

**SE-EPPC BOARD MEETING  
CONFERENCE CALL – NOV. 3, 2009**

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AT THE MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2010 BOARD MEETING (CONF CALL)**

ATTENDEES:

Chuck Bargeron – President	Joyce Bender – KY-EPPC	Tony Pernas – Past President
Dave Moorhead – GA-EPPC	Chris Bryan – MS-EPPC	Jon Lane – ACOE Liaison
Nancy Loewenstein – ALIPC	Colette DeGarady – TNC	Michael Crump – USFS
Bill Kline – Industry Liaison	Liaison, SC-EPPC	Liaison
Lee Patrick – Treasurer	Karen Brown – Secretary	Johnny Randall – NC-EPPC

LIAISONS

Liaisons for Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), Jon Lane, and U.S. Forest Service, Michael Crump, were proposed; liaisons are non-voting members according to the bylaws. Chuck would still like a liaison with APHIS and has contacted them. Chris with MS-EPPC motioned to accept the new liaisons; Nancy Loewenstein seconded. Motion was unanimously accepted.

ANNUAL MEETING

Terri Hogan (TN-EPPC) was unable to attend due to illness. Chuck reported on the upcoming annual meeting, *Disturbance and Change – Invasive Plants and Paths to Recovery*. Chattanooga, May 11-13, 2010 (Tuesday-Thursday), Sheraton Read House, downtown Chattanooga, TN. Co-hosted with SE SER. Tentative schedule: 1PM Tuesday – Plenary speakers: Gene Hyde, Chair of Chattanooga Green Committee and Chattanooga City Forester; Tom Barnes, UKY – Restoration and invasive plant control; Keynote: Don Hodges UTN – Knoxville, Director National Resource Policy Center. Three concurrent sessions, social and poster session. Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>: AM – 3 concurrent sessions, lunch and membership meeting for SER and SE-EPPC, PM – 3 concurrent sessions, silent auction. Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>: Field Trips (finalizing descriptions): North Chickamauga Creek State Natural Area, Laurel and Snow Falls State Natural Area, Lookout Mountain Land Trust kudzu project/Lookout Mountain NPS rock climbing and rare plant issues/Lula Lake Land Trust, Behind the Scenes Tour of the Tennessee Aquarium, Cherokee National Forest (invasive plant control, restoration), Little River Canyon National Preserve, AL.

MOU between SE-EPPC and SER: Terri will draft a MOU between SER and SE-EPPC to include the following: the joint meeting indicates shared responsibility and liability, any costs over and above those covered by registration will be divided between the two groups based on percent attendance for each, any income garnered from registration will be divided between the two groups based on percent attendance for each, each organization will keep funds they raise through sponsorship; organizations will communicate with each other on sponsorship to avoid or work with overlap. Brian Bowen, Nancy Fraley, Chuck and SER have been working on this over the last few months and there is a checklist. Bill Kline asked if industry sponsors should be organized by a vendor chair. Chuck said SE-EPPC has been handled differently than FLEPPC; sponsorship includes a table, according to Lee Patrick. Bill offered to help; he is trying to build the support. Brian Bowen has helped with this task in the past. Bill will confer with Brian. Traditionally, local chapters do most of the work and Terry Hogan and Brian Bowen are the contacts. Chuck would like the board to have an award presented (career achievement, student, member of the year).

Chuck would like SE-EPPC to financially help students attend but Nancy L. mentioned that final exams might be taking place at the same time as the symposium. Dave mentioned that most students would be graduate students who don't typically take finals. Nancy Loewenstein volunteered to work on student attendance. A Career Achievement Award was proposed by Chuck. Chris Bryan asked if

chapters would nominate someone from their chapter? Chris has a meeting coming up and will discuss with his board. Each chapter probably has a person or two to nominate.

Nancy – re: splitting proceeds based on whether people signed up with SE-EPPC or SER, what if people don't indicate an organization. Perhaps a "no affiliation" or "neither" box should be available and split those attendees. Chuck said he would look into this idea. He reiterated that they just want to receive a proportionate amount based on percentage of attendees. There is not going to be a paid coordinator for this meeting. Terri Hogan was very instrumental in 2008 NAA meeting in Nashville so she is experienced. They already have a logo design for the conference. Karen requested ad material for Wildland Weeds.

Q-37 Rule – Chuck composed comments to Q-37 on behalf of SE-EPPC the day before they were due to APHIS. They were submitted online and by fax to congressmen and representatives, and Chuck received a letter back from APHIS.

Treasurer's Report/Budget – Lee Patrick. See attached budget report. Lee solicited ideas for spending reserves to provide something from SE-EPPC for the membership. Lee reviewed the 09/10 Budget submitted. Wildland Weeds income will probably require additional filing, depending on revenue. Karen stated that there are guidelines for non-profit publications and financial support and she believes that they are all being followed. Lee will set up a conference call with the accountant and Karen and Dianne Owen, FLEPPC treasurer. Wildland Weeds budget shows no amount because it is a pass-thru for each chapter to pay for their own membership to receive the magazine.

