

**Washington DC NARC&DC Leadership Forum
February 23, 2004**

Western Association Executive Board Meeting

Called to order 5:05

Welcome from Western President Keith Kessler

No Agenda – The following presentation was made:

Marwood Klein presented Joe Cantu with a plaque for service as the National President.

Mr. Cantu expressed appreciation and his regret for not being able to attend the Western Meeting in Bismarck. He stressed that he was forced to miss the conservation districts annual national meeting in Hawaii as well.

No Agenda – The ensuing dialogue occurred:

Keith Kessler announced that he remains 1st Vice President of the National Association. He will continue as President of Western and as such, he will continue to work with Western's programs and promotions.

Keith requested each of the Western state's annual meeting dates and locations in order to plan attendance at each state's meeting during the next two years. States offered the following information, or will notify as information becomes available:

AZ

CO - 1st Wednesday & Thursday - April 1&2, 2004; Colorado Springs
cbcrd.org

ID

MT

ND - October

NE – 1st Week in Oct. (Oct 5-7, 2004)

NM – Spring & Fall (May 11, 2004, Gallop)

NV

SD - 2nd Tuesday – October

UT - 3rd week April - April 21-23, 2004; Park City UT SLC area
utahrc&dassn.org

WY

Continued Discussion:

A Meeting Planner document has been provided for comment to the Western Association Board by the National office. This document is part of the "deliverables" negotiated through a previous financial agreement. Initial comments included the document is too generic in approach and needs to be tailored to the distinct needs of the Western Association. It was felt that the document was compiled text from generalized sources.

The Meeting Planner will be returned to the National office for revision.

Discussion turned to more direct comments regarding planning and execution of the annual Western meeting. Comments included the profit share splits and what funds should be considered in that split. Communication and coordination of the Executive Board's required time blocks for general members meeting and training segments.

Coffee break specifications and entertainment desires need to be planned as a part of the conference expense. Pre-funding for deposits and indication of anticipated extra funds needs to be known by the host State. Earlier communication of conference agendas and a newcomers briefing established early in the conference sessions were suggested ideas. It was also stated that these items and topics are mentioned in the Bylaws and Strategic plan documents and would serve to support the development of the Meeting Planner. With respect to standing committees, a Sunset clause might be considered; make a committee fight for its continued necessity or life.

Wyoming's 2003 planning is in motion. Colorado is in the early planning stages for the 2004 Annual Meeting. The Colorado League has April deadlines that need to be adhered to.

A request was made for introductions of the meeting participants and all present introduced themselves.

Bruce Kroetch presented a snapshot view of the budget. Dues notices were sent last week and there has been response from 25 councils to date.

Keith presented Kay Joy's map for the Pac Rim area and Kay has offered to produce one for the Western Region.

Keith, Marwood and Malcolm, are working to better utilize the list-serve. If there is difficulty in getting signed up, contact Malcolm.

At the Bismarck Western Regional Meeting there was not enough time to discuss the strategic plan goals that originated in NM. Updates to these goals should be sent to Bill Moore, SW ID RC&D. The strategic plan goals were put aside due the NRCS requirement for a 'listening session' with the Western Association. This was an unfortunate cut to the agenda at the last minute.

Newsletter Deadline - March 1, 2004 Officers need to submit articles.

Adjourn 6:10

Marwood made a motion to Adjourn. Joe Leichtnam seconded the motion.