



3/3/2023 Annual Membership meeting at The OSSS Winter Meeting

Meeting called to order at 3:35pm with roughly 35 member attendees.

Motion to **approve minutes** from the 2022 Membership Meeting moved by Todd Reinwald and seconded by Scott Burns. → approved unanimously.

Discussion of the amazing **2022 OSSS Summer Tour** around Newberry Caldera. Big thanks to Sarah Hash especially. Sarah thanked all for their help in her understanding of the pits she spends so much time in.

Community Outreach

OSSS donated \$200 to [Oregon Environthon](#).

OSSS did not provide a donation to the soil judging team, because there is no one at OSU who can coach the team. Ron Reuter is trying to get approval through the Dept of Forestry to be the coach. We will update membership when we know more, which should be by the next Strategic Retreat. Soil judging might also be part of the duties of the new OSU pedologist position.

Alicia and Vance gave a talk at the Far West Show. Marissa has been an outreach extraordinaire. Mark and Pam Keller worked with [Outdoor School](#) this year. There aren't that many great soil educators so if you want to get more involved, please let Pam and Mark know.

\$1,500 OSSS student scholarship awarded this year to Mireia Roig-Paul. Congratulations!

The OSSS board re-organized membership management to remove the formal pay-per-year membership in favor of rolling membership into event participation. You are now automatically a member when you attend an OSSS event. OSSS membership income is now included in the cost of OSSS event registration (more below).

Alicia Leytem re-ordered OSSS **swag** because we bought almost all of it.

Big round of applause for Victoria Moreno's ongoing efforts to simplify and update the **website**.

The **North American Forest Soils Conference** will be held in Eugene July 16-21st 2023, with two field tours. Website is [nafsc2023.org](#). The event is sponsored by many agencies, including state, federal, and OSU and only occurs every 5 years, but is only in US every 10 years, so it's a big deal that it is in Oregon!

Scholarship was presented to Mireia Roig-Paul. Todd R. (chair), Kevin Hesson, and Sarah Hash served on the committee. OSSS needs volunteers for the scholarship committee and to help with the scholarship advertisement. Committee reviews application materials, then interviews if they want. It doesn't take a ton of time, and is just a short-term commitment.



OREGON SOCIETY OF

Soil Scientists

→ 2024 Scholarship Committee Volunteers: Wendy Peterman, Betsy Vanderhoven, Michelle Anderson, and Don Wysocki.

Membership report

This year, right now, we only have 43 paid members, including 26 lifetime members. We have 29 people registered for this meeting at the member price who did not pay for membership. Last year the OSSS board introduced the idea of changing what we think of as membership. The Board deliberated on this at the strategic retreat. Alicia L. proposed the idea that anyone who registers for a meeting automatically becomes a member.

A suggestion was made that we could also have a “donating member” that would be someone who couldn’t come to the meetings but want to support that year anyway. Don Wysocki asked if we looked at online membership management. Yes, we tried, it was even harder than manually tracking and it cost money. Is this fair to current lifetime members? Most current lifetime members have been for at least 10 years and already got their money’s worth and no lifetime members objected to the change. In fact, two new people volunteer to become Lifetime members, Alicia and James.

The discussion covered how we determine if someone is a member, so there is no need to change anything in the bylaws. The proposal is that we change OSSS membership so that you automatically become a member if you attend an OSSS event. Membership would last for one year from that event and there would be no more non-member event registrations.

Don Wysocki asks: How will it affect OSSS’s financial situation? We won’t have non-member registrations at \$100-200 extra each. These were mainly from the federal employees which cannot purchase memberships through work, but can pay for event attendance. But, because so many people don’t pay for membership, we are already at a higher meeting price to cover costs, so there would be minimal impact to overall OSSS income. The result would be that the cost for event registration would go up a little to cover memberships, but not a whole \$50.

Someone suggested that a lot of the retired members don’t come because they can’t afford it, which led to the discussion of potential senior or retiree event rate. The cost of events is going up in general because of inflation. Possibilities for reduced event registration rates are: volunteering or student registration, which is not checked against a student ID.

Shannon Cappellazzi **motions** to change the membership structure such that anyone who attends an OSSS event automatically becomes a member for one year. Anyone who wants to donate a minimum of \$50 without attending can become a “Donating Member” for one year.

This will do away with annual membership fees and non-member meeting registration. This will go into effect in July 1, 2023. Second by Lindsey Reschke.

About 40 present and online were in favor, with 2 opposed. → **Motion passes**

Treasurer’s Report

Thank you to Pam Keller for an amazing job of organizing the OSSS treasury system. We will reap the benefits of this diligent work for years, hopefully decades. She got our 501c3 status on



track and streamlined the treasury workload. Pam provided the annual budget review (summary pasted below).

Oregon Society of Soil Scientists Annual Member Meeting Treasurer's Report, Pam Keller 3/3/23

As in the past I will give the End of Year report for the last completed Fiscal Year (ending 6/30/22) which was already reported in the *Sharpshooter* and on the OSSS website as well as the current Fiscal Year (ending 6/30/23) summary of income and expenses up to this date.

