

North Central Branch – American Society of Agronomy  
Business Meeting Minutes  
March 15, 2005 Nebraska City, NE at the Lied’s Lodge and Conference Center

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m., by President Dale Leikam and the new officers were introduced.

- Steven Paszkiewicz, incoming President
- Harold Watters, Secretary/Treasurer

The minutes from the previous year’s meeting were presented and approved.

The treasurer’s report included the following:

Balance of funds being held at ASA on behalf of NCB-ASA:

As of Jan 1, 2005	20,863.11
Changes 2005	
Meeting registrations thru Mar 15	6,330.00
2005 HQ staff charge	(310.57)
Balance Mar 15, 2005	26,882.54

That does not include all charges for the NCB Meeting or the walk-in registrations.

For the 2004 North Central Branch – American Society of Agronomy meeting. There were 57 pre-registrants, 13 speakers and 10 walk-in registrants. Certified Crop Advisor CEU’s were applied for and approved:

- 1.5 SW
- 1.0 PM
- 3.0 CM
- 2.5 NM

There was an ASA report from Dr. Lowell Moser. He indicated that the Executive Committee met last week in Madison, WI. He reports that they have decided to move ahead with the streamlining of the board and to move to operation as a federation with 16 to 17 board representatives. The three societies, ASA, SSSA and CSSA will operate under the federation with their own boards. Loss of membership has slowed with a 1.9% reduction this past year. Dr. Moser expects relationships directly with the branches will increase as we no longer have a board representative. ASA hopes to communicate more with CCAs, and other practitioners.

Susan Chapman, Tri-Societies Director of Membership Services indicated she was looking for opportunities to work with branches. She wants to help capture any synergies between ASA and the North Central Branch. She asks “what can ASA do for you?”.

President Dale Leikam asked the question of what can we do to improve NCB activities, which consist mostly of the winter meeting and conference. Several comments were made concerning working with other regional groups such as, the Entomological Society, Plant Pathology, NC Weed Science, and the NC Soil Fertility group.

We agreed that the greatest need we had from ASA was help with marketing and promoting the annual NCB meeting. We agreed that we would work with Susan Chapman on this.

President Dale Leikam discussed the start up of a North Central Service Award for technical service employees, from industry, universities or agencies. Some comments had been made about starting such an award, Dale earlier surveyed several parties and there was support for such an award from about one third of the respondents, neutral from one third and lack of support from a third. He will turn this project over to incoming President Steve Paszkiewicz. Suggestions made for the award were: the employee's nomination would be made by the supervisor and that this nominator would be an ASA member. Dale suggested we try this for a couple to several years before making this a permanent award.

Winner of the 2005 North Central Branch ASA Graduate Student Poster Contest: Angela Bastides, an Agronomy and Horticulture graduate student at University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Her poster "What growth analysis reveals when the management goal is soybean yield potential" with co-authors A. Doberman, R.W. Elmore and James Specht.

The contest was supported by \$250 gifts from Monsanto, Pioneer, BASF, and John Deere for a total of \$1000. Thanks were presented to each of the sponsors and to everyone who entered the poster contest. Poster presentations: 3 posters were included in the contest, 1 additional poster was on display

Steve Paszkiewicz solicited nominations for the secretary/treasurer position for the North Central ASA Branch committee. No nominations were received at the meeting.

Passing of the gavel: Dale Leikam passed not the gavel but the "Welcome North Central Branch" banner to incoming president Steve Paszkiewicz. Steve gave his thanks to Dale for his work on the 2005 NCB meeting.

The 2006 North Central Branch ASA meeting will be held March 14 and 15 in Johnston IA.