

2006 Fall Meeting Minutes
Walla Walla, Washington
November 3, 2006

The meeting began at 9:30 am with Georgie Leinweber thanking Larry Hooker for organizing the fall meeting.

Chapter News- Congratulations to Steve Durgin for his selection as the Multi-state Design Team leader. The Chapter received a card from Ann and Steve Swannack thanking us for our thoughts and prayers. All attending the meeting introduced themselves to each other.

The minutes from the last meeting (May 7, 2006) are available to read and were handed out. Larry Hooker made a motion to approve the minutes, Leonard Johnson seconded, and the minutes were approved as printed. The treasurer's report was handed out for the members to review. Larry Hooker made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Bruce seconded, and the treasurer's report was approved.

RUSLE Training – needs 25 people at a cost of \$1,000.00. Should we sponsor this training? The question will go on the ballot and the membership will mark yes or no. Shelly Lassiter stated that CCA training should be a good way to increase funds and membership. Successful Chapters hold these types of workshops. Leonard Johnson asked about a fee where NRCS would pay part of the cost. Is it feasible to canvas the membership by mail? Yes it is and the results should be available by the spring meeting. Steve Durgin stated that Bill Elliot has done WEPP training and would do a combined training session for us. Steve said that he thinks Pullman, Washington would be a better place to conduct the workshop than the NRCS State Office in Spokane, Washington. He said we could do a workshop at Washington State University in Johnson Hall. It would be a better to hold the workshop than the State Office because WEPP and RUSLE need software that may be hard to load on NRCS computers. We should have the workshop when school is not in session. The WSU complex in Spokane could work well also. Georgie Leinweber wants to form a committee. Are there any volunteers to work on this project? Washington Professional Soil Scientists is doing activities suggest we join with them. It was decided the committee should be Georgie Leinweber, Steve Durgin, and Joel Poore.

Electronic voting- Chapter discussion- must vote Steve Durgin recommends adding the Electronic vote on the next ballot. Send out the ballot in two or three weeks. Georgie Leinweber asks Chapter members if we can keep the Olympic Chapter involved. National does not want to lose Olympic Chapter,

so we are going to help them rebuild. National knows they are officially disbanded and that we have their money. So now there is only one chapter in the State of Washington. This raises concern of southern Idaho Chapter wanting to merge with the north Idaho portion of the Inland Empire Chapter. There are 25 members on the list for the Olympic Chapter. Where is their money going? Where can we hold a meeting to attract Olympic Chapter members? We need to keep all of our membership informed on this issue. Bruce asked how many are soil scientists. The Summer Soil Tour is generally at the end of July. He asked if we could do a co-tour. It was pointed out that this is the same time as the National SWCS convention.

Steve Durgin made a motion to send the ballot out to do nominations and proposals. This would go out to all members with feedback in two weeks. Steve will work with Don McCool. Proposal needs to show the current bylaws and a statement of exactly what the change will be. Patrice wants to know who will do the work. Shelly Lassiter seconds the motion, the motion is passed. Georgie Leinweber asks for volunteers to do this and asks that they report to her. Don McCool is to review the work also. This will be a voters package. Steve Durgin will be kept informed also. Ballot will include RUSLE & WEPP workshop question.

New Business

Leonard asked if the head of the Roger Veseth Fund has joined our Chapter. No. Hans Koch – will send him a membership roster. Leonard Johnson would like a list of members. Can we E-mail it? Emily Smelser volunteered to put the membership list on a Excel Spreadsheet. Steve Durgin will send it out. Other way to access membership is to develop a membership only section of the Website. Shelly will work on this, the Website is to have only names, e-mail addresses, and work addresses.

Motion to adjourn by Patrice Beckwith, Seconded by Tim Dring at 10:45 am

Respectfully Submitted

Tim Dring, Past President
Secretary pro tem