End of Year Treasurer's Report, Fiscal Year 2021, 7/1/21 – 6/30/22

Income for FY21 totaled **\$ 9,378** as follows:

- \$ 3,710 for memberships (50 regular, 7 student, 2 lifetime)
- \$ 100 for a Sharpshooter advertisement
- \$ 793 for OSSS merchandise (caps, puzzles, Tshirts, stickers, and patches)
- \$ 4,775 for winter meeting registrations (26 regular, 23 student)

Expenses for FY21 totaled **\$ 11,504.09** as follows:

- \$ 1,500 two scholarships (1000 and 500)
 - \$ 300 for 3 student poster prizes at winter meeting
 - \$ 2,670.18 board retreats for two years (overlapped in this FY, will only be one next year)
 - \$ 919.60 purchase of caps, puzzles, stickers, patches and an OSSS banner
 - \$ 395 liability insurance
 - \$ 279.23 fees for online transaction processing
 - \$ 166 mailbox rental and postage
 - \$ 21.17 GoDaddy domain renewal
 - \$ 70 annual State of Oregon (SOS and DOJ) reporting fees
 - \$ 55.92 masks and nametags
 - \$ 4,597.81 catering at winter meeting (Worthy Brewing)
 - \$ 529.18 winter meeting speaker travel reimbursement
- Umpqua Bank Balance **\$12,723.30**

Notes:

We spent **\$2,126** more than we brought in last year. The doubling up of board retreat, which won't happen again, added over \$1,000 in expenses. However, we received two new lifetime members which is a one-time boost of \$1,000. Last year was a successful year for membership renewal and we need to continue that trend.

Your OSSS board has prepared a FY22 budget (7/1/22 – 6/30/23) that keeps us in the black except for scholarships. Each year the board decides how many (if any) scholarships to offer based on special fundraisers, donations, and overall bank balance. In 2023 OSSS will again give two scholarships - 3rd year in a row! We have other potential educational mission projects including Envirothon, Soil Judging and



OREGON SOCIETY OF
Soil Scientists

outreach talks. OSSS serves the very important function of providing soils expertise to a wide range of audiences. We never know what might come our way each year! Fortunately, thanks to our dedicated members and board leadership, I'm happy to report we still have a solid bank balance that allows us to respond to worthy opportunities.

Fiscal Year 2022, 7/1/22 – 6/30/23 summary of income and expenses as of 2/28/23

Income for FY22 as of 2/28/23 totaled **\$ 13,041** as follows:

- \$ 890 for memberships (16 regular, 3 student)
- \$ 275 donations from members
- \$ 750 donations from members for scholarships
- \$ 246 for OSSS merchandise (caps, puzzles, Tshirts, stickers, and patches)
- \$ 3,080 for summer tour registrations (29 regular, 6 student and discount)
- \$ 7,625 for winter meeting registrations (31 regular, 16 student, 4 nonmember)

Expenses for FY22 as of 2/28/23 totaled **\$ 2,437.02** as follows:

- \$ 1,500 scholarship
- \$ 200 envirothon donation
- \$ 395 liability insurance
- \$ 272.02 fees for online transaction processing
- \$ 70 annual State of Oregon (SOS and DOJ) reporting fees

Estimated expenses for the Hood River winter meeting:

- Best Western Catering (\$ 5,500)
- Best Western Facility (\$ 1,000)
- Saturday sack lunches (\$ 300)
- Poster prizes (\$ 300)
- Speaker hotel rooms (\$ 400)
- Mileage @0.585 (3 speakers each 294 miles, 1 speaker 342 miles, 2 field trips each 290 miles)

Other budgeted estimated expenses for FY22:

- Board Retreat (\$ 1,200)
- Purchase of more caps (\$ 200)
- Mailbox rental and postage (\$ 200)
- GoDaddy domain renewal (\$21)

→Umpqua Bank Balance as of 2/28/23: **\$20,681.34**

OSSS Action Committee- newly formed under Pam Keller's leadership

Action Item - put the committee plan document on the website

OSSS Action Committee asked legislators involved in the soil science related bills who they talked to about the bill? The Committee wants to be able to endorse bills and make legislators aware that there



are soil scientists that they should talk to. To do so, the Committee developed an endorsement checklist that is to be reviewed by the membership. Interested members should look through the list and let us know if you want to discuss or add anything. Our influence on how things are written depends on our relationships with legislators, being on advisory committees, engaging with key soil groups. Pam read the list of groups the Committee wants to engage with. Sarah Hash and Don Wysocki are interested in potentially joining the OSSS Action Committee.

Vance describes the **silent auction and raffle** - It's for soil science students! Two tables downstairs hold donated goods. Bids accepted throughout the evening. Raffle tickets \$3/ticket \$10/4 tickets
Vance will announce winners at the end of evening. Auction items were verbally reviewed for membership.

Board Election

Vice President - Sarah Hash nominated Wendy Peterman → unanimous approval

Secretary - Alicia Leytem nominated Shannon Cappellazzi → unanimous approval

Treasurer - Pam Keller nominated Megan McGinnis → unanimous approval

Eastside Director - Victoria nominated Don Wysoki → unanimous approval

Sharpshooter Editor - Wendy Peteman nominated Sarah Brame → unanimous approval

Student Liaison - Markus nominates Holly Golightly, Shijie nominates himself, Shijie nominates Haoyang, and Shijie nominates Chris Lessey

Holly Golightly -14

Haoyang Lyu- 20

Shijie (Eric) Zhang- 20

Chris Lessey- 9

Meeting Adjourned: 5:30pm