American Society of Agronomy Board of Directors Conference Call Minutes
Feb. 3, 2015, 11:00am

The meeting was called to order by ASA President Jean Steiner.

**Board Members Present:**
Jean Steiner, ASA President
Paul Fixen, ASA President-Elect
Dave Clay, Finance Board Rep.
Drew Lyon, Ag. Production Systems Section
Mark David, Environmental Quality Section
Jessica Davis, Global Agronomy Section
Donald Blackburn, Industry Board Rep.
Steve Evett, Climatology & Modeling Section
Kathleen Yeater, Biometry & Stats Computing Section
John Holman, Education & Extension Section
Timothy Reinbott, Land Mgmnt & Conservation Section
Frederick Vocasek, ICCA Registrants Board Rep.

Darrin Lickfeldt, Program Planning Officer, ex-officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio
Beth Guertal, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio

**Also Participating:**
Ian Popkewitz, Director of IT/Operations
Karl Anderson, Director of Government Relations
Bill Cook, Director of Publications
Susan Fisk, Dir. of Public and Science Communications
Wes Meixelsperger, CFO
Sara Uttech, Senior Mgr – Governance & Membership

**Unable to attend:**
David Mengel, ASA Past President
Shaun Casteel, Early Career Board Rep.

A003 Board of Directors

1. **ACTION:** Motion by Drew Lyon to approve the Feb. 3, 2015 agenda. Seconded by Don Blackburn. Unanimous approval.

2. **ACTION:** Motion by Drew Lyon to approve the Dec. 11, 2014 ASA Board Minutes as amended. Seconded by Jessica Davis. Unanimous approval.

3. Jean Steiner reported on her visit to Headquarters in Madison in January and provided an overview of her vision for the year:
   - **Policy office** – Continue our efforts to work with a broader coalition of agriculture and environmental groups. While some of the issues that have divided agriculture are not going to be resolved, we need to bring these issues to the forefront, start building relationships, and come to some agreement.
   - **Communications** – We will be working with a consultant to identify what non-agriculture/consumer audiences perceptions of agronomy are – anticipating a report in time for our May board meeting. Boost our communication of Agronomy Feeds the World – similar movement with the I Heart Soil campaign. A new committee will work with our communications staff on web content and science activities to promote our sciences and disciplines.
   - **Relationship with Cuba** – ASA to begin building a partnership with our agronomic science counterparts in Cuba, develop some joint activities, conferences, exchange of information, make connection, and welcome them into ASA Communities.

4. Jessica Davis volunteered to serve on the A211 Budget and Finance Committee.

5. Jean Steiner directed the board to review the ASA Presidential Award criteria posted to the Board website and to send potential nominees to her. Staff is looking for ways to incorporate the presidential award recipient into the Annual Meetings program and will work with the Program Planning Committee on this.

6. **ACTION:** Motion by Steve Evett that ASA commit up to $10,000 to support the International Year of Soils to support outreach efforts. Seconded by Tim Reinbott. Unanimous approval. The ASA logo will appear at the end of the March video on soil and agriculture.
A2013 Community Stewardship and Review Committee

1. ACTION: Motion by John Holman to accept the merger of the Advisors Developing Undergraduate Student Activities Community into the Undergraduate Education Community. Seconded by Steve Evett. Unanimous approval.

2. ACTION: Motion by Tim Reinbott to approve the new Soil Health Community in the Land Management & Conservation Section. Seconded by Jessica Davis. Unanimous approval.

A211 Budget and Finance

Wes Meixelsperger provided an encouraging update on ASA 4Q 2014 Financials as the operating loss was lower than projected at $176,000.

Future ASA Board Meetings:

- 2015 ASA Board Conference Calls first semester–1st Tuesday of the month at 11am Central
- 2015 Spring ASA Board Meeting in Madison, WI – May 18-19, 2015

Next ASA Board Call: Tuesday March 3, 2015 at 11:00am Central

Consensus to adjourn.