

SRWCOWG Steering Committee Notes – September 27, 2006

Members present:

Jake Eaton
Tim Volk,
Lynn Wright,
Randy Rousseau
Bruce Hartsough,
Mark Coleman

Treasurers Report: \$30,000 is available in bank account. Bills from the September 2006 meeting are yet to be paid, but it is anticipated that there will be income from the meeting.

Sustaining Sponsors

Potlatch, Greenwood Resources, Peterson Corporation will continue, but Committee members are not sure about Irrigation Mart and Boise. An effort will be made to solicit interest from other sustaining sponsors such as Case New Holland and other harvesting equipment companies, irrigation suppliers, etc.

Next Chairman:

Marilyn Buford, of the U.S. Forest Service was nominated as chairman. Bryce endorsed. Group all agreed. (Jake has confirmed Marilyn's agreement).

Nominations to Steering Committee:

Bruce Hartsough and Randy Rousseau have been invited to belong to the Steering Committee. Randy could help maintain link between the SRWCOWG and Poplar Council. Lynn Wright asked about Evan Hughes status. The group decided to drop Evan Hughs from the Steering Committee list since we have not heard from him in a while. The Steering Committee list should be updated on the website.

WrightLink Consultant Services for 2007:

1. Group agreed the focus was the website and ~ 2 newsletters
2. Discussion of website content
 - Would be nice to put up photo's from meeting
 - Page for links to lot of woody crops sites with regular updating of the links
 - Abstract book and tour book could be put up on website in lieu of a proceedings
 - Decided not to put attendance list on website, it will be e-mailed to participants
3. WrightLink Consultants will base a proposal on the above suggestions.

2008 Meeting location: Discussion points

1. SUNY agreed to host 2008 meeting if Committee wants to meet there. There might be a cellulosic ethanol facility up and running by that time.

2. A meeting in Canada might be of interest, since new poplar work happening there. Alberta and Ontario are possibilities. Steering committee leaders of the SRWCOWG and the Poplar Council of Canada have discussed combining the 2008 meetings of the two groups. Discussions will continue in hopes of agreeing on a location that will work for both groups.
3. State level interest in biomass in Alabama was noted. \$6 million in state money is currently being distributed in Alabama for Bioenergy R&D. This might be an area of the country of interest for a future SRWCOWG biennial conference.

Possible articles for newsletter discussed between Lynn Wright and Jake Eaton:

1. The apparent big story from the September 2006 field tours is that fertilizer doesn't work! (Jon Johnson has been requested to write an article on this)
2. New willow harvester being tested in New York (Tim Volk has been requested to write about this following testing).
3. Roles of TIMO, REITS – explain what they are, how they work, etc.