

*Minutes of the
Canadian Society of Soil Science
1999 Annual General Meeting*

Location: Room 104 K.C. Irving Building, U.P.E.I, Charlottetown, P.E.I

Dates: Wednesday August 11, 1999

Time: 8:00 – 10:00 Attendees 32

Guests: Paul Cavers, NRC; Lee Sommers, SSSA

1. Call to order and welcome

President Régis Simard called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

Gerry Coen was appointed as Parliamentarian for this meeting.

2. Additions to the agenda

A request was made to add an agenda item allowing a representative from NRC to make a presentation to the AGM.

3. Approval of agenda

MOTION: Approval of agenda. Y. Kalra/C. Topp CARRIED

4. Presentation by NRC Press.

Paul Cavers, Editor of the Monograph Board at NRC Press, described their activities and invited the Society to consider the publication of a monograph through NRC Press.

5. Approval of the Minutes of 1998 AGM

MOTION: Approval of the 1998 AGM minutes. G. Kachinoski/M. Carter CARRIED

6. Secretary's report

a) Meetings - Two meetings of the CSSS Council were held in the last year. The 1998-1999 New Council Meeting was held on July 10, 1998 in Vancouver, British Columbia the final meeting of 1998-999 Council was held on August 6, 1999 in Charlottetown, P.E.I.. Through out the intervening period Council conducted its business in an ongoing manner using an e-mail meeting format.

b) CSSS Homepage on the World Wide Web – A web site for the CSSS is being maintain at the URL <http://www.umanitoba.ca/CSSS/>. This page contains information about our Society, how to join, awards offered by the society, who the CSSS Council is and how to contact them, links to CJSS and all of Canadian Soil Science Departments as well as a current events section. Currently the page is maintained on an infrequent basis. Assistance is needed to increase the

information content. The current Newsletter is currently being posted on the web page. There is also a password access protected Council page on the Homepage which contains the minutes for Council meeting for the past number years.

c) Student List Server – A student list server has been established on the University of Manitoba’s computer system. This list server is currently being administered by University of Manitoba Soil Science Graduate Students Association and is only accessible to student members of CSSS. It is intended to provide these members with of forum for discussion.

A request was made to have previous issues of the Newsletter posted on the web page.

A request was also made to make the web page searchable.

MOTION: Approval of Secretary’s Report. D. Burton/V. Rodd CARRIED

7. Finance committee report

a) Trust Balance Sheet

CSSS Trust Balance Sheet December 31, 1998					
Assets		Cost		Market	
	Truro TD Bank	446		445	
	Wood Gundy (cash)	228		227	
	Due From Operating	2169		2169	
	Templeton Growth Can \$ 3017 units	30000		29295	
	Templeton T-Bill	35707		35707	
	AIC Advantage II 3677 units	30642		31252	
	Prov MB Sep04/01 @6.5%	36663		36274	
	League Sv&Mort Nov02/03 @5.125%	45000		45000	
	TD Step up @5.35%	45000		44879	
			225855		225248
Equity					
	Bentley Trust	197472		196956	
	Publications Trust	23375		23284	
	Symposia Trust	3643		3643	
	International Trust	1365		1365	
			225855		225248

Assets are shown at cost and at fair market value as of Dec 31/98. The total assets of Templeton Growth and AIC Advantage were moved into their respective money market funds in early August. The equity funds were repurchased in November and December. Thus, the value at market and at cost is nearly identical.

A bond, if held to maturity, gives back its face value, ie. \$35,000 for the Prov of MB and \$45,000 for the other two.

