

FRSA General Business Meeting, October 11, 2006

Arkansas Valley Seed
Longmont, CO

President Ethan Waltermire called the meeting to order at 1:18 pm.

Members present: Melissa Simpson, Richard Agnew, Ethan Waltermire, Barbara Atkins, Sharon Bokan, Sunny Hanley, Mary Loring, Annette Miller, Mike Dideriksen, Jim Bruce, Pat Conine, Irene Cardona and Diedra Peck.

Secretary's report: Diedra Peck presented July 14, 2006 minutes for approval. Melissa's name is to be added to members present. Jim moved to approve and Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Pat Conine presented financial activity since July 14th. Mike moved to accept the report, Jim seconded and the motion passed.

Web page administrator's report: Annette reported that 95 people participated in the wage survey which is now posted on the website. The survey can also be found on the AOSA website. The July business meeting minutes will also be posted along with a notice of Melissa Simpson's membership (representing Syngenta).

Old Business

STEP Update: STEP committee members are working on developing a market strategy for the Seed Images website. They are trying to determine the web site's value and usage by its customers to further improve the site and attract new clients.

Formalizing FRSA voting process on AOSA rule proposals: Ethan continued the discussion on the feasibility of the FRSA presenting a non-biased, informative voting guide on the AOSA rule proposals. This information would need to be ready by April. Mike suggested contacting other members of the FRSA for their input and/or recommendations for experts in the field to which the rule proposal applies. Annette thought we should ask for contributions from anyone interested and we should directly contact expert opinions. Ethan will reform his proposal and choose a committee to develop a method of obtaining pros and cons of the rules before our next FRSA meeting in January.

Proposed changes to Colorado State Seed Law: Ethan reported that the final draft is close to being finalized and presented to state legislators. In summary the changes include: rewording the Plant Variety Protection Act so that it can be enforced by law, rewriting the definitions of germination, dormant seeds, hard seeds and viability to be the same as defined in the AOSA rules, rewriting rules of arbitration to add more flexibility in obtaining expert testimony and more informative rulings, allowing the commissioner to approve certain species (under strict guidelines) to be labeled by a tetrazolium test, rather than a germination test. Annette noted the importance of Sharon Davidson's proposal of adding rules for TZ testing to the official AOSA Handbook. Comments may be e-mailed to Ethan at ethan.waltermire@colostate.edu and he will forward them to the executive committee of the Colorado Seed Industry Association.

New Business

2007 Officer Elections: Mike nominated Ethan to continue as president for a second term, Jim seconded and members present voted unanimously for Ethan to continue as president. Ethan nominated Barbara Atkins to fill the secretary position, Annette seconded and Barbara was unanimously elected. Annette nominated Pat Conine to continue as treasurer, Ethan seconded and Pat was also unanimously voted in to continue as treasurer.

2007 Meeting Schedule:

January 10	1:00pm	Syngenta	Longmont, CO
April 11	1:00pm	Applewood Seed Co	Golden, CO
July 13	to be announced	CO State Seed Lab	Fort Collins, CO
October 10	1:00pm	STA Laboratories	Longmont, CO

TZ Proposal: Annette, co-sponsor of Sharon Davidson's TZ rule proposal, presented information in the rule proposal for discussion. As more states accept TZ test results for seed labeling, the committee feels it is important to establish rules to include in the AOSA Rules handbook. The rule proposal will standardize the number of seeds to test and how to report the results, especially clarifying how to handle the issue of hard seeds. The main problem with the rule proposal, as noted by both Mike and Jim, was the specific TZ procedures charted on the *Arrostis*, *Dactylis*, *Festuca*, *Lolium* and *Poa* genera. They felt that not all voting convention members may support the procedures and rather than hinder the bulk of the rule proposal from being passed, it is best to have the chart introduced as another proposal. Please contact Annette if you have any questions or comments about the proposal.

Other New Business: Barbara brought in a precalculated anemometer. Persons needing to purchase an anemometer can contact Barbara Atkins or Richard Agnew for vendor contact information. It is still not clear if the Federal Seed Lab or the AOSA will be mailing out a calibration sample.

Ethan moved to adjourn the meeting; Jim seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 2:39 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Diedra Peck
FRSA secretary