Lloyd explained that updates from the committee chair as well as from the headquarters representative are given. Lloyd asked the group what type of info would be of interest to cover at this meeting. Last year they discussed what it takes to become a 501 c3. Lloyd suggested a presentation by Malabar Farm as their new visitor center is an energy efficient building with many environmentally friendly features. He also suggested an update on preparations for the International Meeting to be held in Michigan this summer. He may need help with the cost of refreshments and finding topics of interest to Ohio members.

It was suggested that a “heads up” notice of this meeting be put in the newsletter.

Adjourned at 3 pm