Kansas Section ASAE Minutes - 1988

1988 Annual Meeting Minutes, Kansas Section of American Society of Agricultural Engineers

Chairman Will Cook called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm, October 21, 1988 at the Catholic Witt Center, St. John, Kansas. Thirty-two members and guests were in attendance.

Chairman Cook introduced Mr. Ralph Davis, Manager of Groundwater Management District #5, who presented a talk entitled "Groundwater Management in Kansas."

Departmental Report

Dr. Stanley J. Clark, Department Head, KSU Agricultural Engineering, reported the "State of the Department." Undergraduate enrollment in Agricultural Engineering has increased from 28 during fall 1987 to 42 in Fall 1988. Freshman enrollment is up dramatically from 5 to 16. In Agricultural Mechanization, enrollment has risen from 22 in Fall 1989 to 28 in Fall 1988, with the freshman class increasing from 6 to 7. Dr. Clark attributed these significant increases to the concerted recruitment effort undertaken by the Department. The recruitment effort included the use of a videotape highlighting the agricultural engineering and mechanization curricula and professions, the hosting of a luncheon at the annual FFA contests in Manhattan, and many phone calls and personal contacts by faculty and students.

One area the Department lacks in is freshman scholarships, which can be highly effective for recruitment. Dr. Clark wondered if the Section might wish to sponsor such a scholarship.

Graduate school enrollment for the Department stands at 32. This is the same as 1987, and is an all-time high.

The Agricultural Engineering curriculum was reviewed by ABET in 1988. The Department was given high marks and was fully accredited for six years. The Department was also reviewed by the Board of Regents during 1988. The Board noted the low enrollment and high faculty-to-student ratio as areas for improvement, but rated the academic programs quite highly. The research program will also undergo a review by the Cooperative State Research Service in the coming year. Dr. Clark reported that grant funding remains high. Agricultural Engineering attracted the largest amount of grant funding in the College in 1988. Dr. Clark then presented a slide highlighting the research and extension activities of the Department.

Student Report

Jim Garrison, President Student Branch Chapter ASAE, presented the "State of the Student Branch." Jim noted they had excellent speakers at Student Branch meeting this year. Agricultural Engineering competed well in Open House, with the Field Mapping Display winning an individual award. Additional activities included trips and tours, and the Student branch also assisted in new student recruitment efforts.

BUSINESS MEETING

Secretary's Report

Vic Robbins, Secretary-Treasurer, read the minutes of the 1987 annual meeting held in Manhattan, Kansas.
Morgan Powell moved the minutes be approved as read. Bill Funk seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report

Vic Robbins, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the treasurer's report; indicating a beginning balance of $912.84, expenditures of $705.15, income of $764.18, and a current balance as of October 21, 1988 of $971.87. A copy of the full report is attached to the end of these minutes.

Mr. Robbins noted that over the past several years the Section had maintained a balance of $700.00 to $900.00 and it seemed appropriate that at least some of this money should be put to a beneficial purpose such as funding of a freshman scholarship for the Agricultural Engineering Department.

Morgan Powell inquired into the status of the rebate the Section used to receive from National ASAE. Vic Robbins stated that documents in the Secretary's files indicated that Frank Young, 1987 Secretary, had filed the request for the rebate with ASAE headquarters, but there was no indication that the money was ever received. Chairman Cook read a letter from Harry Manges stating the Kansas Section was eligible for a rebate of $194.00 for 1988 which had to be requested before December 31, 1988 through Lauren Bodie now our District 3 Director. Future rebates will come directly to the Sections rather than passing through the Regions. Rebates are based on Section membership as of December 31, and are calculated as: $3.00 per first year membership, $2.00 per second year membership, $1.00 per third year membership, and 50 cents per each subsequent year of membership. Morgan Powell pointed out that support of a scholarship would seem a very appropriate use of the rebate money as it is generally intended for membership development activities.

Morgan Powell moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Al Geuensey seconded the motion. Report was approved.

