

Minutes of the Meeting of The Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors



**Grand Traverse Resort
Traverse City, MI
September 22, 2008**

Summary of Actions/Assignments

Actions:

1. Approved adoption of agenda and approved minutes of July 7, 2008 meeting as posted on web 3
2. Unanimously approved resolution to meeting hosts 18

Assignments:

1. As there are no Western Regional Priorities to cover animals, Dave Thawley, Greg Bohach and Mike Harrington will do a writeup to include animal priorities. 17

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WAAESD Meeting

Participants:

Alaska	Milan Shipka	New Mexico	LeRoy Daugherty
Arizona	Joe Hiller	Oregon	Bill Boggess
California	Don Cooksey	Utah	H.Paul Rasmussen
Colorado	Frank Johnson	Washington	Ralph Cavalieri
Guam	Greg Wiecko	Wyoming	Stephen Miller
Hawaii	C. Y. Hu		Bret Hess
Idaho	Greg Bohach	OTHERS:	
Nevada	Ron Pardini	Exec. Dir.	H. Michael Harrington
	David Thawley	OWDA	Harriet Sykes

Agenda
Fall WAAESD Meeting
10:00-11:45 am September 22, 2008
Grand Traverse Resort
Room TBA

1.0	10:00	Introductions and Announcements	Greg Bohach
2.0	10:05	Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes July 2008 Meeting (see – http://www.colostate.edu/Orgs/WAAESD/WAAESD/S08Min)	Greg Bohach
3.0	10:10	Interim Actions of Chair	Greg Bohach
4.0	10:15	Treasurer's Report	Jeff Jacobsen
5.0	10:20	ED Report	M. Harrington
6.0	10:30	NRSP RC Recommendations and Balloting	Ralph Cavalieri
7.0	10:40	Discussion of Western Region Priorities	M. Harrington
8.0	11:35	Resolutions	Jan Auyong/Greg Bohach
9.0	11:40	Future Meetings: 9.1 Spring Meeting 2009 9.2 Joint Summer Meeting 2009	BarbaraAllen-Diaz Ralph Cavalieri
10.0	11:45	Changing of the Guard	Greg Bohach/David Thawley
11.0	11:45	Adjourn	David Thawley

Agenda Item 1.0: Introductions and Announcements

Presenter: Greg Bohach

Background:

Bohach called the meeting to order and requested that the participants introduce themselves.

Announcements regarding meeting/workshop logistics were made.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 2.0: Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes July 2008 Meeting

Presenter: Greg Bohach

Background:

Bohach asked for additions/corrections to both the agenda and to the minutes of July 7, 2008 meeting.

Action Requested: Adoption of agenda and approval of the minutes of July 7, 2008 meeting.

Action Taken: Approved adoption of agenda and approved minutes of July 7, 2008 meeting as posted on web.

Agenda Item 3.0: Interim Actions

Presenter: Greg Bohach

Background:

Bohach reported that he had taken no interim actions.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 4.0: Treasurer's Report
 Presenter: H. M. Harrington for Jeff Jacobsen
 Background:

**WESTERN DIRECTOR EXPERIMENT STATION
 FINANCIAL STATEMENT
 FY 2009**

11-Sep-08

ASSESSMENTS				
	FY09 Assessments	Outstanding FY08	Payment Received	Balance Due
Am Samoa	600.00		600.00	322.35 credit
Micronesia	600.00		600.00	
Northern Marianas	600.00			600.00
Alaska	10,645.98		10,645.98	0.00
Arizona	18,513.53		18,513.53	0.00
California	29,623.41		29,623.41	0.00
Colorado	21,907.35		14,107.35	7,800.00
CSU Rent	(7,800.00)			-7,800.00
Guam	10,382.18		10,382.18	0.00
Hawaii	13,731.05		13,731.05	0.00
Idaho	16,460.61		16,460.61	0.00
Montana	17,378.09		17,378.09	0.00
Nevada	13,501.69		13,501.69	0.00
New Mexico	13,971.89		13,971.89	0.00
Oregon	20,944.89		20,944.89	0.00
Utah	17,592.61		17,592.61	0.00
Washington	26,407.38		26,407.38	0.00
Wyoming	15,646.34		15,646.34	0.00
Assessment Total	\$240,707.00		\$240,107.00	277.65

