President Rick Foster called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m. and asked for a final report from Local Arrangements Chair Bill Hutchison. Final meeting registration total was estimated at 344 registrants, but Dr. Hutchison advised that additional registrations could take place during the meeting’s final morning session. President Foster commended Dr. Hutchison on doing an outstanding job of leading the Local Arrangements committee in their efforts to host the Branch meeting in Minneapolis.

Dr. Hutchison added that compliments are also due to Mark Boetel on his efforts as Program Chair, and stated how Local Arrangements and Program committee personnel worked well together on the day-to-day efforts in planning and executing a very successful conference.

President Foster added that the foci of the 2011 NCB-ESA meeting were: 1) student-focused programming; 2) diversity of conference topics, including symposia; and 3) a return to the more traditional commodity-based entomological subject matter, and that those goals were reflected well in the efforts and accomplishments of the Program and Local Arrangements committees, as well as the meeting participants.

Old Business:

President-Elect Billy Fuller mentioned that, with Rapid City having been chosen as the site for the 2013 NCB-ESA meeting, efforts are underway to secure a convention center and lodging options to accommodate the conference.

Out-going Secretary-Treasurer David Ragsdale stated that the combined responsibilities of the Secretary-Treasurer can be quite demanding at certain times of the year and during business meetings at the annual Branch meeting. He suggested that, since the duties of At-Large Executive Committee members are not overwhelming during these same points within the year, future Secretary-Treasurers should strongly consider requesting the assistance of At-Large members for various duties (e.g., reviewing/editing agenda drafts, taking minutes during Treasurer’s reports, assisting with registration, etc.). Dr. Ragsdale also suggested the possibility of formally separating the Secretarial and Treasurer responsibilities into two separate offices; however, he also pointed out that such a separation would require a Bylaws change.

New Business:

Iowa is willing to host the Branch meeting in 2014.

Question from the floor: “Where are we on nominating someone for VP-Elect for the national society?” It was noted that April 30 is the deadline for a nominee from the Branch. Fred Baxendale said he anticipates nominating someone.

Installation of new NCB-ESA President. President Foster asked Past-President John Obrycki to escort in-coming President Fred Baxendale to the podium. President Foster welcomed Dr. Baxendale as NCB-ESA President, and asked him if he had remarks to share with the group.

President Baxendale began by thanking Dr. Foster for his service and professionalism in overseeing the business of the Branch during the past year. President Baxendale continued by thanking NCB-ESA’s membership for their support and confidence in electing him as President. He then provided a brief overview of key goals he aims to achieve in the coming year. Those goals include: 1) continuing to meet the needs of students and regular members; 2) encouraging new members to get involved; 3) continuing to strive for diversity on committees and in other Branch leadership roles; and 4) establishing an ad hoc committee to review and, if needed, revise Branch Committee guidelines and NCB-ESA Bylaws to achieve alignment with the recently revised ESA constitution and Bylaws.

President Baxendale requested a motion for adjournment. Moved and seconded from the floor, and approved by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Boetel
NCB-ESA Secretary-Treasurer