Allotting 85% of the decline in market value to the Bentley Trust and 15% to Publications, these are worth:

$$\text{Bentley } 197472 + 0.85(225248-225855) = 196956$$

$$\text{Publications } 23375 + 0.15(225248-225855) = 23284$$

The Bentley Fund must grow at the rate of inflation and should be kept at

$$(130000/79.5) \times 108.7 = 177,748$$

Value of Fund (December 31, 1986) = \$130,000

All Canada Consumer Price Index December 31, 1986 = 79.5 (1992 CPI=100)

All Canada Consumer Price Index December 31, 1998 = 108.7

Recommendation: spend up to \$7500 from the Bentley Trust in 1999 to maintain a safety net should the mutual funds perform poorly. 10% of the expenditure goes to operating and the remaining \$6750 is divided among student awards, student travel including complementary banquet tickets, member travel, and the president’s tour.

b) Operating Fund

CSSS Operating					
Balance Sheet December 31, 1998					
Assets			Liabilities		
Truro TD Bank	2093		Due to Trust	2169	
Pinawa B/M	96				
Petty Cash	500		Total Liabilities		2169
			Equity		

			Current Earn	3594	
			Retained Earn	(3074)	
			Total Equity		520
Total Assets		2689	Total Liabilities and Equity		2689
Income Statement January 1 - December 31, 1998					
Operating Income			Operating Expenditures		
Membership	15436		Office	5817	
Annual Conference	408		Newsletter/ Proceedings	2440	
Other	1032		Travel	4113	
Bentley	990		AIC	3840	
Publications	2331		Other	393	
Total Operating Income		20197	Total Operating Expenditures		16603
Transfers from Trust			Trust Expenditures		
Bentley	8908		Bentley	8908	
Publications	6753		Publications	6753	
Total Trust Transfers		15661	Total Trust Expenditures		15661
Total Income		35858	Total Expenditures		32264
Income over expenses		3594			

c) CSSS 1999 Budget

CSSS 1999 Budget					
Operating Revenue			Operating Expenditures		
Membership	16000		Office	5300	
Annual Conference	500		Newsletter & Proceedings	2400	
Other	500		Travel	6400	

Bentley	700		AIC	4000	
Publications	400		Abstracts	1400	
Abstracts	1400				
Total Operating Revenue		19500	Total Operating Expenditures		19500
Transfers from Trust			Trust Expenditures		
Bentley	6700		Bentley	6700	
Publications			Publications		
Symposia			Symposia		
International			International		
Soils in Soc	2500		Soils in Soc	2500	
Total Trust Transfers		9200	Total Trust Expenditures		9200
Total Revenue		28700	Total Expenditures		28700

MOTION: Acceptance of the Treasurer's report. Moved by Gary Patterson, seconded by Eric Beauchamp. **CARRIED**

Herb Rees and Sherif Fahmy, acting as auditors for the Society, have examined the books and found them to be in good order.

d) CSSS 2000 Budget

CSSS 2000 Budget					
Operating Revenue			Operating Expenditures		
Membership	16000		Office	6000	
Annual Conference	500		Newsletter & Proceedings	2700	
Other	500		Travel	4500	
Bentley	700		AIC	4000	

Publications	400		Abstracts	1400	
Abstracts	1400		Other	900	
Total Operating Revenue		19500	Total Operating Expenditures		19500
Transfers from Trust			Trust Expenditures		
Bentley	6700		Bentley	6700	
Publications			Publications		
Symposia			Symposia		
International	1365		International	1365	
Soils in Soc	2500		Soils in Soc	2500	
Total Trust Transfers		10565	Total Trust Expenditures		10565
Total Revenue		30065	Total Expenditures		30065

MOTION: Move to accept 2000 CSSS Budget. G. Patterson/R. Simard

A question regarding the publication of the abstracts of presentations made to CSSS Annual Conference was raised. Is it necessary to publish these abstracts in the CJSS or would publication on the web page suffice? If we are to continue to publish in the CJSS who should bear the cost?

A. Memut indicated that this year CJSS reduced the cost to the Society to \$40 per page from the normal cost of \$75 per page. This represents a total cost of \$400-\$500 for publication of the abstracts.

A question was regarding the budget item listed under International and it indicated that it referred to carry over funds related to the International Programs.

Clark Topp pointed out that the IUSS funds were not reflected in the budget. When we reach an agreement with IUSS we will need to decide how we are going to meet that cost. There may need to be an increase in membership dues. The existing fee structure will remain in place until we have a referendum on IUSS and therefore the budget will not have to reflect this item until that time.

