ASA Board of Directors Conference Call
March 1, 2012
(Call started at 10:00 AM CST; ended at 11:05 AM)

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Barbarick. Board participants were:

Kenneth A. Barbarick, ASA President
Sharon A. Clay, ASA President-Elect
Newell R. Kitchen, ASA Past President
Robert J. Lascano, Climatology and Modeling Section Board Rep.
James A. Ippolito, Environmental Quality Section Board Rep.
Jessica G. Davis, Global Agronomy Section Board Rep.
Steven E. Petrie, Finance Board Rep.
Frederick F. Vocasek, ICCA Registrants Board Rep.
Warren A. Dick, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio
Robert M. Lacey, Program Planning Officer, ex-officio

Also participating:
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer
Karl Anderson, Director of Government Relations
Mark Mandelbaum, Director of Publications
Ian Popkewitz, Director of IT and Operations
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

Board members unable to participate:
Alexandra N. Kravchenko, Biometry and Statistical Computing Section Board Rep.
James G. Coors, ASF Chair, ex-officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio

A003 Board of Directors
1. ACTION: Moved by Bill Heer to approve the conference call agenda and the February 2, 2012 Board conference call minutes. Seconded by Rob Mitchell. Carried unanimously.

2. The Board will meet in Madison May 21-22. Board members should plan to arrive late afternoon on the 20th and depart mid-afternoon on the 22nd. If Board members are not able to attend the meeting, they should request their Section Presiding Chair or Vice Chair to attend.

3. Sharon indicated the committee to develop a new ASA logo will present 3 designs at the May Board meeting.

4. The next conference call is scheduled for April 5 at 10:00 AM Central Daylight Time.
A201.4.18 Water Security for Agriculture Task Force
Fred briefed the Board on Task Force activities, highlighting the following:
- John Sadler leading the effort to submit a proposal by April 26 deadline for a water security symposium at April 2013 AAAS meeting
- Draft outline prepared for position paper; authors to be identified

A211 Budget and Finance
1. Wes reported a net income from operations for the twelve months ending December 31, 2011.
2. Per previous action, the Board approved the Reinvest ASA program which establishes a maximum level of net assets equal to or greater than 85% of total assets, that value when exceeded will allow those excess funds to become available for funding beyond the approved budget of the following year. The balance sheet for the twelve months ending December 31, 2011 reported that no funds are available for Reinvest ASA this year.

A301 Editorial Affairs, Policies and Practices
1. Warren reported that Society journals are beginning to entertain publication of databases. It is anticipated that these types of papers will increase in the next couple years.
2. Mark reported that the digital library is moving ahead on schedule and will have a beta version out for testing and feedback by the end of March. A full business plan, detailed operational plan, and demonstration will be provided at the May Board meeting.
3. The CSSA Board of Directors is investigating the impact of dropping print versions of their journals and using the savings to reduce page charges. If CSSA eliminates print in 2013, a 50% reduction in page charges is anticipated. Income generated from the digital library will eliminate the remainder of page charges. Impact factors would also be affected as the journal could attract additional high-quality papers currently going to publishers without page charges. Mark will prepare a financial analysis for Agronomy Journal for presentation to the ASA Board.

A302 Agronomy Journal
Agronomy Journal Editor Brent Godshalk will step down effective March 31 due to workload and relocation.

ACTION: Moved by Rob Mitchell that the American Society of Agronomy Board of Directors, on behalf of the entire American Society of Agronomy, expresses our appreciation for the excellent service that Dr. Brent Godshalk has provided as Editor of Agronomy Journal. His high professional standards resulted in the Agronomy Journal continuing to be one of the world’s premier journals that publishes scientific agronomic information. Seconded by Steve Petrie. Carried unanimously.

Although previous Board action approved the concept of appointing Co-Editors for Agronomy Journal, Warren clarified that a Co-Editor will not be appointed at this time - Bill Raun will serve as Editor.

A537 Science Policy
1. Fred reported that the FCC is denying LightSquared approval for their nationwide broadband network because of interference with GPS.
2. Society Congressional visits are scheduled for March 27-28.
A711 Program Planning
1. The Board discussed in detail the proposal to amend the process/policy for ASA program enhancement funds as presented by Sharon and Bob. In addition to income generated on number of papers presented, the Board recommended consideration be given to additional Community-sponsored activities such as field trips, tours, student activities, etc.

ACTION: Moved by Jeff Hattey to refer the proposal to amend the process/policy for ASA program enhancement funds back to committee. Seconded by Fred Vocasek. Carried unanimously.

Sharon encouraged the policy be finalized in the next couple months in order to be implemented for the 2013 annual meeting. Ken requested Newell and Jeff work with Sharon and Bob to prepare a final draft for discussion at the May Board meeting.

2. Sharon requested funding of committee activities at annual meetings be an agenda item for the May Board meeting.

A733 Agronomy Conference Meetings
An ASA priority for 2012 is to improve/expand relationships with other professional societies/organizations through joint stand-alone meetings. Ken proposed a committee be established, similar to SSSA’s committee, to address stand-alone meetings.

ACTION: It was moved by Sharon Clay to establish an Agronomy Conference Meetings Committee. Seconded by Bill Heer. Carried with 1 opposed.

Ken will appoint Bob Lacey, Newell Kitchen, and John Shanahan to serve on the committee. He will work with the committee and Keith Schlesinger to develop a specific committee charge.

ACTION: Moved by Jim Ippolito to adjourn. Seconded by Jeff Hattey. Carried unanimously.