Membership Committee Report

Committee members: Joe Harner, Chairman, Alan Hahn, and Duane Mueting. Joe Harner reported that with the substantial reorganization in ASAE there is considerable concern over declining memberships. Kansas experienced about a 4 percent decline, one of the larger in the country. The committee was sending out letters to those in the state who did not renew their membership encouraging them to please do so. The committee is also working with students to get them active in ASAE and keep them involved after graduation. Joe felt declining student enrollments had definitely hurt ASAE membership. Dr. Stan Clark added that there had been a 10 percent drop in ASAE membership nationwide.

Consulting Committee Report

Committee members: Pat Murphy, Chairman, Frank Young, James Koelliker, and Wayland Anderson.

No members of the committee were present and no report was given. Chairman Cook said it was his understanding that the committee had been inactive.

Nominating Committee Report

Committee Membership: Dave Pope, Chairman, Frank Young, Dave Weiss. Note: Jerry Carlin originally was Chairman; however, he moved out of state and was replaced on the committee by Dave Weiss. Dave Pope
ascended to Chairman.

None of the committee members were present. Chairman Cook reported that the reorganization of ASAE may require the Kansas Section to modify its officers and standing committees. Therefore he suggested the bulk of the committee report be withheld until this situation could be discussed as old business.

Morgan Powell announced the awardees for 1988.

Young Engineer of the Year----------Joseph P. Harner

Engineer of the Year----------------J. W. "Bill " Funk

Old Business

The first item of old business concerned our representation on the University Agriculture Advisory Council. At the 1987 meeting, Jerry Osterman was nominated to a position on the Council. Chairman Cook asked if anyone knew if Jerry had been accepted as a member. Stan Clark stated that Jerry had been confirmed as a member. Stan noted that we could have a second member on the council if we so desired. Vic Robbins inquired if the person would represent only the Section and have to be an ASAE member. Will Cook clarified that the representatives were for the agricultural engineering and agricultural mechanization professions not specifically our section.

Chairman Cook asked for volunteers to serve on the Council. Jim Schoof suggested Bill Funk, but Bill declined the position. Numerous other candidates with close ties to agriculture were mentioned. Joe Harner moved that the new Executive committee investigate the possibility of agricultural engineering/agricultural mechanization having a second member on the Agriculture Advisory Council, and, if we can, select someone to fill the second position. Dennis Kuhlman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The second item of old business was the reorganization of ASAE and its repercussions for our Section. Chairman Cook reviewed information he had recently received from ASAE headquarters and the current and incoming District Directors, Lauren Bodie and Harry Manges. The Section must now have standing committees or at least officers to cover five areas: programming, membership, public relations, continuing education, and awards. Also, the sections are to take a larger role in sponsoring subject-matter conferences and other enhanced meeting activities. Kansas is now in District 3, which includes Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and part of North Dakota; a very large area. Regions will no longer exist. The 1989 meeting will be the last Mid-Central Meeting. Sections have the option to band together as they wish and hold intersectional meetings. If section wish to do so, they must establish an organizational structure and meeting plans at least six months in advance and submit the plans to the ASAE Executive Board.

Chairman Cook stated that if a meeting similar to the Mid-Central was to be continued, many decisions would have to be made at the meeting this spring. He requested input from the membership. Bill Funk suggested that the four states of the Mid-Central Region band together and on a rotational basis each state would sponsor a meeting at St.Joseph inviting the other three state sections to attend. Stan Clark inquired if there were any regular meetings of the new districts planned similar to the old regional meetings. Chairman Cook said he knew of no such meeting plans, but they could possibly occur at the option of the districts.

Bill Funk moved that the Kansas Section ASAE express our support, in the form of a resolution to the District 3
Director, for an annual, multi-state meeting with a format similar to the current Mid-Central Meeting. Morgan Powell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Cook turned attention to the remaining question as to how the Section plans to handle the five areas identified as required by the National Charter. Will noted that our current structure addresses membership (Membership Committee) and programming (Program Chairman) adequately, but we have no committee or officer to handle public relations or continuing education. Although our Nominating Committee selects local awardees, National ASAE wishes the Sections to have increased involvement in the selection of National Awards.

Will noted that the slates of nominated candidates fits our current structure and does not address these new duties. It was not known if the candidates would accept the offices if new duties were imposed. Will opened the floor to discussion of this situation. Chairman Cook asked Secretary Robbins to examine the Section's By-Laws as to officers and their duties and standing committees and their duties.

