



Nebraska Section SRM Council Meeting July 22, 2021

Jack Arterburn called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM CST. This meeting was held remotely via Zoom. Ben Beckman, Jack Arterburn, Angie Petersen, Brad Schick, Nadine Bishop, Emma Barnett, Laura Rubeck, and Mitch Stephenson attended remotely.

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed from the November, 2020 meeting. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Ben Beckman, seconded by Brad Schick. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The balances of the accounts as of July, 22, 2021 were as follows: \$12,368.33 for the SRM checking account, \$8150.65 for the NE State Range Judging checking account, \$7203.06 for the Nebraska Section CD, \$2853.12 for the William Wester HSYF fund, \$9338.52 for the Range Judging CD and \$6650.97 for the NE State Range Judging CD. The SRM Account looks high due to the fact that income from Range Camp has been deposited, but the largest bill has not been received or paid, so it will change drastically once that expense is covered. There have been some expenses such as insurance and awards, so that is reflected in the drop in the Range Judging Account. CDs will not come due until 2022, but we would like to be prepared for that should it be possible to increase our interest rates in the future. Insurance was paid for the year at a cost of \$1416.00 split between both Range Judging and the Section Account so those expenses are reflected in the totals above. All taxes were filed as well as the Biennial Report to the State of Nebraska that was due this year. If you have any questions, please let Angie know. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Brad Schick, seconded by Laura Rubeck. Treasurer's Report accepted.

Committee Reports:

Annual Meeting Committee:

Brad Schick presented information about the annual meeting currently being scheduled in Lincoln this year. He is currently finalizing a number of things regarding the meeting. He is still looking for a few ideas for possible presenters as well as finalizing costs. Possible topics and presenters were discussed. Mitch Stephenson suggested the two new range faculty hired in the University of Nebraska system. It would be good to get them involved, possibly as speakers, but at least to attend the meeting and get involved with SRM. Mitch will send their contact information to Brad. The council meeting is scheduled for Oct. 12th, the Annual Meeting, presenters, etc. is scheduled for Oct. 13th, and the tour is scheduled for Oct. 14th. The banquet will be different this year, so the awards presentation will be done at noon. The location is the Hyatt Hotel in Lincoln, NE.

Awards: Lance Schutte is currently the chairperson of this committee. Please submit any nominations to him.

Envirothon: Nadine Bishop presented a report. The regional Envirothon contests were held on-line. The questions involved photos of plants, ecological sites, and other visuals. Over 75 teams competed in the regional competitions. The state contest was held at Lake Wanahoo on April 29th. Fourteen teams qualified for the state contest. Ord High School took 1st place overall and placed 1st in the Range and Soils topics. Norris Team #2 took 2nd place, and Arthur County took 3rd place.

The North American Envirothon will be a virtual event. Nebraska is officially the host. The NA Envirothon will be July 25-28.

Fundraising: Vacant position. Please think of new ideas for fundraising.

Historian: No report.

Information and Education: Laura Rubeck presented a report. Has been working with Soil Water Conservation Society group and has been talking to them and discussing potentially bringing our groups together. This could be the meeting or other activities. There has been similar conversations in the past regarding joint meetings. This may be something to be discussed at our Annual Meeting with more of our membership present. Laura will gather some more information from their group about what they do, and what they see as the goal of a joint meeting or activity.

Investments: No report

Membership: No report

Nominations: Bob Broweleit sent a report update that we currently have one individual nominated for the upcoming council position. If anyone has any other nominations, please send them to Bob.

Producer Affairs: No report

Range Judging: Ben Beckman presented an update. Kristin Dickinson is phasing out as the Co-Chair and Kristy King is filling the position. Range Judging card should be ordered. It was a smaller order as most were still left over from last year when there was not a contest. A few local schools have smaller practice contests that we did provide the option of ordering cards for those schools through us. Once those are shipped out we will send them a bill for those cards. They are currently working with area committees on planning on having a normal contest season this fall. The State contest is scheduled to be held in Cherry County.

Range Research Committee/Range Tour Committee: Mitch Stephenson is still working on getting a better idea of things to present this fall to the group regarding research being conducted. We also need to further discuss the possibility of a Range Tour and when would be the best time to do it, or just help plan the tour that goes with the Annual Meeting.

Range Camp/HSYF: No report

Scholarships: No report

Student Affairs: No report

Old Business:

Committee by-law revisions will be sent out via email for voting so that those revisions can be made regarding the nominations committee.

New Business:

Creating an Envirothon Committee was discussed regarding changing the by-laws to create this committee. Nadine is writing up the Structure, Duties, and Responsibilities for the Envirothon Committee to be added to our by-laws and constitution.

Envirothon is a (relatively) new activity so that is why it isn't in the by-laws and right now comes under the umbrella of either Student Activities as a sub-committee. Nebraska Envirothon is a Nebraska Association of Resources (NARD) event but they look to the NE Section to provide the Range topic test writer/judge. Since it is so different from the other activities, it could be a separate committee, but it could stay as a sub-committee under Student Affairs so the by-laws wouldn't need to be updated. Nadine is the chair and would like to be through 2022. But, we need to be seeking someone who could assist with 2022 so they could learn how it works and what it involves. Myra Richardson has been on the committee and has assisted with several state contests, so Nadine would like to ask her if she is interested first, but if she does not want to chair the committee, it's even more important that the new chair assist in 2022 as continuity and knowing the process is important.

They will work on getting changes made to the wording of the by-laws and also send it out via email.

Brad Schick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ben Beckman. The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 AM CST.

Respectively submitted,

Angie Petersen