

Chair's Report:

I am looking for a chair for the NRCS committee since Miles Benson has retired from the position. I have a report from him with a description of the committee's focus that we will discuss at the agenda item. Let me know if you are interested.

I have a note to consider changing the split for the income received from state meetings. I do not remember who suggested the change but we should talk about it.

For a second time since I have provided names of SAF members to be a part of the Cooperating Forester Dispute Resolution Panel. Since this comes up without notice and names are needed quickly I would like to start a list of those who would like to be considered for the panel.

All the SAF members should have been invited by email to the CNR Fall Migration Banquet. Dr. Robert Engelhard is being inducted into the Forestry Hall of Fame that night. I will be present to say a few words on behalf of SAF.

The newsletter with the ballots and information for voting on the change to the State by-laws to allow electronic voting will not go out until early September. We could still get the membership approval before the voting actually occurs and go through with the voting deadlines and process required by national.

The biomass definition for the Renewable Fuel Standard is still too restrictive on forest products allowed. National is requesting we contact our senators to voice our concerns about changing the definition.

National is offering free dial-in conferencing for members conducting SAF business. We should look into this option and consider using it.

Old Business:

- Nominations committee for 2009 elections. Candidate information is due to National by Sept. 4.
- I have contacted Jeremy Solin about placing the SAF exhibit at the state high school conference and to give us an update on the amount of funding he has received from SAF.
- There are some "Trees are the Answer" bumper stickers left. Should we give them out at the meeting?
- I still need to look into examples of chapter by-laws.

Communications:

- The newsletter deadline for the next issue is September 4. A newsletter will get out in September. We need to revisit the issue of electronic distribution of the newsletter. That will be less expensive and more timely if a newsletter has few articles. We will need to find out how many members do not have email access and make some provisions to get them a newsletter.
- The Forestry Science Center in Milwaukee is still in the organizational formation stage. A board of directors is getting organized and then they will start the process to hire a staff member. It will be another 7-10 years until a facility is opened. The poor economy is slowing funding efforts.

Forester's Fund:

- David Czysz would like us to review a funding proposal for a project to distribute a book "The Tree Farmer", to Rhinelander area schools. There will be more information at the meeting.

Awards Committee:

- Awards will be presented at the meeting banquet; 2 for fellow, Mike King Memorial, and John Macon Award. We could also mention the Forestry Hall of Fame induction for Dr. Engelhard and the W.D. Hagenstein Communicator Award to Jeremy Solin.

New Business:

- The Aldo Leopold Foundation sent a short DVD to Julie to help raise funds for a PBS movie. We should watch the DVD and consider the request.