

## **NASCA Board of Directors Conference Call**

Thursday, December 8, 2011

11 am eastern

**Attendance:** Shana Joy, Steve Coleman, Carolyn Hefner, Ray Beck, Mike Latham, Steve Cauthen, Don Underwood, Randy Young, Thayne Mickelson, Mark Clark, Mike Brown, Sarah Hickling (recorder)

**Absent:** Bill Wilson, Adrian Baber

### **Opening remarks and call to order (Hefner)**

Hefner called the meeting to order.

### **Happy trails to Randy Young and Ray Beck (Young/Beck)**

This was the last call for Randy and Ray as Board members. Both said their farewells and Don thanked them for their service and dedication to the association over many years.

### **Financials (Hickling)**

- Membership dues as of Dec 7
  - Over \$80,000 taken in for dues, well over the \$54,600 projected income
- Balance sheet as of Nov 30
  - Approx. \$74,000 in operating funds as of Dec 7
- Budget performance as of Dec 7
  - \$24,539 under budget for 2011 as of Dec 7
- Update on Bank of America
  - Lockbox is officially closed; Mike Brown is looking at alternative banking options per request of Board to leave BoA
- End-of-year dues
  - Letters will be mailed out before January 1 with new PO Box information for sending checks and correspondence to Hartly, Delaware

### **Investments update (Brown)**

- Today's TD Ameritrade account balance is \$68,778.75. Today's Stifel Nicolaus account balance is \$499,066.95. NASCA's total investment account balance as of today is \$567,845.70.

### **NACD Las Vegas meeting (Hefner)**

- Sunday, January 29, 2012
- Discussed the need for a morning meeting for the Board of Directors; Membership Business Meeting in the afternoon
- Some topics to be addressed during the meeting: Location of 2012 Board retreat and 2013 Annual meeting

### **CIG Grant (Brown)**

- The 2012 CIG grant announcement from NRCS should be forthcoming in the near future. Brown asked if NASCA should submit an application. He suggested working on

developing a sample protocol similar to Michigan's MAEAP protocol that could be applied to other states. Mark Clark interjected that the proposal should include conservation district participation in reviewing farm practices as well as reporting on-farm successes. The Board recommended submitting a CIG proposal for 2012.

#### **Membership questionnaire (Brown)**

- Brown referenced questions he has received from member states in 2011. Many of these questions included requests for information about other state conservation agencies. Brown asked for ideas to include in a questionnaire to be sent to all of our member states to collect demographic information about each state's conservation agency. Several board members offered ideas and all were invited to send additional ideas to Brown via email.

#### **Executive session (Hefner)**

Following discussion by the board members, a motion was made by Mr. Steve Cauthen (AL), seconded by Mr. Steve Coleman (KY) to approve a \$3,000 bonus for Mr. Mike Brown and Ms. Sarah Hickling for their dedicate efforts in 2011 on behalf of NASCA. *Motion carried.*