The meeting was called to order by President Mark Alley. Board participants were:

Marcus M. Alley, ASA President
Francis J. Pierce, ASA President-Elect
Kenneth J. Moore, ASA Past President
Chad Lee, A-4 Board Rep.
Steven E. Petrie, A-7 Board Rep.
Tom W. Bruulsema, ICCA Registrants Board Rep.
Warren A. Dick, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio

Also present:
Fran Katz, Chief Operations Officer and Director of Publications
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

A003 Board of Directors
1. ACTION: It was moved by Mark Powell to approve the February 4, 2009 ASA Board of Directors conference call minutes. Seconded by John Graveel. Carried unanimously.

2. The next Board conference call is scheduled for April 1 at 11:00 AM Central Daylight Time.

A093 Certification Programs
Mark Alley reported that details have been worked out with IRRI and the Gates Foundation grant regarding implementation of an ICCA program in India. Society representatives will travel to India in April to initiate the ICCA program. ICCA leadership is also involved in discussions with Argentina relative to a possible ICCA program.

A211 Budget and Finance
Steve Petrie reported on the statement of revenues and expenses for the month ending January 31, 2009. Total revenues are ahead of last year to date. Total direct expenses are slightly ahead of last year to date.

Mark Alley suggested that Society members be encouraged to contact their libraries requesting they subscribe to Society journals.

ACS237 Membership and Society Identity
Susan Chapman reported on membership and renewal statistics. To date, 82.5 percent in the Active membership category have renewed; 54 percent of Emeritus members have renewed. Undergraduate student renewals are down approximately 8% but should increase as renewals are received from the clubs. Efforts to retain the non-renewed members are ongoing, particularly in the Graduate Student category, which is down about 10 percent.
A301 Editorial Affairs, Policies, and Practices
Warren Dick provided a brief report on ASA journals and books. A more detailed report will be presented at the May 19-20 ASA Board meeting. Overall, publications produced a positive net income in 2008.

Because the Agronomy Journal Editorial Board now reviews manuscripts, it has been expanded to 205 members, including increased international representation. It is anticipated that the Editorial Board will increase to 250 members by July. Submissions to the journal have increased and are expected to continue.

The Journal of Environmental Quality has added an Environmental Perspectives Editor to increase the journal’s visibility in the environmental quality area.

The Society continues to publish a steady stream of books with six currently in production.

Statistics on the number of page views for the journals in the Plant Management Network (PMN) were provided. ASA’s involvement in the PMN journals will continue to be monitored.

ACS536 Science Policy
ASA and ICCA officers participated in a February 9-11 Congressional Visits Day. The objective was to visit Congressional delegations and key committees dealing with climate change legislation. A detailed schedule and additional background information were emailed to the Board by Karl Glasener.

A711 Program Planning
Fran Pierce provided an update on the 2009 annual meeting. A WEBEX meeting room will be set up for the week and Society Program Chairs will identify key sessions that qualify for WEBEX broadcast. Fran will seek input from ASA Global on the WEBEX portion of the meeting. He will also work with Keith Schlesinger to develop an article for CSA News providing an overview of the WEBEX program.

Keith Schlesinger reported that the printed program book will be available on-site, but meeting attendees with a U.S. address that have preregistered, will have the option of receiving a program book by mail for a $10 fee. A cost savings of $12,000 to CSSA, ASA, and SSSA is anticipated.

Keith Schlesinger informed the Board that authors will be encouraged to submit their abstracts by April 24 because abstract submission fees will increase from $45 to $60 for regular member submissions and from $25 to $40 for student submissions on April 25. The deadline date for all submissions is May 5.

Keith Schlesinger is pursuing the possibility of virtual posters at future annual meetings.

In an effort to draw a new audience and the media, Fran Katz suggested the Society may want to consider a hot topic session on ‘Field to Fork’ at the 2009 annual meeting. She will forward further details to the Board, including possible speakers.

Meeting adjourned.