



March 19, 2018, ACE Board Conference Call, 10 a.m. to noon Central Time

Call to order — ACE President Suzanne Steel

Roll call

President Suzanne Steel, Vice President Doug Edlund, Past President Steve Miller, President-elect Elizabeth Gregory North, Membership Director Beth Forbes, Research Director Lauri Baker, Professional Development Director Victor Villegas, Learning Community Director Mary Wirth, Retiree Director Janet Rodekohr, Nonvoting: Treasurer Becky Koch, Development Officer Donna Sheffield, Marketing Director-elect Matt Browning, Learning Community Director-elect Lori Greiner, Membership Director-elect Tobie Blanchard, Retiree Director-elect Linda Benedict

Absent: Executive Director Holly Young, Professional Development Director-elect Craig Woods, Marketing Director Dennis Thomas

Approval of minutes

Both the January and February minutes needed approval. In the January minutes, Steve Miller wants Holly to fix the spelling errors. Also, the transition schedule begins in June, not July. The board approved, pending these changes (Elizabeth North moved, second Mary Wirth). In the February minutes, Janet Rodekohr wants added that John Crosiar is a new life member. The board approved, pending this change (Janet moved, second Mary).

Financial report — Becky Koch

The account summaries and the updated spreadsheet were sent separately. For the month of February, the account summaries are as follows:

WF Checking	40,733.10
WF High-Yield Savings	2,057.67
Vanguard Investment	50,634.09
Vanguard Hermance	23,804.96
Vanguard Development Fund	58,248.43
Total	175,478.25

Since March began, an additional \$12,000 came in from C&A entries; however, we need to pay our third-quarter payment to UNH. Also, the \$23,000 in donations for the Ag Media Summit have been transferred to AMS. We will have one account when we switch to Celtic rather than checking and savings accounts. The three investment accounts are up a little bit.

Lots of dues have come in. We need to get the names of members who have not renewed from Wild Apricot and send that list to the membership committee so they can remind people.

The taxes were done by an NDSU accountant at about half the cost as compared to the past few years.

Steve Miller asked about the financial status of the organization. Becky responded that now that she's been involved in a couple years of finances, she thinks we've been about \$2,000 in the red each year.

OLD BUSINESS

Conference — Lori Greiner

Things are moving along with fine tuning of the session descriptions. The website should be ready soon. The post-conference session on diversity will be on Wednesday, for an additional \$50 charge. We will be marketing ACE at the conference; we are working on the details of this. The ACE business meeting will be Tuesday afternoon; the ACE banquet, Tuesday evening. Lori will be preparing FAQs about the conference. Not a whole lot is different from a regular ACE conference, but there will be more people and more options. Tobie Blanchard shared the spreadsheet used for planning the New Orleans ACE conference.

C&A — Elizabeth Gregory North

The judging is almost done. Some video categories had to be re-judged because of a glitch. Around 300 total entries.

Website — Elizabeth Gregory North

No update.

Award nominations — Suzanne Steel

The board approved Matt Browning for a Pioneer Award (Elizabeth moved, second Doug) and Chris Moran for a Pioneer Award (Elizabeth moved, second Beth). Brian Meyer will receive the Professional Award pending review by outside organizations. The Reuben Brigham Award will go to Jack Dykinga, a Pulitzer-prize-winning photographer in Arizona, who is a regular contributor to National Geographic and Arizona Highways.

Membership — Beth Forbes

No report.

Celtic report — Becky and Elizabeth

Becky and Elizabeth met via phone conference with Celtic before the ACE board meeting. Celtic agreed with the revisions to the contract, which were based in part on suggestions from a lawyer friend of Doug Edlund. Elizabeth appreciated that Celtic was able to resolve these questions so quickly. The official transition starts June 1. The contract was authorized at the February meeting, pending the review by a lawyer. The board voted approval for Suzanne to sign the contract (Mary moved, second Victor). To pay Celtic, we will have to borrow from the investment account. Each board member needs to review their list of duties for Celtic and send changes to Becky and Elizabeth by April 1. Celtic will lead us in strategic planning each year.

NEW BUSINESS

Membership cards

Wild Apricot has prepared membership cards that are available to download from the website.

OFFICER REPORTS

President Suzanne Steel

We will have an exhibit at the Ag Summit and will need to decide who will staff and what we will give away. Matt volunteered to print a new banner with a new design. The exhibits at Ag Summit will be on display Monday evening and Tuesday morning. Janet volunteered to help staff the ACE exhibit. Lori said we need to collect contact information from anyone who is interested. Elizabeth said we should give away something. Matt will try and find something to give away. Beth suggested people could meet the Celtic folks at the ACE exhibit.

We will work with Celtic to get the new budget ready by July 1. We will introduce Celtic at the ACE business meeting.

We are planning a reception for Holly during the Ag Summit on Tuesday afternoon. Frankie, Faith, Janet and Doug are the planners. They are collecting fun stories about Holly to share at the reception.

President-elect Elizabeth Gregory

According to Celtic, we may be able to get cheaper rates at hotels for our annual meetings if we stick with one hotel chain, such as Westin. Both this year's meeting in Scottsdale and next year's in San Antonio are at Westins.

Learning community director Mary Wirth

No report.

Membership director Beth Forbes

She is preparing the March newsletter: new board members, new membership cards, professional development opportunities, JAC update.

Marketing director Matt Browning

He's looking for action shots of ACE members, working on social media, videos.

Professional development director Victor Villegas

He will try to schedule a couple more webinars before the ACE conference. Mary asked how webinars are advertised and how past webinars can be accessed because the ACE website is not up-to-date.

Research director Lauri Baker

The new managing editor of the JAC, Lisa Lundy from Florida, will be paid \$1,500 per year. The biggest challenge for the JAC is getting competent reviewers. Becky Koch said ACE should do more promotion of the JAC and remind members that there are other types of articles to contribute besides research. The JAC is also looking for reviews and commentaries. Lauri suggested a webinar for ACE members about how they can contribute to the JAC.

Past President Steve Miller

New officers elected are: Jennifer Alexander, Oregon State University, Vice President; Lulu Rodriguez, University of Illinois, Research Director-elect; Matt Browning, West Virginia State, Marketing Director-elect; and Craig Woods, Professional Development Director-elect. They will be invited to board meetings.

Retiree director Janet Rodekohr

No report other than retirees are enjoying retirement.

Development officer Donna Sheffield

Will work on website to show post project reports.

Meeting adjourned at noon Central Time.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Benedict, Retiree Director-elect