

2024 CPSS Board Meeting – Quarter

1 MINUTES

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Virtual Teams Meeting

Attendance taken by Dawn Gibas

- Present: Aaron DeJoia, Colby Moorberg, James Hartsig, Chris D’Aiuto, Michelle Busch-Hillburn, Laurel Mueller, Virginia Brown
- Staff: Dawn Gibas, Penny Magana
- Absent: Jamie Patton

Meeting called to order by Colby Moorberg at 2:04 PM Central time.

Approval of Minutes

- Approval of Minutes from December 2023 (Q4 meeting)
Motion by Aaron, second by Chris. Passed unanimously.

Policy and Procedures Document

Amnesty Proposal

- Committee was chaired by Chris and committee members were Joe (Florida), Steve (Ohio), and Matt (Pennsylvania)
- Chris presented the proposal to the Board and there were numerous points of discussion. Much of the discussion centered around the cost to be reinstated and the structure to support it.
- The proposal was given back to the committee to propose language to address the Board’s comments and questions.
- The committee will bring an updated proposal back to the Board at the Q2 meeting in June.

Review of Certification Program

- The Soil Science Certification Program is 30 years old and requirements need to be reviewed and updated, especially for education.
 - Ideas regarding education requirements included considering macro and micro credentials that are stackable to achieve contact hours. Needs further discussion.
 - The Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS) has been looking in to creating licensure or a credential for their soil scientists. Dawn is attending their conference in June to talk about credentialing as well as working together toward updated coursework requirement.
 - Preliminary talks with the CSSS indicates that they would like to pursue a working relationship and work on the requirements for certification with the U.S.. Interested in a possible meeting between the two groups later this year.

International Union of Soil Scientists Centennial Conference – Italy in May

- Dawn’s abstract was accepted, but due to circumstances will not be able to travel to Italy, so CEO Jim Cudahy will give the talk. Dawn will put together the PowerPoint presentation and work with Jim on the message regarding global soil certification.

Strategic Planning Follow Up

- Outreach/workforce development
 - Internal staff committee is working on this
 - Reaching out to SASES and FFA
 - Communication with the SSSA Board
 - Strategic Partnerships – do we need to revisit soil judging?

State Certification Board Meeting January 12

- Updated MOU is signed with Ohio.
- Meetings will continue:
 - The 2024 proposed schedule for the FL, OH, PA, and National Boards meeting is to continue on Fridays quarterly (2 pm eastern, 1 pm central, noon mountain, 11 am pacific).
 - April 12 – we will need to reschedule, this was missed due to staff changes
 - July 12
 - October 11

Marketing

- The marketing department is working on a plan for our certification programs. More information is coming soon. If you have any ideas, please submit them or let's talk about them in June.

Other/FYI

- SSSA Summer Board Meeting is in person in conjunction with the Soils Conference taking place in Puerto Rico the week of June 10. Jacob Berkowitz is the representative CPSS.
- The ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meeting is in San Antonio, TX November 10-13. Possible meeting place with a Canadian contingent to talk about certification.
- Australia CPSS – we are working with them as they update their exam. Updated contract being signed.
- Soil Science Exams need updating, need committee members.
- Ethics complaint investigation procedures are being updated with our attorney's input.
- Do we need to revisit the creation of on-site wastewater certificates?

Proposed dates to get the 2024 quarterly meetings on the calendar:

- Tuesday, June 4 at 3 pm Eastern Time
- Tuesday, September 10 at 3 pm Eastern Time
- Tuesday, December 10 at 3 pm Eastern Time

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM Central time.