



**Western Chapter IECA – Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Coronado Public Library**  
**September 19, 2008                      9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Called to Order September 19, 2008 9:10am

1.     **Welcome and Introductions:**

Peter McRae, Craig Benson, Robert Patterson, Mike Broadwater, Dennis Ariza, Jane Ledford and Chris Marr.  
Mary Larson and Michael Alberson were unable to attend.  
Renée Castillo stand-in secretary to take Minutes.

2.     **Review of Minutes of Teleconference Meeting April 17, 2008:**

Craig Benson changed wording of “\$500.00 contribution” (for travel expenses Julie Etra) to now read “\$500.00 re-imbusement” of travel expenses.  
Unanimous approval of minutes with change.

3.     **Secretary Report:** no report as position vacated by Tony Pitts at time of Election.

4.     **Treasurer’s Report:**

- A. Submitted updated P&L for June 2008 SD Workshop: Loss \$633.00
- B. On Check Detail: 7-8-08 should be listed as Brazil Conference (not Argentina Conference).
- C. Money Market Detail: should any specified \$\$ (of \$15,319.64) be invested in higher yield CD?
- D. Checking Account: cash heavy \$83,577.71. Discussion was in favor of segregating \$40,000 - \$50,000 to higher yielding CD investment for 1 year term. Mike to research. Mutual of Omaha is our new bank. Need to ensure no deposit or bank account exceeds \$100,000 Federal Insurance limit. Peter provided historical perspective of Western Chapter finances.
- E. Has not yet billed for 2008 banner ads, will do next week.

WCIECA Minutes continued:

5. **WC-IECA 101 Report:**

Craig provided ideas and expectations of all board members. Promote and promulgate erosion control papers, training, handbooks, set standards and increase membership. WC is largest chapter at 647 members. First one established. Mission is same as IECA; however, Chapter has more focus on mobile workshops. Challenge other 3 states to become more involved, State balance and gender balance. Out of 647 members only 100 voted in the past election. Hispanic membership is up.

6. **Reports of Committees:**

A. Chapter Communications – Robert Patterson

Robert will attend IECA open house 10-16-08. Wants Diego to include Spanish icon on website with translation.

B. Conference – deferred to Agenda Item #10.

C. Contractor Liaison – none available

D. Education – Mike Alberson not present.

F. Inter-Organization – Craig Benson

Recruit other groups to join WCIECA or we join theirs. WC will pay fee if anyone takes booth to other conferences. Booth currently stored by Peter.

G. Intra-Chapter – Mike Broadwater

Need more activities with our sister states, HI, NV, AZ. Asked for ideas, suggestions.

H. Membership – Mary Larson

Retention is primary goal; secondary goal is finding new members in AZ, NV and HI.

I. Sister Chapter Liaison – Craig Benson

Craig and Julie felt Ibero-American Convention went off successfully. Organizers appreciated support and attendance by representatives of Western Chapter. Ibero-American Chapter currently operated very differently from U.S.-based Chapters: individual corporations organize and underwrite conferences, for example. Western Chapter can assist by (a) sharing our organizational structure for possible adoption; (b) funding; (c) greater participation and involvement by Western Chapter members.

**Motion: To reimburse Craig Benson, traveling as official WC-IECA Board representative, for outstanding \$600.00 travel expenses bringing total reimbursement by WC-IECA to \$2,100.00. Motion passed with unanimous approval; Craig Benson abstaining.**

**Motion: To follow through on prior January 16, 2008 Board approval to reimburse \$500.00 portional travel expenses of Julie Etra traveling as IECA International Development Vice President to WC-IECA Sister Chapter Ibero-American Convention in Brazil. Motion passed unanimously.**

J. IECA HQ Liaison – Chris Marr

HQ wants to revamp communication with Chapter leaders. Construction industry is down; Landscape Arch is up, look to them for membership. BLOG setup [chapterleaders.wordpress.com](http://chapterleaders.wordpress.com)

K. IECA Government Relations – Kent Stevenson not present, but keen to continue as our representative.

WCIECA Minutes continued:

7. **Officer's Election:**

Peter McRae volunteered to continue as President. Craig motioned; Robert seconded; all approved.

Peter nominated Craig as Administrative Vice President; Chris seconded; all approved.

Peter nominated Dennis Ariza and Jane Ledforth as Technical Co- Vice Presidents; Chris seconded; all approved. Dennis to handle northern region; Jane to handle southern region.

Mike Broadwater volunteered to continue as Treasurer. Peter motioned; Chris seconded; all approved.

Peter nominated Chris Marr as Secretary; Jane seconded; all approved. Peter suggested Chris to contact Sandy Matthews for initial help and assistance (ring binders for all incoming Board members).

8. **Appointment of Committee Chairpersons:**

Chapter Communications – Robert Patterson

Conference Committee – Peter McRae (Robert; Chris; Craig)

Contractor Liason – Mary Larson

Education - Robert Paterson & Dennis Ariza Co-Chairs (Mike Alberson)

Inter-Organization Liason – Craig Benson & Jane Ledford Co-Chairs

Intra-Chapter Activities - Mike Broadwater (Peter; Robert)

Membership - Chris Marr (all Board members)

Sister Chapter Liason - Julie Etra/Craig Benson (Peter)

IECA HQ Liason – Chris Marr & Peter McRae Co-Chairs (Robert)

9. **Newsletter/Website:**

New WCIECA address: P.O. Box 493, Arcata, CA 95518

Plan to send out newsletter 11-15-08; submittals in by 11-01/08.

