

SWCS Empire Chapter Council Meeting  
July 17, 2009, 10am, Cayuga County SWCD Conference Room, Auburn, NY

Present: Peter Wright, Dianna Power, Greg Albrecht, Brad Schwab, Josh Hornesky, Henry Kelsey (on the phone), Lisa Miller

1. Review of May 14, 2009 Empire Chapter Council Minutes
  - Motion made by Brad to accept minutes
  - Seconded by Henry
  - Motion was carried
  
2. Treasurer's Report – Brad/Lisa
  - Note on Treasurers Report: With the transfer of funds from Lesko Securities to Vanguard Accounts, the Treasurers Report checking and savings balance looked like the funds were double recorded
  - The July Balance Sheet has corrected this and funds will no longer show in checking/savings now
  - Sales Tax: Sales Tax was paid online last quarter. Balance sheet shows sales tax taken.
    - The 1<sup>st</sup> year of sales tax has to be paid to the State quarterly. Next year State will decide if we pay quarterly or annually
  - Lisa will combine "MM Scholarship" and "Endowment" accounts in QuickBooks to one account because they will be one account with Vanguard
  - Publications: few sales in summer, inventory should be adequate until September Meeting
  - National Meeting \$6500 and Conservation Skills Workshop \$750 reimbursements not paid out yet, but committed to in checking balance
  - Empire Chapter Budget: Greg, Lisa and Brad will try to come up with a budget for 2010
  - Discussion of Profit/Loss – Greg:
    - Lisa and Greg will value inventory and add to Treasurer's Report a sheet to show value of inventory
    - Brad questioned whether we should insure the publications.
    - Lisa may ask about a rider or Council will look into insurance once we get inventory value
  - Lisa's Invoice: 5/12-7/14 for \$635.
    - Motion made by Greg to accept Lisa's invoice
    - Seconded by Peter
    - Motion was carried
  - Treasurer's Report:
    - Motion made by Dianna to accept Treasurer's Report
    - Seconded by Peter
    - Motion was carried
  
3. Investment Update - Brad
  - Received funds from Lesko Securities
  - Funds will go to Vanguard account after Greg, Lisa and Brad sign forms today
  
4. Telephone Conference Options – Greg
  - Greg is going to look into additional options for council meetings
  
5. National Annual Meeting
  - 2010 in St. Louis

- Gary Sick Report from 2009 meeting: WI wanted to change by-laws and make 4 Directors elected and 3 Directors appointed by Executive Director. Resolution failed.
  - Gary feels changing Directors to being appointed instead of elected by delegation, that the Board would lose accountability to the membership
  - Gary recommends sending letter to Bill Boyer from Chapter to recommend staying connected with delegation
  - Greg will talk to Dana Chapman, Bill Boyer and Jim Hotaling to get their take
6. Annual Meeting – Henry
- Discussed option for topics and presenters
7. Mini-Grant Subcommittee recommendations:
- Recommend standard RFP
  - Accept applications twice annually
  - Education/outreach required
  - Budget/Set cap annually
  - Also discussed offering Professional Development opportunities, similar to a scholarship for continuing education
8. Advocacy – Peter
- Peter discussed Advocacy opportunities with Bill Boyer
  - Nationally, SWCS wants to show as technical expert and be politically neutral
  - Peter discussed opportunity to “recruit” retired staff for being advocates for the Chapter
  - Greg will talk to CDEA and NYACD and other chapters on how their advocacy committees have evolved or grown.
9. Pamphlet and Display to represent Chapter at event
- Table discussion until next meeting
  - Try to find display
10. Scholarships – Josh
- Requests offering 2 scholarships this year for \$1000 each and 1 Fletcher scholarship for \$500.
  - Motion made by Peter to offer the scholarships described above for 2009
  - Seconded by Josh
  - Motion was carried
  - Announce opportunity the end of August to colleges, send reminders out Mid-September
11. Awards
- Lisa will follow-up with Jim Hotaling to touch base about awards for 2009
12. Website –
- Publications page is doing well
  - Events are difficult to keep up with/update
13. Next Council Meeting will be September 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 12:30pm, USDA Service Center, Auburn
14. Adjournment
- Greg made motion to adjourn
  - Seconded by Brad
  - Motion Carried