Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by President Duane Johnson at 4:30 PM in the Memorial Union the OSU Campus. Duane recognized his executive committee – Jim Krall, President elect; Dwane Miller, Past President; Russ Karow Secretary/Treasurer. He also introduced Betty Klepper, current CSSA President.

Minutes of the 1996 Meeting
Minutes were approved as distributed.

Treasurer’s Report (updated to October 31, 1997)
Russ Karow reported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance</td>
<td>3218.79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration and Cash Receipts</td>
<td>1045.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>1446.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending Balance</td>
<td>2817.67</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Treasurer’s report was approved.

Committee Reports
Membership Glenn Murray, committee chair, indicates that he was stepping down and that Ron Delaney was interested in assuming this job. Ron was duly appointed and then asked for funds to develop a membership brochure. Dick Auld moved to provide up to $300 for brochure development and printing. Dwane Miller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Nomination Committee Dave Kock and Marc Brick were nominated for President Elect. President Johnson asked for nominations from the floor. Dick Auld moved that nominations be closed. Ron Delaney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

History President Johnson reported that Ken Kephart has done an excellent job in developing a web page for WSCS. The Web site is accessible off of the ASA page. Meeting minutes and program abstracts are available through the site. 1997 meeting abstracts will be sent to Ken for posting as well as to ASA for inclusion in the annual meeting proceedings. Jim Krall and Russ Karow were charged to get this done. Russ Karow noted that to facilitate this process, proceedings should be submitted in both electronic and printed forms.

Audit Committee The 1996-97 audit committee was appointed by President Johnson. Members are Dwane Miller (Chair), Ron Delaney and Andy Bary.

Mailing List Russ Karow reported that a small, active member mailing list was in use, but that a larger list (over 500) had been supplied by ASA. Discussion ensued. The question was raised if ASA would send out a mailing for WSCS. Someone thought that the WSSS had a checkoff box on the annual membership renewal form and wondered if WSCS could as well. Russ Karow was charged with investigating.

Follow-up Note: A request was sent to ASA and discussed by the Executive Committee. Their reply is given in the attached letter. ASA is willing to send two mailings on behalf of WSCS each year. One could be a general mailing to all western state CSSA members, the other a current member mailing. The nature and handling of these mailings will need to be coordinated by the new secretary/treasurer, President Jim Krall, Ron Dileany (Membership Chair) and David Kral, ASA office.
ASA Representative Report
WSCS was fortunate to have Betty Klepper, CSSA President, speak to the group. Key points of her presentation were:

1. The main impact of CSSA President is in committee appointments. Betty is making an effort to appoint more Northeast and Western states and foreign country committee (20 percent of current members reside overseas);
2. An effort is underway to broaden the features and service provided by Agronomy News. Foreign country membership is the only growth area in the Societies. Membership is dropping in other categories due to retirements, deaths, fewer positions being filled, etc. Working to integrate CCA members into ASA is a challenge. There are potentially over 10,000 CCA members but few currently in the tri-societies. There would be professional and political advantages to having CCAs as members but there is disagreement in how to involve these ag professionals.
3. Handling of Crop Science is under review. A commercial publisher will be used to increase efficiency. There will be no perceived difference to recipients. CS division review boards are using different modes of operation - associate editors with greater power; large editor pools with true power, etc.
4. Web page development continues with the expectation that this will become a major mode of membership communication and contact.

President Johnson thanked Betty for her report and the excellent work she is doing as CSSA President.

Old Business
Meeting Sites:
1988 - CalPoly end of June with a fishing trip
1999 - Wyoming - probably Scotts Bluff
2000 - Idaho
2001 - executive committee will investigate meeting with AAAS/WSSS

New Business
Dues
Dues will remain at $10 professional and $1 for students.

Checking Account
Russ Karow reported that ASA is willing to handle funds for WSCS. This would simplify transfer of duties from one secretary/treasurer to the next. It will not allow immediate payment of some bills. This will require greater coordination by the secretary/treasurer. Jim Krall made and Ralph Whiteside seconded a motion to ask ASA to assume fund custodianship for WSCS and to invest some of our funds as part of their general investment package. The motion passed unanimously.