Newsletter will promote EcoTech Program. Host Chapter Challenge/Meeting at EC'09 Julie Etra bringing IberoAmerican Chapter attendees, Sunday dinner.

President's Message + Write-up on WC-IECA-sponsored "Native Revegetation: What Works" Workshop along with details of planned follow-up "Day 3 + 4" Workshop in Sacramento, CA: Peter

IberoAmerican Chapter August Conference: Craig

10. **EC'09 Conference Planning:**

Important that we as a Board be realistic as to our time and energy in becoming involved in staging EC '09. Allow the professional IECA staff team to handle the hosting of EC '09; assist where we can. Priority must be to staging activities planned for our Chapter members; however, realization that EC '09 will primarily benefit Chapter members and would complement Training Workshops envisioned for staging in Sacramento, Phoenix/Tuscon.

Russ looking for volunteers, moderators, speakers, instructors.

Consider Rose Bond manning the WC-IECA booth for purpose of meeting Chapter members. Booth incentive: register at booth; win prizes (iPods) at Chapter meeting.

Chapter Board members to assist Julie "host" IberoAmerican Chapter guests at Sunday dinner.

WCIECA Minutes continued:

11. **Activities Planned:**

- A. Requests from attendees at June 19 + 20 “Native Revegetation: What Works” in San Diego, CA for follow-on “Day 3 + 4” Workshop in Sacramento, CA. Currently being organized for 2<sup>nd</sup> week in December, dependent upon academic faculty presenters’ availability. Location needed, possibly Woodland Ag Museum. CalTrans has limited funds (CA budget), but Dennis Cadd might help \$\$; debating allowance of vendor booths. Possible coordination with Fairfield/Suisan watershed group and/or CA Native Grasslands Association for combined workshop.
- B. Ecotech Training Workshop: Feb 4 & 5 Cost \$85 includes CD – Dennis Ariza  
Day 1 in class training on regulatory  
Day 2 Option in field hydraulic presentation  
Wants to give envirocert for attending and Western Chapter participation  
\*\*Review with David Franklin
- C. Promote informal gathering monthly for regional Chapter members
- D. Scholarship Fund- Calendar Year Craig will help Robert.  
Prof. Brent Hallock might be a candidate for consideration to help manage our Scholarship program; at the very least, a resource to source student candidates for scholarships. WC-IECA would set criteria, scholarship amount and type of award.

WCIECA Minutes continued:

- E. Partners for Excellence – Peter has template of Chapter submissions. Program a good checklist for achieving moderate objectives. Provides basic status report on Chapter activities. Our challenge is to go above and beyond the goals of the Program.  
Craig – a need for better integration with our 3 other western States in Chapter.

12. **New Business**

- A. Brainstorming to Meet our Membership Mission  
Suggested to invite members from other groups to join IECA as listed below
  - CLCA – California Landscape Contractors Association
  - ASLA – American Society of Landscape Architects
  - ASCE – American Society of Civil Engineers
  - Agriculture/Agribusiness, RCD’s, Forestry, Grazing,
  - Mining – SMARA
  - Ecology/Biology – SER, CNPS, SWSPPS, CAL-IPC, AIP, AGC
  - Stormwater – CASQA, LEED, LID
  - Air Quality – PM10, Dust Control

Catalyst to Solutions – IECA needs to be the portal for all industries.

Visioning/Brainstorming

WCIECA Minutes continued:

Short Term

Evaluation of methods/technology                      EcoTech training  
New members from related professional organizations  
Bilingual outreach    Expanded website resources/links

Long Term

Guiding IECA    Lobbying for Standards  
Green EC Products                                      Attaching standards to development \$\$ (IMF/WB)  
USA Mexico Erosion/WQ issues

Nov 21-22, 2008 IECA(Denver) Board Meeting, submissions by 10-13  
Westerns Chapter could lay path changes and lead way

B. Peter McRae proposed/motioned WC-IECA re-affirm its decision (agreed to by the 2007-2008 Board meeting in Sacramento, August 2007) to reimburse Board members for reasonable transportation costs incurred in attending Board meetings in person. Historically, especially when the WC-IECA had minimal funds, Board members traveled to/from meetings at their own expense. When the preponderance of Board members resided in Northern CA, us “southerners” footed our expenses to travel to the location where critical mass of volunteer brainpower was greatest. With the re-organization of Chapter finances, and in recognition of the IECA practice of reimbursing Board members both for travel and accommodation to Board meetings (for example, Hawaii 2006), and in the interests of promoting “in person” meetings to the greatest extent possible, it was submitted that the reimbursement of reasonable transportation expenses should be re-affirmed. Chris Marr seconded. All approved; except Craig Benson abstaining. Passed

13. **Time and Place of Board Meeting:**

Dec 9, 10 or 11 in Sacramento, CA

14. **Review and Confirmation of Action Items Discussed:**

\$40k to CD  
Spanish symbol on website in 2009  
Ecotech workshop will have flyer ready in 2 weeks  
Scholarship applications Nov 2009  
Advertising additional fund  
Binders from secretary  
Newsletter out Nov 15, deadline Nov 1  
Land West Development Conference: need folks to man booth  
Partners in Excellence draft due end of November  
Need to pursue “IECA certified” status for WC-IECA instructors/workshops  
New office and committee assignments

Meeting adjourned 3:30pm