

Conservation Agriculture Systems Alliance

Conference Call

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008 at 11 a.m. (eastern)

Participants:

Tim Healey
Joel Myers
Jason Bergtold
Patt Evans
Bill Kuentler
Brian Lindley
Karen Scanlon
Randall Reeder
Blair McClinton

Agenda:

CASA meeting on Oct. 31

Attended by Theo Friedrich, Sarra Baccuri, Steve Werblow, Joel Myers, Peter Gamache, Blair McClinton, Barry Fisher, Bill Kuentler, Tim Healey, Ivo Mello, Brian Lindley, Jerry LeMunyon. On the phone: Russ Evans, Randall Reeder, Jason Bergtold, Juan Manuel Osorio Hernandez.

Operations Committee report:

- Revisit notes from Dec. '07 & develop mission statement
- Develop by-laws
- Create funder contact letters
- Continue to develop list of potential funders
- CASA pamphlet (include web link)
- Revise pledge
- CASA talking points
- Research sub-committee
- Update contact list # inc. cells

Working to host CAAPAS in Kansas in first week of August 2009. Joint meeting with CASA during that time, include partners from Mexico. BK suggests Lyle Freiz to assist with local arrangements and offered to help from Fort Worth, if possible.

Message Committee Report

Discussed using input prior to Oct meeting as well as the Carbon Offset Consultation issue statement and overview to draft a message for CASA.

Opportunity for CASA to connect with CAAPAS. We need to take advantage of the opportunity.

Juan Manuel Hernandez expressed great interest in joining with CASA. Great opportunity for CASA to become a true North American network.

Tim Healey: what can we do now to re-energize CASA and get participation level back up to Dec. 2007 level?

Blair: helps to have travel stipends to offset costs of CASA members' costs to attend in-person meetings.

Karen: set topics for monthly teleconferences to invigorate interest and attendance.

Blair: need to see more progress between teleconferences. Survey CASA to get input on what they'd like to see from CASA, why not involved.

Member Updates

Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association: Board meeting last week and revised vision and mission statements to include conservation agriculture message. Shared products of Consultation with Agriculture Canada and will meet with them soon to discuss further role of agriculture in carbon sequestration.

Ohio No-Till Council: Working on program for Annual Ohio No-Till Conference Dec. 9 and Feb. 26-27 CT Conference. On Feb. 25, having workshop on cover crops and impact on soil quality workshop.

PNDSA: finishing conference details and will distribute shortly. Conference will focus on research. PNW is reexamining ARS and University departments where research is conducted and representatives from each will field questions during the conference. Finished strategic planning session last week.

NTOP: Working on conference – Jan 27-28. Planning CAAPAS meeting for August 2009. Involved with air quality task force. Ag will need to begin to look at reactive nitrogen. Suggests getting on mailing list of Calif Farm Bureau to stay informed about developments there regarding air quality standards/requirements for agriculture.