CARRIED

The work of Sherif Fahmy and Herb Rees in auditing the CSSS books was acknowledged and appreciated. Council indicated that they would be asked to audit the books for the up coming year.

MOTION: That the 1999 abstracts be published in the CJSS. E. Beauchamp/V. Rodd

It was suggested that the Local Organising Committee should include the cost of publication in the registration fee.

It was pointed out that these abstracts are not edited or referred and therefore publication in the CJSS may not be warranted.

AMENDMENT: The Local Organizing Committee be authorised to increase registration fees to cover the cost of publication of the Annual Meeting abstracts in the CJSS. C. Topp/G. Kachinowski

There was general discussion of the various formats the abstracts have appear in the past including the publication of abstracts of joint symposia with other Societies. As a result of this discussion the amendment was with drawn.

Amendment Withdrawn

CARRIED

MOTION: The CSSS Local Organising Committee should include in its budget the funds to publish these abstracts in the CJSS. V. Rodd/N. Juma

CARRIED

8. Awards Committee

Reference was made to the list of CSSS awards distributed at the awards banquet.

MOTION: Acceptance of the Awards Committee Report. R. Simard/Y. Kalra

CARRIED

MOTION: Move that the number and value of student presentation awards be changed to three Bentley Awards (1st - \$400; 2nd - \$300 and 3rd - \$200) and three Presidents Awards (1st - \$400; 2nd - \$300 and 3rd - \$200). R. Simard/E. Beauchamp

CARRIED

9. President's Report

This report will deal with several issues and activities, some of which may be mentioned in reports from other CSSS officers, but brought together here in a single report. The items with which your Council dealt in 1998-99 include the following:

Joint Meeting with the Soil Science Society of America

Dr. Lee Somers, the Past-President of the SSSA, wrote to Eric Beauchamp in 1998, suggesting a joint meeting of the CSSS and SSSA. This invitation was followed up on by a letter from me

to Dr. Sommers, and by Dr. Regis Simard's attending the SSSA Board of Directors meeting at their annual meeting in Baltimore. Commitments already made to the AIC for 2000 and 2001 preclude our meeting with the SSSA until 2002, but discussions are continuing with their President, with the goal of a joint meeting. SSSA's President Dr. Gary Peterson's participation in this year's CSSS meeting is appreciated, and continues the dialogue between the two societies.

CSSS Careers Brochure The Soil Science careers brochure project has been completed with 9000 copies of the brochure printed and distributed, as discussed in the Report from the CSSS Business Office. Each member received two copies of the brochure, and more are available to those members requesting them.

CSSS Business Office The business affairs of the CSSS are handled quite capably by Dr. Steve Sheppard, and are discussed in more detail in a separate report. Steve continues to serve the CSSS very capably, and has come up with several new ideas such as buying CSSS and other books in bulk, and providing them at a discount to members. Steve's report indicates a continuing change in communication between the Office and members, with about 80% of the correspondence now by electronic means.

CSSS Council : The composition of the CSSS Council is changing, with the position of AIC representative being deleted, and a new position of Student Representative being established. Alain Plante, a graduate student at the University of Alberta, was acclaimed as student representative, and will be taking part in Council meetings starting with the 1999-2000 Council. Appreciation is expressed to David Lobb for his several year's work as AIC Rep, to Eric Beauchamp our Past-President, and to David Burton for his huge contribution as Secretary, manager of the web site, and in running our ongoing e-meetings, which is a major job. Martin Carter has completed one term as Eastern Councillor and Newsletter Editor, and has been acclaimed for a second term on Council. Gary Kachanoski, of the University of Saskatchewan is the President-elect and Awards Chair on the new Council.

The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) The International Society of Soil Science is now the IUSS, a change that will result in changes to our connections to the international Soil Science community, and related scientific unions. Gerry Coen represented the CSSS at the IUSS inaugural meeting in Montpellier, and has a separate report. It seems quite advantageous for the CSSS to become one of the national society members of IUSS, a process which will require the continuing attention of Council and the membership.

