



## FRONT RANGE SEED ANALYSTS

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1111 South Mason St., Fort Collins, CO 80521-4500

### General Business Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2003

Submitted by: Laurie Thoma, FRSA Secretary

### Arkansas Valley Seed Solutions

Longmont, Colorado

Hosts: Richard Agnew and Diedra Peck

Attendance: Michael Nelson, Richard Agnew, Sunny Hanley, Mary Loring, Annett Miller, Pat Conine, Karin Nastick, Jim Bruce, Barbara Atkins, Laurie Thoma and guest Diedra Peck.

FRSA President Mary Loring called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

Secretary's Report: The July 18, 2003 meeting minutes were approved (Jim moved, Pat seconded). Laurie provided a membership update. We have 16 Sponsor, 6 Support and 27 Individual Members.

Treasure's Report: Pat presented the treasurer's report and it was approved (Barb moved, Jim seconded). Receipts include publication orders and Disbursements include new checks, food for the Seed Analyst Forum, printing and postage for publications ordered.

Web Page Administrator's Report: Annette discussed the recent changes with our web page hosting company. They have shifted us to a new format but in the process, we lost service of the website for a couple of weeks. In return for that inconvenience, they doubled our allotted space. The AOSA TZ Committee still has a programmer working on the interactive TZ data collection site. FRSA is allowing the building of the site on our web space. When it is complete, it will be moved to the AOSA website. It will be a place for anyone to place germination v. TZ data in return for demographic and contact information.

Outreach Committee Report: Annette has tried to contact the people who were working with the Mobile Investigations Program before it closed its doors, and has not heard back. We were told that all of the MI segments were going to the Poudre R1 School District here in Fort Collins. Annette has not been successful in contacting that person either. Where do we go from here? In order to distribute the You Need The Seed program beyond MI, we need to re-do some of the photos that are on the ID cards. We asked permission to use the pictures that were not public domain, under the pretence that they were to be used solely with this program. Laurie has compiled a list of things we need. FRSA needs to have full rights of any pictures provided. This way we can reproduce the program and sell it for the cost of reproduction, like we do with our other publications.

Annette received an intriguing email from a secondary school, English teacher in Lithuania. They are looking for a way to get seeds from English speaking countries to grow at their school. There was discussion about sending a copy of our ID cards, without actual seeds, to the school. There was a motion by Annette and a second by Laurie to do this. Laurie will print a set on cardstock, have it bound and send it on to Lithuania. Annette forwarded the message to Johnny's Select Seeds, thinking that they would be a good source for viable seeds and that they would have proper documentation for international trade. What a great opportunity to reach out to the world!

After further communication with the teacher in Lithuania, we have learned that they would like to plant perennials for each class to care for each year. In exchange they will send us a photograph of the students and the plants they grow. We are working with Applewood Seed Company to meet this goal.

STEP Update: Jim reported that the SeedImages.com website is coming along. They are in the process of purchasing a key builder tool that will enable the Seed ID Wizard in 3 or so months, rather than in a year. The question was raised about who subscribes to the SeedImages.com. Jim gave a demographic overview of their subscribers: Mostly university researchers (primarily ecologists), government inspection agencies (APHIS etc. due to heightened Homeland Security), State Seed Labs (mostly those associated with universities), Students in the distance education seed ID courses, and finally seed analysts. Many current seed analysts have a hard copy of the books and/or they don't have their own computer at their workstation so they don't subscribe. In small private labs where money is tight, they are even less likely to subscribe. The SCST is in the process of creating their own seed image bank for use by their members. Apparently Syngenta has offered to sponsor this project.

The other big news from STEP is that Jim Stanelle of the Colorado Seed Growers Association has resigned. He has moved back to Wisconsin to pursue his International Consulting career and to be closer to his family. The interim Manager of CSGA is Linda Munk, the Assistant Manager. To replace Jim's position, they are looking for a Director of Seed Programs. This person will oversee Managers of the CSGA, Colorado Seed Lab and Colorado Foundation Seed. The position will be listed in the Job Opportunities link on the FRSA website.

Meeting times were set for 2004.

Day	Month	Date	Year	Location	Time	Format
Wednesday	January	7	2004	Syngenta/Hillesog Longmont, CO	1:00 pm	General Business
Wednesday	February	7	2004	Precision Seed Testing Arvada, CO	1:00 pm	Rules Proposal Review
Friday	July	16	2004	NCGRP (tentative) Fort Collins, CO	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Seed Analyst Forum
Wednesday	October	6	2004	Arkansas Valley Seed Solutions Longmont, CO	1:00	General Business/ Officer Elections

Laurie has re-designed the Membership Form to include our new membership category of Gold. These are companies who support us at a higher level, \$100.00 or greater. The new forms include a description of each membership level and its benefits and a place to decline any member benefits, should you so desire. Current members will receive their membership renewal

form by mail. Membership forms are also available on-line in PDF format to print and mail back and in MS Word format to fill in, save and send by email. Please make sure that all membership donations are accompanied by a completed Membership Form.

The Colorado Seed Growers Association annual meeting will be December 3 – 4 at the University Park Holiday Inn in Fort Collins, CO. Either Laurie or Mary will present the accomplishments of FRSA at the morning session on Dec. 4.

FRSA was approached by the SCST Executive Director, Anita Hall, asking us to write a letter to the new Federal Seed Lab in Gastonia, NC in support of hiring a TZ specialist as they add to their staff. The adding of TZ expertise to that particular lab might lead to more comprehensive and in depth TZ workshop opportunities for all analysts. This is an area that needs more attention if TZ is to become a reliable source of viability information. Annette moved that we write a letter supporting the Federal Lab to hire another TZ expert in their Gastonia, NC location, Jim seconded.

Aleta Meyer of Ransom Seed Lab is coordinating a purity, germination and PLS referee for *Artemesia tridentata*. Contact Aleta if you are interested in participating.

The tentative schedule is out for the 2004 AOSA/SCST Annual Meeting in Tunica, MS. Tim Gutormson of Midwest Seed Services is organizing a TZ workshop for the end of the session.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 by Mary Loring, FRSA President.