INCOME/EXPENSE

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
07/01/08	Balance forward			\$56,919.75
	YTD Assessments Received	240,107.00		297,026.75
	July Interest	166.91		297,193.66
	August Interest	366.51		297,560.17
	September Interest			297,560.17
	October Interest			297,560.17
	November Interest			297,560.17
	December Interest			297,560.17
	January Interest			297,560.17
	February Interest			297,560.17
	March Interest			297,560.17
	April Interest			297,560.17
	May Interest			297,560.17
	June Interest			297,560.17
07/01/08	MT Accounting Fee		3,500.00	294,060.17
	CSU First Qtr			294,060.17
	CSU Second Qtr			294,060.17
	CSU Third Qtr			294,060.17
	CSU Fourth Qtr			294,060.17
TOTAL		240,640.42	3,500.00	294,060.17

**WESTERN DIRECTOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FY 2009**

11-Sep-08

ASSESSMENTS	FY09 Assessments	FY08 Outstanding	Payment Received	Balance Due
Alaska	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
American Samoa	200.00		200.00	\$0.00
Arizona	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
California	1,267.29			\$1,267.29
Colorado	1,267.29			\$1,267.29
Guam	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Hawaii	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Idaho	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Micronesia	200.00		200.00	\$0.00
Montana	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Northern Marianas	200.00			\$200.00
Nevada	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
New Mexico	1,267.29			\$1,267.29
Oregon	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Utah	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Washington	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Wyoming	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Assessment Total	\$18,342.00	\$0.00	\$14,340.19	\$4,001.81

INCOME/EXPENSE

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
07/01/08	Balance forward			\$5,845.84
	YTD Assessments Received	14,340.19		20,186.03
	July Interest	14.34		20,200.37
	August Interest	29.72		20,230.09
	September Interest			20,230.09
	October Interest			20,230.09
	November Interest			20,230.09
	December Interest			20,230.09
	January Interest			20,230.09
	February Interest			20,230.09
	March Interest			20,230.09
	April Interest			20,230.09
	May Interest			20,230.09
	June Interest			20,230.09
	CSU First Qtr			20,230.09
	CSU Second Qtr			20,230.09
	CSU Third Qtr			20,230.09
	CSU Fourth Qtr			20,230.09
TOTAL		\$14,384.25	\$0.00	20,230.09

Western Directors Association Assessments

Will be located on a secure web site

at Montana State University

<http://ag.montana.edu/westerndirectors>

Below is what you will see when go to the page. Click what folder you would like to view. Once you clicked on the folder, you will get a listing of all the states. Choose your state for your current invoice.

Friday, January 25, 2008 11:50 AM	<dir> <u>Academic Programs Invoices</u>
Friday, January 25, 2008 11:51 AM	<dir> <u>WD at Large Invoices</u>

If you have any questions in regards to your invoice, please contact:

Tisha Stahly, Fiscal Manager
Montana Agriculture Experiment Station
P.O. Box 172860
Bozeman, MT 59717
Phone: 406-994-5071
Fax : 406-994-6579
tstahly@montana.edu

Agenda Item 5.0: Executive Director Report, July-September, 2008

Presenter: H. Michael Harrington

Background:

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

WAAESD

Joint Summer Meeting: Worked with Chair and Executive Committee to finalize WAAESD agenda. Worked with Carol Lewis, Pete Pinney and others at the University of Alaska to develop agenda for combined session. Secured participation of Jim Fischer and Joe Dunn for the joint session.

Fall Meeting: Worked with Greg Bohach to develop the WAAESD meeting agenda.

Western Region CSREES Grantsmanship Workshop, October 7-8, 2008: The western grants workshop will be held in Salt Lake City in partnership with the Utah State University, WAAESD and CSREES at the Marriott Metro Center in Salt Lake City. Working with Chuck Gay, Paul Rasmussen, others at Utah State and the CSREES team to finalize the workshop. Facilitated changes to the registration and meeting websites. Our office collected travel grant applications. I reviewed applications, developed a spreadsheet with pertinent background information including initial recommendations for Chuck Gay and Paul Rasmussen from which awards were made. Drafted letters to all applicants.