Canadian Journal of Soil Science The CJSS continues to be one of our most successful involvements, with the Journal under the leadership on the Editor, Ahmet Mermut publishing one of the largest volumes ever in 1998, and continuing in 1999. Certainly, involvement with the editorial staff of the CJSS is a considerable commitment. I gratefully acknowledge the contributions made by Martin Carter, David McAndrew and Don Pluth as associate editors, and by Ahmet Mermut as he completes a three-year term as Editor in 1999.

CSSS President's Correspondence One of the more pleasant tasks of the CSSS President is to write letters supporting the nomination of members for prestigious awards. The nominations

are mainly confidential until announced officially, but in the past year letters were prepared for four of our members, indicating the important contributions made by soil scientists to science and to Canada. Another item here, and with strong support from Council, was a letter of concern written to the principal of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, as the Faculty considered major reductions to the Soil Science instructional program. The letter was introduced into the NSAC debate by Phil Warman.

CSSS President's Speaking Tour This year the usual speaking tour did not take place, because of time and funding constraints. Talks as CSSS president were given at the University of Alberta, and in Ethiopia, in which the theme of the contribution of soils to ecosystem services was discussed, similar to the article in the March edition of our Newsletter.

CSSS Web Site The web site has been based at the University of Manitoba, and managed by David Burton, our Secretary. This is a major undertaking, and the Council has been considering an alternate strategy, particularly since David is completing his term.

Finally, it has been an honour to have served as President of the CSSS for 1998-99, a position that was at times demanding, but made possible by the good work of the CSSS Council. I welcome Régis Simard, the incoming President, and wish him well in the coming year.

MOTION: Acceptance of the President's report. E. Beauchamp/B. Kishchuk.

CARRIED

10. CJSS editor's report

The CJSS is doing well. It has a high impact factor (0.858 in 1998) relative to the other AIC journals. At the time of this report 80 papers had been submitted to the CJSS this year and an increasing percentage of those papers are international. A motion was passed at the Scientific Journals Committee to increase the number of Associate Editors for the CJSS from 9 to 11. As a result this year we need 4 new Associate Editors. Régis Simard has agreed to accept a term as Editor of the CJSS.

MOTION: Approval of CJSS Editor's report. Moved by A. Mermut/U.Gupta

Discussion

Question

CARRIED

A question was asked regarding page charges in the CJSS. A. Mermut indicated that the committee was considering this issue and that there was currently no interest in increasing the page charge.

Gary Kachinoski made a request that AIC be asked to provide CSSS with an annual report on the activity of the Scientific Journal Committee.

MOTION: That the AGM request the Editor of the CJSS to ask that AIC consider reducing the page charges for the CJSS. R. Simard/R. Karamanos

It was considered completely unacceptable that AIC does not report to CSSS on annual basis.

AMENDMENT: That the Society demands a breakdown of the CJSS financial reports be brought to the AGM on an annual basis. V. Rodd/G. Kachinoski

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

A copy of the letter should go to the executive of AIC.

11. AIC rep report

MOTION: Approval of AIC Representative Report. E. Beauchamp/Gerry Coen.

CARRIED

12. International Projects

MOTION: Approval of International Liaison Committee Report. M. Dillon/C. Topp.

CARRIED

Mike Dillion indicated that now was the time to develop new projects for the next 3 years and that those interested should talk to him or to Gary Patterson.

Gary Kachinoski asked whether Council approved these projects and it was indicated that traditionally they have not.

MOTION: That any projects where the Canadian Society of Soil Science is named must be approved by Council. V. Rodd/S. Fahmy

The CSSS should not impede the progress of member's activities.

Council should also look at the structure of previous committees in this area.

CARRIED

13. IUSS Report (Gerry Coen)

IUSS has promised that the first negotiations will not expect a fee greater than what our members are paying. This discussion will come before the membership before any change is made.

MOTION: Approval of IUSS Report. G. Coen/Y. Kalra.

CARRIED

It was noted that there is a dichotomy in structure (discipline oriented and application oriented).

Need to approach the NRC to clarify linkages. Only one Society will represent Canadian Soil Scientists.

The Soil Science Society of America are working with the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.

A question was raised as to how the SSSA empowered its committee to negotiate with NAS?