Karen suggested adding a grant for students; Chuck suggested underwriting students to attend the annual meeting. Johnny Randall said NC-EPPC funds and encourages work on invasive species and recipients are required to present at the meeting. He feels this is a more direct and tangible incentive. FLEPPC also awards research grants with a requirement to present at annual meeting or write an article for Wildland Weeds. Chuck suggested forming a committee to investigate these ideas. Karen reported that FLEPPC has SOPs established and spends \$5K annually. Nancy L., Joyce, David Moorhead, Lee, Johnny Randall will form the new **Student Awards/Research Grants Committee**. If scholarships/grants are decided on, we can make amendments to the budget at that time.

Colette asked if we could discuss an amendment to the budget for the ratio of sharing net proceeds from the annual meeting? Alter split from 60/40 to 50/50 because the host chapter does so much of the work? Johnny Randall stated that this subject comes up every year and we settled on 60/40 in order to support the umbrella organization. Chuck said that in discussion the state chapters don't see what they're getting for our 60%. What does the regional organization do? But if regional organization is going to start giving grants, Chuck says there needs to be a revenue stream. If 60% goes to SE-EPPC, then the board needs to show what they do. This item will be put on agenda for discussion at the annual meeting. Terri Hogan is not on the call and Chuck would like to have her input as well.

Colette asked about the large deposit item on budget; Lee explained it was symposium income from SC annual meeting and the previous annual meeting in Biloxi.

Chuck motioned to accept the budget; Johnny Randall seconded. Motion accepted unanimously.

NA-EPPC Update – Brian not present.

BYLAWS – Joyce and John Brubaker have not met. Chuck said we need to address the problem of chapter representatives acting as officers (e.g., Karen acting as Secretary, Tony Pernas as past president, Nancy L. as VP), without substitute reps from those states; For example, Chuck is president so Dave Moorhead serves as the GA-EPPC liaison. Chuck's concern is that a state not lose their chapter vote if their representative is serving as an officer. This is not clear in the bylaws and Chuck would like to have it addressed. Joyce stated that she has always represented her chapter as well as being an officer and

doesn't understand the problem. Chuck clarified that if chapters lose a vote by their rep serving as an officer, it might be difficult to get a quorum. Joyce said it hasn't been a problem in the past but maybe it could be one in the future, but said attending meetings could be financially burdensome. Karen pointed out that conference call meetings have changed this. Chuck stated that at the retreat, we could have had a close vote of some issues. The bylaws should be more precise for close situations. The bylaws are not clear on this issue and language is needed. Karen suggested that if a state chapter has a rep serving as an officer, then perhaps that chapter should have one more representative to serve as their chapter liaison; it would encourage chapter reps to serve as officers if they don't lose their chapter vote. Chuck said that to move forward as an organization, we should clear up these details. Johnny Randall stated that the purpose of the Executive Committee is to look out for SE-EPPC so officers should not represent their state chapter as well; these positions should be separate and each state chapter should do their part. The bylaws committee will work out the language. Karen read the current language: "The Board of Directors shall consist of voting and non-voting members. The voting members shall consist of the four (4) Officers and the immediate Past President, and one (1) Representative from each State Chapter." Dave Moorhead said this should be finalized at the next board meeting because we've had numerous discussions on this at past meetings. Joyce said that it will be done and the discussion was tabled until that time.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – it was agreed that there should be one more conference call before the annual meeting. Focus will be on bylaws, scholarships, and annual meeting. Chuck will do a doodle poll for late January/early February.

MINUTES – Nancy moved to accept the minutes from the last board meeting; Joyce seconded. Accepted unanimously.

OTHER COMMITTEES: Plant List Committee. Nancy has not received a lot of input and is not sure what the purpose of the committee is. Karen suggested looking at the CAL-IPC website's plant list section and doing something similar for SE-EPPC, explaining how lists are derived, how they are used, etc. She pointed out a recent discussion within FLEPPC about their plant list being viewed as regulatory when it is not. Chuck asked for a review of plant lists by state chapter: MS has a list they are working on; ALIPC just updated theirs; GA's is on hold; SC might update theirs soon but for now they are using their 2008 list; FLEPPC just updated theirs; NC uses the NC Native Plant Society list; Joyce –theirs needs updating; reviewing; TN – Lee, no clue as he's just the treasurer; it was noted that this was why we need a chapter rep in addition to those serving as officers. Nancy L. will let us know what happens on this committee.

#### CHAPTER NEWS

NC-EPPC: annual meeting is Dec 2-3. Program going online this week.

GA-EPPC: having annual meeting Thursday – 78 people have registered.

NISAW, DC – Karen going; Lee going; Chuck going.

Chris has the SE-EPPC banner. His meeting is next week in conjunction with MS Vegetation Management Association and CWMA meeting. He will send the banner to Johnny Randall for their annual meeting, who will then return it to Chuck, who is going to NISAW in DC. Several hundred brochures are left. Karen suggested that chapters should use them as they are not chapter specific and have recently been updated and printed.

Chuck motioned to adjourn the meeting and Johnny seconded. MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 4:20 PM.