

**– MINUTES –**

**NCB-ESA Final Business Meeting**  
Best Western Ramkota Rapid City, SD  
Wednesday June 19, 2013  
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. – Legion I

**I. Call to Order:**

President Fuller called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. About 25 members were present.

**II. Acknowledgments:**

- A. Billy thanked all committee chairs (especially Local Arrangements Co-Chairs Janet Knodel and Louis Hesler, and Program Chair Kelley Tilmon), as well as all officers for their commitment and contributions to the Branch and our meeting. He added that the assistance of the following individuals with local arrangements were also greatly appreciated: Mark Boetel, Venkata Chapara, Julia Fausti, Wade French, Phil Glogoza, Buyung Hadi, Bradley McManus, Ken Ostlie, Mitchell Stamm, Adrianna Szczepaniec, and Ashton Walter.
- B. Special thanks for multiple contributions to the success of our Branch meeting were extended to ESA Executive Director David Gammel and the staff at ESA Central, including Richard Levine (publicity, onsite registration, and photography), Chris Stelzig (onsite registration), Neil Willoughby (guidance on financial issues), Alexis Lyons (pre-meeting registration updates), and Pamela Reid (web-based support and update posting).
- C. Appreciation was also extended to the following individuals from Rapid City:
  - 1. The Best Western Ramkota Hotel Staff, especially Gloria Roseland and Jan Gustin, for their professionalism and flexibility while hosting us; and
  - 2. Lindsey Beasley, Lisa Storms, and Lucy Weigram from the Rapid City Convention and Visitors Bureau, for their assistance with external tours and information on local attractions.
- D. Jim Kalisch was also acknowledged for sharing his graphic arts talent and for contributing several hours of work to create the 2013 NCB-ESA meeting logo.

**III. Presentation of plaques:** President Fuller presented service plaques to the following individuals:

- A. Kelley Tilmon, Program Chair
- B. Janet Knodel and Louis Hesler, Local Arrangements Co-chairs
- C. Eileen Cullen, outgoing At-large Member of the NCB-ESA Executive Committee 2010-2013

**IV. Call for unfinished business:** nothing was presented from the floor.

**V. New Business:**

**A. Location for 2015 NCB-ESA meeting:**

1. Fred Baxendale suggested that potential host locations for the 2015 NCB-ESA meeting should be discussed.
2. Billy responded that members from Kansas had been approached and were interested. Colorado is also on the short list of states that have not hosted the Branch meeting in several years.
3. Paula Davis (NCB President-elect) is working on this and, soon after a location is chosen, she will be seeking people to lead the Program and Local Arrangements committees.

**B. Student Competition:**

1. Gary Brewer suggested that we consider requiring all poster presenters to include an abstract on their poster.
2. Jay McPherson added that it would be helpful if students included the abstract on the poster, but that they could also submit one online.
3. Some feel that providing an online version of the abstract and another on the poster is redundant. Others feel that one version does not necessarily replace the other, because the online abstracts are not always readily available for viewing.
4. Confusion and disagreement arise nearly every year regarding which abstract (i.e., the online version, or the final one on the poster) should be assessed during judging.
5. Some judges prefer being able to read and assess abstracts ahead of time by using the online version.
6. The final solution to this for our Branch is probably two-fold.
  - a) Clear and consistent guidelines should be established for the judges and the student competitors.
  - b) Our Branch policies on this should correspond with those used during the ESA annual meeting.
  - c) Policy decisions on this should be clearly communicated to judges.

**C. New NCB-ESA meeting banner:**

1. Shripat Kamble suggested that new meeting banners bearing the new ESA logo design be purchased.
2. No formal vote was taken; however, those present expressed general agreement that new banners should probably be acquired.
3. Mark Boetel said he would pursue it to get some pricing quotes.

**VI. Transition of NCB-ESA Presidency:**

- A. In keeping with the tradition of our Branch, President Fuller requested all NCB-ESA Past Presidents in attendance to escort President-elect Sue Blodgett to the podium. Sue was accompanied by Fred Baxendale, Gary Brewer, Mike Gray, Gary Hein, Jay McPherson, John Obrycki, and Steve Yaninek.
- B. President Fuller stated that he was confident that our branch will be in good hands under President Blodgett's leadership.
- C. Billy then officially passed the President's gavel to Sue Blodgett, and asked the group to join him in welcoming her as our new Branch President.

**VII. Comments from President Blodgett:**

- A. President Blodgett noted that, in her observations of President Fuller's work during the past year, it is clear that a successful NCB administration and Branch meeting requires an army.
- B. She added that she looks forward to working with the Executive Committee important issues that need to be addressed. One example is making sure that we have a clear policy on requirements for poster abstracts.
- C. Sue is also excited for Iowa to host the 2014 Branch meeting.
  - 1. Her Local Arrangements Committee has already begun meeting, and they are planning several great, fun activities.
  - 2. June and March meeting cycles were considered; however, because June can be very busy in Des Moines, and hotel/convention center space can be much more expensive, the plan is to have a March meeting.
  - 3. Dates for the 2014 NCB-ESA meeting are March 9-12, and the traditional Sunday-through-Wednesday format is anticipated to be followed.

**VIII. Adjournment:** MOTION (Fuller) SECONDED (Mason) to adjourn the meeting. No discussion followed, and the motion passed by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Boetel

NCB-ESA Secretary-Treasurer