MOTION: Instruct Council to start a process to negotiate with NRC to develop a general plan to be brought to the AGM next year with respect to membership in IUSS. G. Kachinoski/B. McGill

CARRIED

14. Business Office Report

MOTION: Approval of Business Office Report. G. Coen/Y. Kalra. CARRIED

15. Future meetings

2000, Winnipeg (David Burton)

The CSSS 2000 meeting is being held in conjunction with AIC, Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology, Canadian Association of Agricultural Engineers and the Flax Council of Canada in what is being termed Agri-Food 2000.

The CSSS LOC organizing committee has struggled with the conference organizing committee. In particular we are concerned that AIC guidelines were not being followed by the Agri-Food 2000 Organizing Committee. The CSSS LOC has objected the adoption of a single fee which includes all events and asked the Committee adopt the traditional itemized fee schedule. This request was rejected. In addition it was noted that limited time (one day) has been allowed for Society Technical presentations. The scheduling of an afternoon poster session is scheduled for the first day was seen as a positive move providing there is sufficient opportunity to view these posters.

Pre-conference workshops on wetlands and environmental assessment are being scheduled for the Saturday and Sunday prior to conference in increase the technical content of the meetings and to provide sessions for the non-agricultural CSSS membership. A day-long post-conference soils tour will be held in conjunction with the Manitoba Society of Soil Science.

The difficulties associated with holding a large conference with such a diverse group of societies appear in this situation to out way the advantages of co-hosting with this group and we would recommend that future CSSS LOCs consider meeting separately or in conjunction with organizations with more common areas of interest.

MOTION: Approval of Report. D. Burton/C. Topp. CARRIED

2001, Guelph (Eric Beauchamp)

A tentative commitment has been made to host the conference in association with AIC. Paul Voroney and Gary Parkin have agreed to act as co-chairs.

MOTION: Approval of Report. E. Beauchamp/E. Gregorich. CARRIED

MOTION: That the Guelph Local Organizing Committee be encouraged to develop a meeting separate for AIC. G. Kachinoski/R. Karamanos. CARRIED

The SSSA has a group that would like to develop separateslu for ASA. They will be meeting to consider options. Régis Simard has been asked to join that committee. This may provide a good opportunity to meet in 2001. There may be a wetland theme to this meeting.

The location of the 2002 meeting has yet to be determined.

16. Resolutions for 1999

Resolution 1: Were as there are now awards for agricultural soils be it resolved that the CSSS develop a award for the study of forest soils. Sherif Fahmy/M. Dillon

The need for specifically identifying forest soils was questioned. It was suggested that perhaps a sponsor could be identified to endow a forest soils award.

DEFEATED

Resolution 2: Be it resolved that members of CSSS extend appreciation and thanks to the members of the 1999 Organizing Committee and in particular Umesh Gupta, John MacLeod, martin Carter and Delmar Holmstrom in planning and carrying out a most successful and educational conference both in terms of technical sessions and social programs. Also those organizing the tour. Y. Kalra/V. Rodd CARRIED

Resolution 3: Be it resolved that members of CSSS extend appreciation and thanks to the Officers of the CSSS for their dedication and the effective manner in which they carried out the business of the Society. In particular we recognize the retiring council members E. Beauchamp, Past President and D. Burton, Secretary, , David Lobb, AIC Representative and the CJSS Editor and Associate Editors for their efforts over the past year in particular the retiring Editor Ahment Mermut. Y. Kalra/J. MacLeod CARRIED

17. Elections Committee Report

No election was required this year. There was only one nomination for each position and therefore all position were filled by acclimation.

Student representative Alain Plante

Eastern Councillor Martin Carter

President Gary Kachinouski

MOTION: Accept the Elections Committee Report resolution. D. Burton/E. Beauchamp CARRIED

18. Installation of new President

Darwin Anderson passed the gavel to Régis Simard. Régis Simard thanked members for their support.

19. New business

MOTION: That Herb Rees and Sherif Fahmy be re-appointed as auditor for the Society. G. Patterson/V. Rodd CARRIED

20. Adjournment 11:20 AM