Western Water Listening Session: Worked Reagan Waskom (CSU Water Resources Center) to initiate planning for a session during CY 2009. (See attached)

AFRI Input Session: Attended Stakeholder input session on behalf of the Association

Regional Priorities: Developed draft regional priorities paper for discussion at fall meeting.

Committee Activities

- **Western SARE Administrative Council:** I serve as the Western Directors' representative on this activity. Provided lead or secondary review comments for 20 pre-proposals for Chapter 1 Research and Education grant proposals and read all pre-proposals submitted. Reviewed applications and made recommendations for graduate student fellowship awards. Attended Council meeting in Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

WESTERN ACADEMIC PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Western Region Teaching Symposium: Assisted with distribution of registration information.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ACOP

Roadmapping Effort: Provided advice to the Academic Programs Section on how to develop a roadmap for future activities and am participating on the development of a white paper on "Development of human capacity via integration of the tripartite missions (i.e., research, education, extension)"

ESCOPE

Support to Organization: Worked with the other EDs to develop the ESS workshop agendas.

Committee Activities

- **ESCOPE Budget and Legislative Committee:** Provide support to Chairman David Boethel as the Executive Vice Chair on this important committee. Participated in a number of calls. Kept Committee members informed of latest developments with the Farm Bill and its implementation. Developed white paper of opportunities presented by the Farm Bill (attached). Developed survey on priorities for the 2010, 11 budget cycles. Attended BAC meeting in San Juan in July.
- **CREATE-21/Farm Bill Committee:** I serve on the Executive Committee for this activity representing AES directors and the Western Region. Participated in both EC and regular conference calls. Serve as Executive vice Chair of the Farm Bill Committee and as a staff support for the energy title. This committee has essentially finished its work.
- **Farm Bill Implementation Assistance Committee:** I am serving on this committee which is providing input on behalf of the BAA to Gale Buchanan and REE on issues related to the Farm Bill. Lead the development of a draft set of recommendations to REE on how to develop the roadmap as required by the 2008 Farm Bill. Attended several conference calls and face to face meeting in Washington DC July 14.
- **LEAD²¹:** Represent ESCOP on the Board for this program and serve as the Recruiting Chairman
- **BAA Policy Board of Directors:** I provide assistance to the Policy Board's Energy liaison group to the REE Energy Science to the REE Energy Program.

OTHER NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

REE Energy Science Strategic Plan Steering Committee: At the request of Under Secretary Buchanan, I represent the research interests of the LGU on the steering committee. By virtue of assisting in planning the 2007 strategic planning workshop I am a member of the group which developed of the plan including responding to numerous drafts and participation in ABBREE council conference calls to discuss progress. Assisted with planning for BEAD II and am serving on the planning committee for the Second Annual REE Energy Summit to be held in October 1-2, 2008 as a follow to last year's planning session which resulted in the REE Energy Strategic Plan.

REE Energy Science Program Survey: Developed and deployed an online survey to obtain regional input on the REE energy science plan. Encouraged broad participation to obtain robust responses. Finalized survey responses and developed graphics for presentation at the upcoming REE Energy Summit.

Development of National Strategic Plan for Vegetable Crops: The EDs serve on a steering committee and participate regular conference calls facilitated by Tom Bewick (CSREES NPL-Horticulture) aimed at developing a strategic plan for vegetable crops and to promote a greater awareness of the research and extension needs on vegetable crops. A straw man draft plan was being developed based on discussion within the steering committee and is under revision based

on input received at the planning meeting held in Denver. A strategic planning workshop was held in Denver May 12-13 with some 80 participants including producers, packers, mechanization, ARS and university scientists. Made local hotel arrangements for workshop.

NASULGC-DOE/EERE PARTNERSHIP

The BAA-Policy Board of Directors was charged with implementing the activities for this partnership effort. I represent the executive directors (both AES and CE) on the Steering Committee which provides guidance and oversight for the project. I serve as a co-chair on project 1. Specific details:

- **Project 1: Pacific Northwest Extension Energy Initiative**
The project is aimed at informing local government agencies and officials about energy efficiency and renewable energy information. Worked with Lyla Houglum and extension staff in each state to develop and deploy an on line survey relating renewable energy in each state. Developed the activities plan for FY 2009 which will develop an Extension focused website to provide access to a variety of resources.