Al Guernsey suggested the Section needed a newspaper or newsletter to help hold us together, keep us informed of issues and possibly serve some of the public relations function. Bill Spurgeon thought maybe Alpha Epsilon at KSU could assist in production of such a newsletter.

Secretary Robbins reviewed the By-Laws pertaining to officers, standing committees, and changing the By-Laws. Standing committees are: Membership, Program, Career Guidance, Awards and Recognition, and Nominating. It was noted we do not seem to have all the committees our By-Laws call for. Morgan Powell noted that this re-alignment of the Section would evidently require changing the By-Laws and having a vote of the full membership, probably by written ballot.

Chairman Cook suggested we continue with our current officer structure and the slate of officers already nominated for this year and have the Executive Committee work on the needed revisions. Jim Steele moved that we refer the whole question of modification's to the officer and committee structure to the Executive Committee and charge them to propose a solution, with amendments to the By-Laws if necessary, before the next annual meeting. John Krupp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee Report

Chairman Cook presented the report.

Chairman---------------------------Morgan Powell

Chairman Elect---------------------George Ten Eyck

Vice-Chairman---------------------Donald Snethen

Secretary-Treasurer----------------Mark Hundley

Nominating Committee-------------Frank Young, Chairman

Steve Young

Harold Blume
Membership Committee------------Alan Hahn, Chairman
   Duane Mueting
   David Dornbusch

Consulting Committee------------Frank Young, Chairman (89)
   James Koelliker (90)
   Wayland Anderson (91)
   Greg Ebert (92)

1989 Meeting Location--------Topeka

Jim Steele moved the nominations be closed and that this slate be accepted by unanimous ballot. Stan Clark seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Chairman Cook passed out an announcement for "Focus on Industry." This is a special technical conference to be held at the 1988 National ASAE Meeting in Chicago in order to attract greater industry involvement in the meeting and the Society. Copy of announcement attached.

Chairman Cook announced he had received a letter from Dick Phillips, Chairman of the E4 National Meetings Committee, requesting suggestions for a meeting location in the southwest quadrant for the 1994 Summer Meeting. Will noted there had never been a national ASAE meeting in Kansas, but such a meeting would be a major undertaking. Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado and Iowa have all hosted meetings. Jim Schoof suggested Wichita might be a possible site in Kansas, since it has the Century II Convention Center and a very active Tourist Bureau. No decision was made on the issue.

Chairman Cook announced he had received a letter regarding the National Agricultural Careers Show held in conjunction with the National FFA Convention. Mid-Central Region ASAE used to have a booth at the show, but it was dropped. Chairman Cook wondered if we should participate as a student recruitment activity. Stan Clark explained that the booth was dropped because it was believed not to be producing any results in recruitment. He noted that Earl Baugher and John Slocombe would be attending the convention this year and could be asked to report to the Executive Committee their recommendations as to whether a booth at the show would be worthwhile. The consensus of the group was to proceed in this summer.

Vic Robbins, Treasurer, asked whether the Section wished to initiate some activity to support students of KSU, such as a scholarship, in light of the continuing balance of about $900.00 in the Treasury. He inquired of Steve Young, Student branch Faculty Adviser, if there was any interest in the Section's offer of $50/person for students to travel to the Chicago meeting. Steve said students had expressed some interest but no commitments yet.
However, he felt the $50.00 per person grant was adequate. Morgan Powell expressed concern that if we had to begin sponsoring an intersectional meeting, this balance would be needed and would in fact be quite small. Stan Clark indicated the typical freshman scholarship was in the range of $100.00 to $300.00 per year.

Morgan Powell moved that the Chairman appoint a committee to develop a plan for the Section to provide scholarship support to the KSU Agricultural Engineering Department. The plan would be presented at the 1989 annual meeting and would be voted on by the Membership at that time. Morgan suggested committee members by Vic Robbins, Steve Young, and Jim Steichen. George Ten Eyck seconded the motion, and it carried.

Bill Funk moved the meeting be adjourned. Al Guernsey seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Robbins
Secretary-Treasurer
Kansas Section ASAE

VR: s1/minutes