

**February 18, 2008  
Board Minutes**

The newly appointed Board members of the Indiana Registry of Soil Scientist met in the conference room of the Office of the State Chemist at Purdue University on February 18, 2008. Those in attendance were Steve Wade, Gary Steinhardt, Don Ruesch, Spencer Williams and John Bonsett. Also in attendance were previous Board members Bill Hosteter and Don Franzmeier. All in attendance gave a brief introduction of their professional background.

Because this was the initial meeting for the entire group of Board members, Don Franzmeier and Bill Hosteter, previous Board members presented a brief history of the Board.

It was explained that the current special concerns of the Board include: investigating complaints; reviewing educational and field training requirements; and code of ethics issues. The main duties of the Board are to administer the laws and rules approved by state government. This includes reviewing the credentials of applicants for original registration and reviewing the renewal requirements for those continuing, mainly general CEU and field CEU credits. In the past, the Board has tried to schedule two field CEU sessions per year, one at the time of the fall meeting of the Association of Professional Soil Classifiers and the other in the spring. It was also pointed out that the Office of the State Chemist provides clerical, administrative and other services to the Board.

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An election of officers was held and those elected were: Steve Wade, president; Don Ruesch, vice president; and John Bonsett, secretary.

There was discussion related to term appointments. Guidelines for term appointments are outlined under IC 25-31.5-2-4 which specify four (4) year terms. There was no apparent consideration for the establishment of staggered terms. The members thought it would be wise if terms were somehow staggered so that not all Board terms expired at the same time. This point needs to be further clarified.

Don Franzmeier reported that Melinda Walsh at Purdue maintains a soil information website that includes educational and training updates. Spencer Williams agreed to work with Melinda in this regard.

A soil scientist field day training exercise has been scheduled for Friday, May 3, 2008 at Columbia City, Indiana. Don Franzmeier and Don Ruesch agreed to help coordinate the pit location and digging, select judges and the archeological approval for the field training exercise.

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It was the opinion of the Board that judges who participate in the training exercise should be granted the appropriate continuing education units for their participation. Participation in a full day training exercise should be equivalent to six (6) hours of credit. We have given ceuf credit to judges so that do not have to complete the ceuf field exercise.

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The Board felt that if a soil scientist allowed his/her registration to expire, the Board may grant an extension to re-register. If just cause for an extension could not be determined, the soil scientist would need to review the registration process from the beginning.

Previously, high school ag instructors have been allowed 2 years credit for classroom teaching if the instructor had a record of taking soil teams to state contests. The additional year was pedological field study of soils. In those cases, classroom experience can count toward the registration experience requirement at a rate of two of the 3 years. One year field experience is still required in addition to the classroom educational credits. you might want to attach the letter to Jim Brown explaining the system we use to allow credit for ag teachers. the policy was never recorded in our minutes.

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The Board reviewed the applications for Professional Registered Soil Scientist from James Brown from Monroe County and David Ortel, an employee with the Indiana State Department of Health. The Board voted and approved to up-grade both applicants to the position of Registered Professional Soil Scientist. Chairman Steve Wade will notify both James Brown and David Ortel on their up-grade to Professional Soil Scientist

The Board reviewed the official educational transcript of William Rutherford. It was determined Mr. Rutherford had fulfilled the educational requirements for registration but the required field experience is still needed.

Several individuals CCU reports were reviewed. The Board agreed to follow the recommendation of Dan Franzmeier and Bill Hosteter to accept the CCU reports. In the future, Spencer Williams, Steve Wade and Gary Steinhardt agreed to serve as Board representatives to review future CCU reports that will be submitted.

Gary Steinhardt made a motion to approve Don Franzmeier and Bill Hosteter as "special consultants" to the current Board. Spencer Williams seconded the motion and it carried 5 to 0.

The Board discussed renewal rates for registration. Don Ruesch suggested the rates be held at the current rate. After discussion it was determined to keep rates at the current level.

The next meeting was scheduled for July 7, 2008 at 10:00. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.



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John Bonsett  
Secretary