Summary of Travel, July-September, 2008

July 5-9: Western Region Joint Summer Meeting, Fairbanks AK

July 13-14: Farm Bill Implementation Assistance Committee meeting, Washington DC

July 20 – 24: Joint COPS, San Juan, PR

Policy Board of Directors meeting

Budget and Advocacy Committee meeting

ESCOP meeting

Aug 4-7: W-SARE Administrative Council Meeting, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, NM

Sept 8-9: Washington DC

ARFI Listening Session

Sept 20-24: Traverse City, MI

WAAESD fall meeting

ESS Annual Meeting and Workshop

Regional Water Listening Sessions

The EDs met with the Committee for Shared Leadership of the CSREES Water Quality Projects in February to discuss areas of intersection and ways that Water Quality groups could collaborate with the multistate water committees operating within the Multistate Research Fund and regional research structure.

From these discussions it was agreed to plan a series of regional listening sessions in 2009 with one in each region that would bring in:

- Key stakeholders
- Deans, Directors
- Multistate committees working on various aspect of water
- Water quality project representatives

Purpose:

- Develop a better understanding of the current water issues from a regional perspective,
- Develop an understanding of the current research and education efforts,
- Identify information gaps and research and education opportunities,
- What is our competitive niche?
- What can/should the LGUs do?
- What resources are needed?
- The summit should also aid in identifying new multistate needs and refocusing current multistate committee efforts.

Outputs/outcomes:

- White paper or Strategic Plan
- Better integration of regional water efforts
- Integration of research, extension and education on water topics
- Enhanced programmatic efforts to address pressing needs

Background information:

- USDA Agricultural Water Security Report (2005)
- Envisioning the Agenda for Water Research in the 21st Century (NRC, 2002)
- Confronting the Nation's Water Problems: The Role of Research (NRC, 2004).
- Water 2025 (EPA, 2003)

Next Steps:

Identify planning committee membership, possible participants:

WAAESD – 2 reps

WEDA – 2 reps

WR WQ – 2 reps

WGA – 1 rep

CSG-West – 1 rep

WIR-NACO – 1 rep

Multistate Water Committees (W-1190)

Action requested: For information

Agenda Item 6.0: NRSP Review Committee

Presenter: Ralph Cavalieri

September 22, 2008

The NRSP Review Committee met in Memphis on June 3-4 to discuss the NRSPs' budget requests and proposals. The Review Committee developed the following recommendations for the FY '09 NRSP portfolio. These were communicated to the 1862 regional research associations for discussion at their summer meetings. The NRSP-RC had a conference call on August 15 to consider comments received from the regional associations and developed the final recommendations listed below which are to be voted on during the ESS business meeting.

At their June meeting, the NRSP-RC also discussed how it could better manage and oversee the development of NRSP renewal proposals, including the external and peer reviews and the writing committee's responses to those reviews. Specific procedures were developed to guide the initial review and proposal development phases to help accomplish this goal. These procedures are outlined in the letter below from Craig Nessler to the NRSP-7 Administrative Advisors, whose project is terminating in September 2009.

NRSP Review Committee Recommendations for FY2009:

NRSP-1 – Research Planning Using the Current Research Information System (CRIS)

\$346,829 FY'09 budget recommended for approval.

Comments –

- Important for One Solution Stakeholder Committee to stay engaged with REE policy makers and IT folks to make sure the databases are useful for universities as well as USDA and Congress.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2010.

NRSP-3 – The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)

It is recommended that the NRSP-3 renewal proposal not be approved and that this activity be established as a multistate project that can be funded through MRF by participant AES's and other sources. The NRSP-3 group is commended for exemplifying the ideal of becoming self supporting.

Note: Disapproval of the NRSP-3 renewal proposal will automatically grant a one year extension for this project to Sep 30, 2009 with a budget of \$50,000.

Comments –

- Off-the-top funding is now less than 2%, an excellent example of decreasing dependency on this funding source.
- NE region suggested this project become a multistate project with participating stations supporting the \$50,000.
- No compelling argument to keep this project as an NRSP and maintain a low level of funding.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2008.

NRSP-4 – High Value Specialty Crop Pest Management

\$481,182 FY'09 budget is recommended for approval.

Project extension to Sep 30, 2010 is recommended for approval.

