The meeting was called to order by ASA President Newell Kitchen. Board members present:

Newell R. Kitchen, ASA President
Kenneth A. Barbarick, ASA President-Elect
Francis J. Pierce, ASA Past President
Alexandra N. Kravchenko, Biometry and Statistical Computing Section Board Rep.
Robert J. Lascano, Climatology and Modeling Section Board Rep.
Chad Lee, Education and Extension Section Board Rep.
James A. Ippolito, Environmental Quality Section Board Rep.
J. Mark Powell, Global Agronomy Section Board Rep.
David M. Bubeck, Industry Board Rep. (via phone)
Frederick F. Vocasek, ICCA Registrants Board Rep.
Warren A. Dick, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio
Robert M. Lacey, Program Planning Officer, ex-officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio

Also present:
Sharon A. Clay, Incoming ASA President-Elect
Jessica G. Davis, Incoming Global Agronomy Section Board Rep.
Steven E. Petrie, Incoming Finance Rep.
Drew J. Lyon, Education and Extension Section Presiding Chair
David W. Meek, Biometry and Statistical Computing Section Presiding Chair
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy
Mark Mandelbaum, Director of Publications
Ian Popkewitz, Director of IT and Operations
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
Luther Smith, Director of Certification and Licensing Programs
Rebecca Polk, Recorder

Unable to attend:

James G. Coors, ASF Chair, ex-officio

A003 Board of Directors

1. ACTION: It was moved by Bill Heer to approve the revised meeting agenda with the addition of the request from the International Society for Terrain-Vehicle Systems, Inc. Seconded by John Shanahan. Carried unanimously.

2. Newell acknowledged the service of Fran Pierce, Chad Lee, Mark Powell, and John Shanahan whose terms end December 31, 2011. Sharon Clay, Jeff Hattey, Jessica Davis, and Steve Petrie were welcomed as new Board members effective January 1, 2012.
3. ACTION: It was moved by John Shanahan to approve the September 7, 2011 Board conference call minutes. Seconded by Fred Vocasek. Carried unanimously.

4. Newell reviewed the purpose and responsibility of the Board of Directors, as outlined in the ASA Leadership Handbook. He also provided an update on the October 14-15 ACSESS strategic planning meeting and recommends that ASA adopt the ACSESS document outlining Board responsibilities and expectations, as well as a Board evaluation. This will be an agenda item for the December 7 Board conference call.

5. Newell cancelled the November 2 Board conference call. The next conference call is scheduled for December 7 at 11:00 AM Central Standard Time.

6. Board conference calls are currently held on the first Wednesday of the month at 11:00 AM Central Time. For 2012 Ken proposed the calls be held the first Thursday of the month in the morning. The Board will be polled to select a time.

7. The date and location of the Spring 2012 Board meeting will be determined at a later date. The Board also discussed the value of the May 16-17, 2011 ASA Leadership Visioning Retreat and recommended consideration be given to holding a similar meeting in 2012. Determine whether the Section/Community leaders need to meet with the Board and perhaps schedule the meeting earlier in the year to accommodate the program planning schedule.

A010 Communities
Notes from the two Section/Community Leadership Meetings will be prepared and distributed. Big picture feedback was the need for improved communication across Societies, Sections and Communities; as well as the value of the Leadership Visioning Retreat held in Madison.

A012.8 High Plains Dryland Cropping Systems Community
The High Plains Dryland Cropping Systems Community requested a name change as the current name is too restrictive.

ACTION: It was moved by Mark Powell to approve changing the name of the High Plains Dryland Cropping Systems Community to Semi-Arid Dryland Cropping Systems. Seconded by Fran Pierce. Carried unanimously.