Follow-up Note: A request was sent to ASA and discussed by the executive committee. Their reply is given in the attached letter. ASA is willing to serve as fund custodian for WSCS. A once-a-year report will be provided. No bookkeeping will be done nor accounting. This will remain a WSCS duty. Frequent deposits or withdrawals are not possible. The WSCS Executive Committee will need to contact David Kral, ASA Office, to work out details.

1998 Secretary/Treasurer
Wes Mueller, Cal Poly, will be the secretary-treasurer for 1998.

Check Off
As per an earlier discussion, Russ Karow will check with ASA to see if a check off for WSCS dues would be allowed in the annual ASA dues form. Russ Karow checked and this is not possible.
Other Suggestions for Further Discussion/Action

1. Establish a journal for publishing preliminary findings (<3 site-years).
2. Soil Science is discussing breaking away from ASA to draw on a broader base of geology, forestry, geosciences, etc.
3. Consider having national and regional meetings in alternate years.
4. Agronomy Journal has a strong Midwestern leaning - needs to be addressed

Graduate Paper Awards
First Place - Brent Barrett, WSU, $125
Second Place - Elisa Yee, WSU, $100
Third Place - Michael Walsh, Univ. Wyoming, $75

Resolutions
Be it resolved that the WSCS wishes to thank the following for their kind assistance in organizing the 1997 meeting of the WSCS - Russ Karow, Sheldon Ladd and the AAAS; and the membership of WSCS for their quality papers and attendance.

Passing the Gavel
President Johnson announced that Mike Ottman, Arizona State University, was elected as President Elect. The gavel was passed to Jim Krall who thanked Johnson for his efforts in making the 1997 meeting a success and charged the group to make the next meeting as successful. The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM.
August 15, 1997

Dr. Russell Karow
Crop Science Bldg., Rm. 131
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-3002

Dear Russ,

This letter is in response to your request that ASA headquarters perform two services for the Western Society of Crop Science. These essentially were: 1) to be your money holder and 2) to provide mailing services for your annual membership renewal. At the CSSA Executive Committee meeting in July, we discussed both of these items and arrived at the decisions outlined below.

The Tri-societies would be happy to hold your money for you, invest it along with the rest of the portfolio, and render you a once-a-year accounting of your totals remaining. However, this does not include any book-keeping or other accounting services. You, as Treasurer, will have to provide the appropriate paper trails to report back to your Society what was spent and what it was spent for. The exact way in which the society cuts your checks for you and details of your agreement of what will be reasonable are now up to you and David Kral to work out. I’m sure that David doesn’t want to be handling daily or even weekly deposits and withdrawals, but I’m sure that the two of you can work out a reasonable approach. It is my understanding that the Tri-Societies will do this at no overhead or service charge to your society, but Dave can correct me if I am wrong on that matter.

On the second matter, since you have members of WSCS who are not members of CSSA, it would not be appropriate to include your dues with our annual membership renewal mailings. However, the society would be able to do two mailings each year for you as a service to the western crop scientists. In the sense that your society is in some respects a regional branch of CSSA (or ASA?), this decision is congruent with the fact that we do mailings for the branches of ASA and SSSA in other parts of the country. Exactly what is needed in the way of address data—electronic, labels, formats, etc.—you will have to work out with David Kral or his designate. I think that this service might include, as one of the two mailings, a special mailing soliciting new members for WSCS among the CSSA members who reside in the western states if you request it.

Please contact David Kral to work out the details of these new relationships. I think that both offers are very generous and are intended to allow CSSA to better serve crop scientists in the Western US. I hope that these arrangements will be satisfactory for your society. Please be certain that the person who follows you in the Treasurer’s position understands the terms and conditions of these two decisions so that we do not get into any future “rumble” because of lack of understanding of what is offered.

Sincerely yours,

Betty Klepper
President

cc:  David Kral, Robert K. Barnes, Bruce Maunder, Ron Cantrell, Lowell Moser, Jim Krall, Duane Johnson