

**Western Association of RC&D Councils
Teleconference Board Meeting
March 11, 2004
8 p.m. Central Standard Time**

AGENDA

Call to Order 7:10 p.m.

**Board Members Present: Megan Phillips, Joe Leichtnam, Paul Calverly,
Others Present: John English - CO**

Approval of the Agenda

Joe moved; Megan 2nd

Minutes of the last meeting – posted on website

Joe moved; Megan 2nd

Financial Report

Annual Meeting Report

Account Balances

No report

Committee Reports (Committees as listed on web site)

Nominating – No report

Awards - Joe: We will be changing our format to match the National format and will allow for 4 pages with up to 6 pages of attachments. Adding 2 categories: Youth Works & Program Assistant

Bylaws – No report

Audit & Finance – No report

Natural Resources & Rural Development – No report

Site Selection – No report

Information & Marketing – Officers need to have their articles in to Kathy for the newsletter by March 1, **extended to March 14**. Kathy will be working on the newsletter this weekend and publishing next week. There is a paucity of articles.

Quality Assurance – No report

New Business

1. Training – John: Program needs to cycle through over a 2-year period in 4 sessions. A board member can pick-up the training anywhere in the cycle. Focus on roles, responsibility, how do you interact with the community and coordinators.

Paul: How are we going to use the \$11,000?

John: The intention is that this be seed money to be returned to Western. Spent for curriculum development for use internally to Western. Once developed, this program could be made available to other regions at a portion of the cost. Other regions would get an \$11,000 program for \$2-3,000

Paul: It sounds like a good deal, fulfills a universal need. Western is the flushest of the regions. Other regions may not be able to pay much.

2. 2005 Western Conference

A. Officers roles - Working w / Wyoming Planning Committee.

B. Awards & Auction (separation)

Paul: Need to get Roger here for this discussion.

General discussion about how the site is selected annually.

John: Is it required to hold the annual meeting in a Council area?

Paul: No. General discussion regarding the benefits of choosing a site. Greater concern is with cost of travel, facilities, etc., and with ground transportation.

Megan: If the annual meeting is held outside of a council area, it makes highlighting a council area rather difficult.

3. Report on National Board Meeting

Emailed to all, and put in the newsletter.

John: 1st timer impression; very useful in program and most useful is being able to talk/learn from other areas. At the outset, I was skeptical. I got more out of it than I believed I would going in.

Joe: Timing is key. We need to keep the Western regional prior to the legislative conference. Western states arrive in DC fully charged and ready to take on the legislators.

4. Dinosaur Land – A letter was received requesting the deliverables for membership. There had been no response from Western and dues from Dinosaur Land had not been paid. The Coordinator was at Bismarck. Paul wrote a letter explaining what one gets for membership. We are waiting for a new response from Dinosaur Land.

5. Drought Planning Handbook – Paul: deadline of early April. There is a contract that matches NRCS \$40k:Western \$20k Planning handbook for Drought planning. The 10 steps for effective planning. Andy is making refinements. The committee has divvied up the project and each has a section. John: This sounds like a CD project? Paul: This is talking about how urban and rural communities can plan in Drought. CD's have a similar project for agricultural producers.

6. Meeting Planner – Comprehensive, general planning tool and didn't meet the need of the Western region. Paul has requested that the National Office pair with Arin Nesbitt and develop something specific to Regional needs.

7. Sacramento Small Wood Conference – Paul is going in May. Paul is also on the Nat'l Board Energy Committee. Paul will post resources found at the conference.

8. Change Teleconference Date – Wednesday evenings are suggested.

Adjourn 8:10 p.m.

Joe moved

Megan 2nd