A017 Global Agronomy Section
Mark Powell shared the following feedback based on discussions at the Section business meeting and elsewhere:

• There needs to be better ways for Global Agronomy and perhaps other ASA Sections to communicate, especially with respect to programming for the annual meetings. Global Agronomy is unique in that our modus operandi is cross-cutting rather than the thematic/technical nature of the other Sections. Prior to my comments (which came at the very end of the meeting), there was great support to continue the face-to-face meeting of Section and Community leaders at ASA Headquarters in Madison (like the one in May, 2011). It was felt that such a meeting should be much earlier in the year, and perhaps have a greater focus on communication and program planning (a Global Agronomy Section leader living abroad may have to conference in to such meeting.)
• Related to above, the transition from one Section leader to another (and perhaps also Community leaders) needs improvement. The 'vice' system is meant to do this, but in reality the nuts-and-bolts of how to accomplish this are lacking. Seems like there is simply a handover of responsibilities at the annual meetings without much guidance. Perhaps establishing a listserv would facilitate communications.

• Perhaps we can define 3 main functions of Global Agronomy (1) programming technical papers submitted to Global Agronomy into appropriate technical sections, (2) sponsoring 1-2 symposia at the annual meeting, (3) liaising with other Section leaders and ASA leadership to articulate ASA's overall global efforts. With respect to (3), the need for this function and how to implement it needs to be further developed. Global issues such as climate change and feed the future are increasing in importance, which creates new challenges and opportunities for ASA to articulate its contributions to global agronomy.

A111 Election of Division Officers
Board members were encouraged to forward candidate names for Section Vice Chairs and Board Reps. for the 2012 ballot to Cathy Goudreau at Headquarters in the near future.

A201 Organization, Policy, and Bylaws
Fran indicated the committee had no new business to report.

A211 Budget and Finance
John provided an overview of the proposed 2012 budget. Fiscal resources have been handled well and the Society is healthy – staff was commended.

ACTION: It was moved by Ken Barbarick to approve the 2012 budget. Seconded by Bill Heer. Carried unanimously.

A301 Editorial Affairs, Policies and Practices
Mark Mandelbaum reported on the proposed digital library highlighting the following:

• Cost components
  ◦ digitization of books
  ◦ functionality modules and integration
  ◦ semantic tagging
• Taxonomy creation
• Taxonomy processing
• Timeframe

ACSESS will invest $293,000 in the infrastructure (technology and set-up). It is proposed that ASA cover the $72,000 cost to digitize their books which may be split between the 2011 and 2012 budgets.

ACTION: It was moved by Ken Barbarick to approve the $72,000 cost to cover digitization of books for the digital library. Seconded by Chad Lee. Carried unanimously.

A537 Science Policy
1. Fred reported on Science Policy Committee activities, highlighting the following:
   • Save Our GPS Coalition activities are beginning - progress reports will be provided
   • Water Security Task Force appointed
   • Karl Anderson hired as new Director of Government Relations beginning November 14
2. Rob asked about the potential of ASA joining CSSA on their biofuels position paper. Karl will discuss coordination of position papers with the ASA and SSSA Science Policy Committees.

3. Karl briefed the Board on the upcoming Farm Bill and potential funding cuts.

4. Luther updated the Board on the USDA-ARS $130,000 contract to put 500 people thru the Soil and Water course and 300 thru the Nitrogen Management course.

A691.1 CAST
Tony Vyn is the current ASA Rep to CAST through December 31, 2011. Sharon received a recommendation that this be a voted position rather than an appointed position. Newell will take this into consideration.

A711 Program Planning
1. ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to approve the request from the Canadian Society of Agronomy and the International Society for Terrain-Vehicle Systems, Inc. to hold their 2013 meeting in conjunction with ASA’s annual meeting in Tampa, FL. Seconded by Rob Mitchell. Carried unanimously.

2. It was the consensus of the Board to communicate to the membership that invited speakers at the annual meetings, particularly plenary speakers, are selected to help bring diverse scientific approaches, perspectives, and opinions. In some cases these perspectives may be controversial. The beliefs, opinions and viewpoints expressed by presenters do not necessarily represent the position of the Society. Leadership will work with Headquarters staff to develop an appropriate message.

ACTION: It was moved by Aaron Patton to adjourn. Seconded by Bill Heer. Carried unanimously.