Comments –

- Specialty Crops Research Initiative is not designed to support this type of activity, so this funding still needs to come from off-the-top Hatch.

- Project group should consider how they could reduce dependence on off-the-top funding when the renewal proposal and next 5-year budget are developed.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2009.

NRSP-5 – National Program for Controlling Virus Diseases of Temperate Fruit Tree Crops

Project extension to Sep 30, 2009 is recommended for approval.

\$145,678 FY'09 budget is recommended for approval, if funds do not become available from the National Clean Plant Network.

Comments –

- 2008 Farm Bill includes mandatory funding for NRSP-5 activities through the National Clean Plant Network.
- It appears these funds will be administered through APHIS, but it is not sure the funds will be available for FY'09, so off-the-top funding approval is needed to ensure continuation.
- If it is learned that APHIS will provide funding for FY'09 prior to the ESS meeting, the off-the-top funding request will be withdrawn.
- If APHIS provides funding during FY'09, the difference between that funding and the approved off-the-top will be returned to CSREES for redistribution to the SAES.
- One year project extension is needed to allow off-the-top funding in '09, if necessary.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2008.

NRSP-6 – Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Project: Acquisition, classification, preservation, evaluation and distribution of potato (*Solanum*) germplasm

\$110,000 FY'09 budget is recommended for approval and the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee is requested to consider new ways to fund this by end of the current project.

Comments –

- Request that the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee take another look at whether or not this project should be funded in some other way through the National Plant Germplasm system.
- As project is rewritten there needs to be a serious justification for off-the-top funding.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2010.

NRSP-7 – A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs

\$325,000 FY'09 budget is recommended for approval, minus any funds made available to this project in the FY'09 federal budget.

Comments –

- Proposal for renewal of this project in 2009 will have to show substantial funding from other sources, including industry, and a plan to transition away from off-the-top funding.
- Current project terminates on Sep 30, 2009.

NRSP-8 – National Animal Genome Research Program

The renewal project from Oct 1, 2009 to Sep 30, 2013 is recommended for approval.

\$500,000 FY'09 budget is recommended for approval with the understanding that subsequent years' funding be contingent on more details regarding other funding sources supporting the NRSP-8 activities and information on efforts to obtain funding from industry and other non-public sources.

Comments –

- Need to include grants and other funding sources that support activities of this project in the FY'10 budget request to justify recommendation of this level of funding again.

- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2008.

NRSP_temp101 – USDA UV-B Monitoring and Research Program: Enhancement of Network Data Products, Research Support, and National Research Collaboration

It is recommended that this new NRSP project proposal not be approved. Any subsequent submission of this proposal should include a better justification of the activity as a NRSP, explanation of the priority need for this information and its use, and how this activity could support research on global climate change.

Comments –

- Discussion at the spring regional meetings resulted in the following general opinions on this project proposal:
 - West favored approval and funding
 - Northeast was not favorable because the proposal did not justify the project as a NRSP and the deliverables from the activity are not a high priority need.
 - North Central was not in favor of approving this proposal and thought it was more suited to being established as a multistate project.
 - South did not favor approval because most stations not using this data and generally thought that the data collection should be supported by other agencies.

Letter to NRSP-7 Administrative Advisors

Date: June 25, 2008

To: NRSP Administrative Advisors of Projects Terminating September 30, 2009

NRSP-7 A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs

L. Garry Adams (S)
John Baker (NC)
Kirklyn M. Kerr (NE)
David Thawley (W)

From: Craig Nessler, NRSP Review Committee Chair

Re: NRSP Renewal Proposal Review Process

During our recent meeting, the NRSP Review Committee discussed how it could better manage and oversee the development of NRSP renewal proposals, including the external and peer reviews and the writing committee's responses to those reviews. The following procedures during the initial review and proposal development phases were approved to accomplish this.

- External review of the NRSP project should be done in early fall one year prior to the termination date. The review needs to include both a review of current project's accomplishments and a merit and scientific (peer) review of a preliminary draft of the proposed future project.
- The draft proposal should be entered into NIMSS prior to the review so that it is available on line for the external review team.
- The external review team will be established by CSREES in consultation with the project's AAs and the NRSP-RC. Tom Bewick, the CSREES representative on the NRSP-RC (tbewick@csrees.usda.gov or 202-401-3356), will be primary contact for this.
- Initial review should be done in August or September and cover past accomplishments and proposed future activity. Reviewer comments are sent to the NRSP AAs and the NRSP-RC.

