

Minutes of NCRCSS Steering Committee Meeting, June 27, 2002

Meeting started at 11:20 a.m. Present: Chair Travis Neely, Jon Hempel, Russ Kelsea, Carl Wacker, Luis Hernandez, Gary Struben, Asghar Chowdhery, and Tonie Endres.

Discussion of responsibilities and procedures:

\$5,000 will be part of the 02 budget the year of the conference. Carl will send all files to Travis. Travis may need to set up a Web site. Carl edited the National Web site. NSSC should handle the infrastructure for developing a Web page. Travis has responsibility to get out the proceedings within 30 days. The Steering Committee should review the proceedings before distribution. Russ Kelsea will be responsible for distribution. Travis will send the recommendations of the 2002 committees to Jon Hempel. Jon will forward the recommendations to Berman Hudson, Soil Survey Division Director, and to Russ Kelsea, soil survey staff leader for the North Central region. This letter should also be included in the proceedings. A copy of the amended By-laws should also be sent out. After National meeting in 2003, Steering Committee chair should then constitute committee chairs and charges.

Discussion of procedures for selecting the Soil Taxonomy committee members:

Members should represent the taxonomic regions: east, central, and west. Chair of Steering Committee will select chair of the Soil Taxonomy committee. June 30, 2003 will be the next committee rotation.

Soil Taxonomy committee membership:

- Howard Gundlach, WI – one year term (Dave Hvizdak is backup appointee)
- Tonie Endres, IN – two year term
- To be selected by Jon and Travis – three year term (possibly C.J. Heidt, ND)
- NCR3 members: Laurie Osher, ME; Jay Bell, MN; and Bill Zanner, NE

Charges of Soil Taxonomy committee:

- \* Develop operational procedures. Send draft of procedures to Jon Hempel and Russ Kelsea.
- \* Review all taxonomy proposals.

Carl Wacker made recommendations for Indiana to consider in 2004:

\* Capture on video the first day's presentations by the Keynote speaker and Soil Survey Division Director. Include the video on a CD with the conference proceedings. Also, put pictures taken during the conference on the CD.

\* Delegate all audiovisual responsibilities to Public Affairs or IT staff.

\* There was no evening banquet with a speaker for the 2002 Conference to allow more time for fellowship instead.

\* The Wisconsin conference started on Monday afternoon and concluded on Thursday morning to allow for travel. Travis recommended allowing all of Monday and Friday for travel. Tuesday through Thursday would be designated for the conference.

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Recommendations for Indiana to consider in 2004 (continued):

- \* NCR3 came to this meeting but we should try to keep them involved more.
- \* Need to have the right Keynote speaker when the Leadership Team is present on the first day.
- \* Get private industry involved. This is supposed to be a partnership meeting.
- \* Integrate field trip around the conference theme.
- \* Include opportunity for posters, in particular on what unique things are going on in region.

Additional recommendations:

- \* Submit partnership state reports ahead of conference.
- \* Focus on dissemination of soils information, not on production issues at conferences.

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tonie J. Endres  
Indiana NRCS