March 20, 2013 NCC Monthly Board Meeting Draft Minutes

Attendants: Michelle, Andy, Chris, and Lara

1.       Welcome & Introductions - Michelle, President -

Michelle submitted 2012 Annual report and will email to rest of the Board for information purposes.

2.       Treasurer's Report - Larry, Treasurer

Not on the phone

3.       NCC's 2012 Membership status

Michelle  - renewal of expiring membership is going well.  Former NCC Membership Chair Ross Brain now in Missouri still reaching out to NCC members and getting them to re-up.

4.       NCC's website status - Becky, Web Contacts

Not on the phone

5.       Environmental Film Festival Event tomorrow

Attending: Michelle Perez, Chris Hartley, Chris Hartley's wife - Julia, Rebecca Roose, EPA (no to dinner), Shannon Cunniff, EDF, Cindy Dyballa, EDF Steve Nadel (ACEEE) (no to dinner), and Brennan Meier, Macalester student  (no to dinner)

6.       Open Discussion

Andy's email to Board:
Spring events policy discussions:
                Panel  discussions:

1)      The farm bill in a shrinking budget world: status, opportunities related to conservation
Jeff Peterson, SWCS Legislative staffer - to bring NCC members up to speed on the FB status.
Lara likes this one from the NGO interest. FB is very large so we'd need to hone in one or two topics.

2)      Outside the box thinking on conservation, linking multiple policy initiatives to soil and water protection

3)      If not CEAP, what?  What is needed for accountability and continued progress in delivering better conservation and research nationally and internationally.

4)      Status of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL: implications for ag conservation.

5)      Feeding a 9-billion world, a second panel discussion of ideas and options.

Idea by Lara: Cover crops and soil health.  NWF's report "Road Map to Cover Crop Adoption"  (30 stakeholders in Minneapolis). Ryan Stockwell, cover crop expert (Wisconsin). and now implementation occurring; overcoming barriers to implementation. LB's estimate of cover crop adoption in MRB (journal article). Case studies on cover crop outreach efforts (e.g. MDA CC cost-share to meet CB Milestones) by end of June.   CAST Issue Paper March 2013. Cover crops can be harvested and used for biofuels. David Zilberman, UCB.  (Andy will send around the report and reach out to David.)
Draft title: "Cover crops the time is now; multiple conservation benefits and opportunities."
Panelists:

1.       SWCS Conference on Cover Crops highlights - Jim Gulliford  (Andy will reach out)

2.       CAST Issue Paper March 2013. Cover crops can be harvested and used for biofuels. David Zilberman, UCB.

3.        "Road Map to Cover Crop Adoption"  (30 stakeholders in Minneapolis). Ryan Stockwell, cover crop expert (Wisconsin) or Lara Bryant (editor)

4.       LB's estimate of cover crop adoption in MRB (journal article).

5.       Case studies on cover crop outreach efforts (e.g. MDA CC cost-share to meet CB Milestones) by end of June.
Location:

1.       Whitten Building conference room (Chris will investigate; no food)

2.       USDA Cafeteria (Chris will investigate; There's a new, good caterer or we could bring in an outside caterer)

3.       Pew Charitable Trust - no food
Timing:
June, lunch time

Other NCC events:
Earth Day Service Event - April 21 - Michelle will look for a service event for NCC.
MD Organic Farm v. Soccer Fields Event  - Lara will send around this fund raiser event as an opportunity.
Fall Event 2013 -Take one of Andy's (or other) ideas and plan the event in advance so as to avoid the black out of July and August from last year given vacations, etc.