- The NRSP writing committee will revise and complete the proposal in NIMSS and notify the NRSP-RC when the final draft is ready for final review by the external review team.
- The NRSP writing committee completes any final revisions necessary and submits the proposal as final in NIMSS no later than January 15. The NRSP writing committee and/or the Administrative Advisor will also submit by email to the NRSP-RC Chair a brief explanation of how the proposal was revised to address any significant review comments or concerns.
- During proposal development the NRSP writing committee should pay particular attention to addressing the following two sections of the NRSP Guidelines relative to off-the-top funding.
 - Paragraph V.E. Management and Business Plan

“In general, NRSPs should expect a finite period of off-the-top funding. This is not a reflection of the quality of work being conducted or the research being supported by the project. Rather, this allows the SAES system to continually assess needs and develop new projects as necessary. For this reason, the business plan of project renewals must include a transition plan and provisions for developing alternative funding or reducing off-the-top funding to a minimal level. Included would be an assessment of transition options, and alternative funding sources.

However, not all projects may be shifted to other funding sources. Projects seeking to continue with significant amount of off the top funding should fully justify the request.

The renewal application should include a critical assessment of the original plan and address any shortcomings to ensure that the project will function more smoothly or effectively in the future. The proposal must indicate what additional resources have been generated or leveraged and indicate how those and any additional resources will be continued or sought.

Note. Not all projects can be transitioned to other funding sources and, if the project meets an ESCOP priority, the project may continue with off-the-top funding.”
 - Paragraph V. H. Budget

“The NRSP team must present an annual budget for each of the five years (See Appendix F). The budget must take into account all sources of funds (Multistate Research Funds, industry, federal agencies, grants and contracts, and SAESs). There are two tables in Appendix F, one for MRF and one for Other Sources. For the SAESs, the project should estimate the in-cash and in-kind contributions. The budget narrative should provide an estimate of the per cent contribution from each funding source.”

If you have any questions about any aspect of this process, please contact me or Eric Young (Exec. Vice Chair) at eric_young@ncsu.edu or 919-513-1746. Please see the attached NRSP Guidelines for more details on the entire process for renewal of a current NRSP.

Thank you,
Craig Nessler

Action Requested: Discussion of NRSP RC recommendations and distribution of ballots.

Agenda Item 7.0: Discussion of Western Region Priorities

Presenter: H. M. Harrington

Background:

Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors Research Priorities for Plant and Pest Biology November, 2007

These priorities are couched in terms of the ESCOP Science Roadmap for Agriculture and the Experiment Station Section's major priority areas with an additional area on specialty crops. Addressing these priorities will improve the viability and sustainability of agriculture and food systems; the quality of natural resources and the environment; yielding great benefits to communities, families, and consumers. These priorities directly support CSREES Strategic Goals as listed below.

I. Bioenergy - Biobased Economy (CSREES Goals 1, 2, 3)

Plant Biology Priorities:

- Feedstock development and utilization; lignin, cellulose & other plant components modification & conversion, enzyme-based processing systems, chemical & thermo conversion technologies, and improved biocatalysts.
- Sustainable bioenergy systems including soil properties, bioprocessing by-products, trees & forest products as feedstocks, biomaterials development & utilization, and alternative feedstock production & bioconversion.
- Water use, quantity and quality issues related to production systems.
- Graduate and Post Doctoral Fellowship Programs.

Pest Biology Priorities:

- Develop appropriate or minimalist approaches to pest control

II. Food, Nutrition, Health and Well-Being (CSREES Goals 4, 5)

Plant Biology Priorities:

- Development of functional foods and the role of specialty and organic crops in nutrition and well being.
- Improved rapid detection of food borne pathogens, safer fresh produce handling methods, risk reduction in production, processing, and storage systems, and strategies to address agro-security, bioterrorism, and invasive species threats.

