

Minutes
South Carolina Chapter
Soil & Water Conservation Society

September 18, 2008 – 10:30am
Richland, South Carolina

Present: Lori Bataller—President
Debbie Mann—President Elect
Angel Major—Secretary
Hugh Caldwell—Treasurer
Hugh Smith—Vice President
Frank Love—Area I Board Member
Kellee Melton-Area II Board Member
Wayne Cowell- Area IV Board Member
Staci Henry-Society Member

Absent: Harry Doswell—Area III Board Member
Amy Maxwell—Past President

Welcome

Lori Bataller called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Hugh Caldwell delivered the invocation. Lori then asked that the agenda be accepted Hugh Smith moved and Debbie Mann seconded and everyone agreed. Lori then asked everyone to look over the minutes. Wayne Cowell motioned they be accepted as written and Hugh Smith seconded and everyone agreed.

Financial

Hugh Caldwell passed out the financial report. Hugh stated that he still needed to send in the \$100 to help sponsor the Eastern Native Grass Symposium to Mary Morrison. The Operating Balance as of 9/18/08 is \$1,466.56. Hugh spoke with Mr. Mullis and his membership did not go thru and was not charged to his credit card. We need to get a check from Kenny Mullis and a new application form so we can send it to SWCS. We have budgeted \$600 to be received from membership dues and so far we have received \$615.37 in dues so we reached our allocated amount which is good. Hugh then moved the financial report be accepted, Debbie seconded and everyone agreed.

Membership Report

SC SWCS membership is now up to 110 members. Al McNeil was sent an email to remind him to rejoin. Angel Major updated the new members email addresses to the SC SWCS email account. Hugh Caldwell still cannot receive emails from the account so Kellee agreed to look into this problem with Hugh. Lori tried to send Annette Davis her welcome packet but it was returned so Staci said the address is 719 Kendal Rd Newberry,

SC 29108 but did agree to take it to her. Lori is going to send out the members list and wants everyone to look at the members in their area and try to update the missing or invalid email address for everyone so that we can ensure members receive correspondence. Once they have done so they can then send these corrected email addresses to Angel Major for her to input.

Committee Reports

Hugh Caldwell mentioned that we need to do the Officer Nominations because they need to be nominated by next meeting in order to be voted on at the following next business meeting in January. We need to elect a Vice President and Area II and IV representatives. Amy Maxwell is chair of the Nominations Committee and will contact Wayne and Kellee to see if they want to be nominated for their same positions for the next two years or if they would be will to be nominated for Vice President.

Wayne Cowell sent out the email regarding Award Nominees. He has not received any nominations back as of yet. The Deadline to send in Nominees is October 1st but it was agreed to move this to October 15th and to resend the email reminding everyone about the nominations. Lori also tasked that each person on the executive board come up with one person to nominate. Hugh Caldwell stated that the wrong email address is listed on the form and needs to be corrected. Kellee will ask Amy to fix the form. Hugh as stated that the website Chapter Activities be updated to 2006 to the Present and he agreed to do this and send to David to be updated.

Committee Members also need to be nominated for the upcoming year. It was tasked that the board liaisons to each committee come up with nominations for their committee. Some new members' names were mentioned to see if they would be interested in joining a committee like Jennifer Sarvis, Myra Jones, Corry Calderone, Jackie Reed, and Michael Sampson.

January Symposium

The Symposium will be held Tuesday, January 13th. The Title will be *Simple Ways to Save Money on the Farm thru Energy Conservation*. We want to present real farm scenarios, show how to use the online energy tools, maybe get a company to come and present what they do for an energy audit. Debbie would like to get an economist to speak about on the farm costs. A couple of names were mentioned like Curt Hobbs and Chalmers Carr, who is a farmer and was an Ag. Economics major. Hugh Smith will be meeting with him tomorrow and will ask him and let Debbie know as soon as possible. The registration fee is going to be \$75. For lunch they are trying to find a speaker on Pollinators.

Spring Symposium- Upstate

Staci Henry gave an update on this symposium. She has set a date of October 10, 2008 in Greenville for the meeting. The topic of green development will be discussed. Several different individuals in the upstate have been contacted and ask to help develop the

workshop. The Symposium will be held at Younts Conference center at Furman University. Hopefully, the keynote speaker will be Brad Wyche. We should be able to tour Cliff Cottage House a green construction house. Several other ideas are being discussed.

Area Reports

Area I – Frank Love said that he wanted to tour the gold mine but that the contact he had got sick so we were unable to but hopes to now plan this for the spring meeting.

Area II- Kellee trying to get location and date set for the summer event.

Area III- Harry was not here but Hugh Smith said that Harry hoped to go ahead and have a canoe trip scheduled since water levels are back up. The tour for the constructed wetlands could be scheduled he just needs a date. Perhaps we can schedule the tour for the May Meeting.

Area IV- Sent copy of article to Angel and Lori for inclusion into the newsletter.

Angel and Lori hope to work on the newsletter on Wednesday the September 24th. Debbie agreed to write up a story about her trip. We will highlight new members for this past year, list upcoming events, and do a story on Saluda Shoals.

Old Business

Hugh Caldwell and Amy Maxwell did work on the Leadership Manual and sent it to Von Snelgrove and is now just waiting on his comments.

New Business

The SC FFA is sending a student (Will Amick) to China and John Parris asked if the Society could help with his cost. We requested a presentation from Will upon his return. Frank Love moved that we send \$250 and Wayne Cowell seconded and all agreed. It was also noted we have not gotten any response to the \$2000 we gave to FFA. Hugh sent them a letter asking them what acknowledgment the SC SWCS get for donations but still has not heard anything back as of yet. Hugh Caldwell will call Keith Cox to find out what the acknowledgement will be. We requested a presentation or news article from the students who attended the National Convention.

Next Meeting to be held on November 20th at 10:00am in the Richland County Office.