



**Alliance of Crop Soil and Environmental Science Societies Board of Directors Conference Call Minutes
Sept. 3, 2015, 10:00am**

The meeting was called to order by ACSESS Chair Jan Hopmans. Board members present:

Jan Hopmans, SSSA Past President (Chair)
Roch Gaussoin, CSSA President (Vice Chair)
Dave Mengel, ASA Past President (Sec-Treasurer)
David Baltensperger, CSSA President
Jean Steiner, ASA President
Carolyn Olson, SSSA President
Paul Fixen, ASA President-Elect
Harold van Es, SSSA President-Elect
Sharon Clay, Past Chair, Ex-Officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, Ex-officio

Not able to participate:
Michael Grusak, CSSA President-Elect
Also participating:
Susan Chapman, Member Services Director
Bill Cook, Publications Director
Wes Meixelsperger, CFO
Susan Fisk, Public/Science Communications Director
Ian Popkewitz, IT/Operations Director
Sara Uttech, Governance & Membership Senior Mgr.

ACSESS003 ACSESS Board of Directors

1. ACTION: Motion by Roch Gaussoin to approve the Sept. 3, 2015 ACSESS Agenda. Seconded by Paul Fixen. Unanimous approval.
 2. ACTION: Motion by Dave Mengel to approve the Nov. 1, 2014 ACSESS Board Meeting minutes. Seconded by Paul Fixen. Unanimous approval.
 3. Chair Jan Hopmans directed eligible board members to contact him if interested in running for the following positions. The election will be held at the November 2015 ACSESS Board Meeting:
 - 2016 ACSESS Vice Chair/2017 ACSESS Chair – *Candidate pool: Fixen, Grusak, van Es*
 - *Paul Fixen declined to run at this time*
 - *Harold van Es agreed to run*
 - *David Baltensperger nominated Mike Grusak to run*
 - 2016-17 ACSESS Secretary-Treasurer – *Candidate pool: Fixen, Grusak, van Es, Steiner, Olson*
 4. ACTION: Motion by David Baltensperger that the ACSESS Board support Scenario 3 where dues are equally distributed across the three Societies as a recommendation to take to each of our Boards. Seconded by Harold van Es. Unanimous approval.
 5. ACTION: Motion by David Baltensperger that we direct staff to move as expeditiously as possible to get this information to each of the boards for discussion and approval, establishing the \$100 base of membership dues, second society \$150, third society \$200, and to put together an implementation plan for communication to members. Seconded by Roch Gaussoin. Unanimous approval.
 6. Jan Hopmans highlighted ACSESS activities at the 2015 Annual Meeting:
 - Saturday Nov. 14
 - § ACSESS Volunteering (optional, companions invited), 9am-11:30am
 - § ACSESS Board meeting 1:00pm (12:30pm lunch in room) Hilton Minneapolis
 - § ACSESS Board dinner (companions invited) – 5pm, at *The Union*
 - Sunday Nov. 15
 - § ASF/VIP reception 4:15-5:45pm – Convention Center
- Other Board Meetings:
- | | |
|------|-----------------------|
| SSSA | Sunday 11/15 8am |
| ASA | Thursday 11/19 7:00am |
| CSSA | Thursday 11/19 9:30am |
| ASF | Monday 11/16 9:30am |

7. Ellen Bergfeld informed the board about the Strategic Planning process for spring 2016 and the desire for ASA, CSSA, and SSSA to collaborate. Ellen will provide more information to the presidents-elect. Sara will identify a time for the presidents-elect and Ellen to meet with Bruce Knight, the facilitator in Minneapolis.
8. Jan Hopmans reported that the annual CEO Evaluation/Review of Ellen Bergfeld will be forthcoming to staff and ACSESS board members.

ACSESS211 ACSESS Budget and Finance

1. Wes Meixelsperger presented the 2Q 2015 ACSESS Financials.
2. ACTION: Motion by Dave Mengel to create an ACSESS investment policy as presented. Seconded by Roch Gaussoin. Unanimous approval.

ACSESS Investment Policy

Set the split for Equity and Fixed Income at 60%-40%, and that the split allowed to vary +/- 10% within these ranges:

Asset Class	Minimum	Maximum	Target
Equities	50%	70%	60%
Fixed Income	30%	50%	40%
Cash	0%	10%	0%

All Societies continue to have the same investment policy; the new policy was accepted by all three boards allowing the equity limits to be increased to as high as 70%. In addition, ACSESS also allows less than investment grade asset class in fixed income not to exceed 10% of the fixed Income balances.

Consensus to adjourn.