Pest Biology Priorities:

- Innovative plant technologies and systems, including genetic engineering of food crops to prevent potential toxins, new detection systems for food borne toxins & pathogens, and basic pathogen biology.
- Impact of IPM adoption on human health, environmental, economics and specific impacts of newer classes of pesticides on the beneficial species.
- New management tactics for specific settings including impacts of tactics on pollinators and beneficial insects.
- New diagnostic tools for plant diseases and for detection of pesticide resistance in pest populations.
- New/emerging pests and invasive species in agricultural settings, and in urban settings.

III. Environmental Stewardship (CSREES Goals 2, 3, 6)

Plant Biology Priorities:

- Long term cropping system sustainability, including biotic and abiotic stress, water use, quality and quantity.

- Production economics, modeling pests, pest movement, GIS methodology for site-specific management.
- Effects of global climate change on production systems and natural ecosystems, information to inform policy
- Improved methods to protect the environment both on and beyond the farm from any negative impacts of agriculture
- Optimum use of cropping systems including agroforestry, phytoremediation, and site-specific management.

Pest Biology Priorities:

- Environmentally friendly crop production systems that utilize sustainable weed, insect, and pathogen management strategies that promote environmental stewardship.
- Balanced environmental protection and agriculture economic viability, sustainable BMPs, specialty crops production & harvest systems, agro-ecosystem management, agro-chemicals environmental impact, integrated pest management systems and biocontrol.
- Extent and potential impacts of pesticide and pollen drift.

IV. Specialty and Organic Crops (CSREES Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

Plant Biology Priorities:

- Breeding, variety development and physiology, including growth and development, irrigation management, mineral nutrition, biotic and abiotic stress, and post harvest handling to enhance production.
- Technologies for genetic transformation/ manipulation and improvement, genomics and proteomic tools.

Pest Biology Priorities:

- Develop management tactics for specific settings including impacts of tactics on pollinators and beneficial insects.
- High-resolution environmental and biological monitoring systems to predict pest incidence, estimate damage, and identify valid action thresholds.
- New diagnostic tools for rapid detection of plant and animal diseases and for detection of pesticide resistance.

Action Requested: For information

Action Taken: As there are no Western Regional Priorities to cover animals, Dave Thawley, Greg Bohach and Mike Harrington will do a writeup to include animal priorities.

Agenda Item 8.0: Resolutions

Presenter: Greg Bohach

Background:

The following resolution was presented in recognition of the meeting hosts:

Resolution #1:

WHEREAS Director and Assistant Vice President Dr. Steven Pueppke and his colleagues, Ms. Gwen Skinner and Ms. Bev Riedinger, from Michigan State University were organizers and hosts for the Experiment Station Section and the Agriculture Research Directors Annual Meetings and the Fall meeting of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, Michigan, September 21-24; and

WHEREAS Dr. Pueppke, and his colleagues provided such hospitable surroundings in which to meet; and

WHEREAS Dr. Pueppke and his colleagues were also outstanding hosts; and

WHEREAS Drs. Pueppke and his colleagues arranged excellent joint meetings, scientific and policy related presentations, and interesting educational tours, be it

RESOLVED, That the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at its meeting at Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, Michigan on September 22, expresses its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Pueppke and his colleagues for their significant contributions to successful individual and joint meetings; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the original of this resolution be provided to Dr. Pueppke, and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

Action Requested: Approval of resolution

Action Taken: Unanimously approved resolution to the meeting hosts.

Agenda Item 9.1: Spring Meeting 2009

Presenter: Don Cooksey

Background:

Cooksey reported that the 2009 Spring Meeting will be held March 23-25, 2009 in Davis, CA. RCIC will meet March 23. The WAAESD will meet 3/24-25, and finish with a tour on 3/25.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 9.2: Joint Summer Meeting 2009

Presenter: Ralph Cavalieri

Background:

Cavalieri reported that the Joint WAAESD/WED/AP/AHS Meeting would be held July 19-22, 2009 in Semiahmoo, WA. RCIC will meet July 19 prior to the joint meetings.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 10.0: Changing of the Guard

Presenter: Greg Bohach

Background:

Bohach commented that his term as Chair of WAAESD was ending and the incoming Chair would be Dave Thawley. He presented Thawley a gavel for use during his term as chair.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 11.0: Adjourn

Presenter: Dave Thawley

Background:

Upon receiving his gavel, Thawley adjourned the meeting.

Action Requested: For information