The meeting was called to order by President Gary Pierzynski. Board participants were:
- Gary M. Pierzynski, SSSA President
- David L. Lindbo, SSSA President-Elect
- Charles W. Rice, SSSA Past President
- Ronald F. Turco, S-3 Board Rep.
- Daniel W. Sweeney, S-4 Board Rep.
- Harold M. van Es, S-6 Board Rep.
- Mary Beth Adams, S-7 Board Rep.
- Thomas A. Doerge, S-8 Board Rep.
- Randy J. Southard, S-9 Board Rep.
- Martin C. Rabenhorst, S-10 Board Rep.
- Lawrence F. Baldwin, CPSS Rep.
- Robert C. Michitsch, Early Career Members Rep., ex officio
- Andrew N. Sharpley, SSSA Editor-in-Chief, ex officio
- Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio

Also participating:
- Ole Wendroth, Incoming S-1 Bd Rep
- Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer
- Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
- Ian Popkewitz, Director of IT and Operations
- Mark Mandelbaum, Director of Publications
- Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
- Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

Board members unable to participate:
- David E. Radcliffe, S-1 Board Rep.
- Carolyn G. Olson, S-5 Board Rep.
- Mark S. McClain, S-12 Board Rep.
- James G. Coors, ASF Chair, ex-officio

S003 Board of Directors

1. ACTION: Moved by Mary Beth Adams to approve the conference call agenda. Seconded by Sally Brown. Carried unanimously.

2. ACTION: Moved by Randy Southard to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2012 Board conference call and October 25, 2012 Board meeting. Seconded by Mary Beth Adams. Carried unanimously.

3. The Board will hold its spring meeting May 14-17 (travel on the 14th and 17th) in Albuquerque. Dave will follow up with Jan Hopmans to determine if he can rearrange his schedule in order to attend the Board meeting.

4. The next Board conference call will be held December 20 at 1:30 PM Central Standard Time. Board members were requested to reserve 2 hours for the call due to the number of carry-over items.
1. The Board continued discussions from their October 25 meeting regarding the proposed reorganization Group names. Gary reported on feedback from external stakeholders, particularly in regards to Group 2 – currently named Soil and Production Agriculture. The Board considered the proposed names from external stakeholders, as well as member feedback during and following the annual meeting, particularly from Divisions S-4, S-6, and S-8.

**ACTION:** Moved by Harold van Es to approve the following reorganization Group names – Fundamental Soil Science Group, Agricultural Soil and Food Systems Group, Soil and Ecosystem Processes Group, Education and Practicing Professionals Group. Seconded by Chuck Rice. Carried unanimously.

2. Action was taken on the September 9, 2010 conference call to create a new Early Career Board Rep. position, with “early career” being defined as within 5 years of degree completion. Rob recommended the Board consider changing the early career definition to coincide with the definition adopted by the Early Career Members Committee, namely, “a person that has achieved their terminal degree within the last 10 years. A terminal degree is considered the highest degree attained by a person in their field of study. This is contingent upon a person not attaining another degree. If a previously-recognized early career member completes an additional degree, this person will not be considered again as an early career member.”

The Board discussed Rob’s recommendation and by consensus agreed to define “early career” as a person that has achieved their terminal degree within the last 7 years. The definition of a terminal degree as outlined above was also adopted. It was clarified that this definition covers not only the Early Career Board Rep. but every place “early career” is used in the Society (annual meeting registration, membership dues, etc.)

3. Following a lengthy discussion of the proposed Bylaws revisions as presented by Chuck, Chair of the O&P Committee, the Board recommended the following changes:
   - Article VIII, Section 1 – remove “within 5 years of degree completion” (based on #2 above)
   - Article IX new Section 2 – revise first paragraph to read “Divisions shall be organized into groups as outlined below for purpose of governance. The board can change the organization of divisions within the groups when deemed appropriate, by a two-thirds majority vote of the entire voting members of the board. The changes will be added to the bylaws upon board approval.”
   - All reference to Groups will reflect the names in #1 above
   - All numbers will be spelled out, where appropriate

**ACTION:** Moved by Marty Rabenhorst to approve the Bylaws as amended. Seconded by Dave Lindbo.

Harold encouraged the Board receive an updated version of the Bylaws before a final vote is taken.

Motion withdrawn by Marty.

The Bylaws will be revised, forwarded to the O&P Committee for a final review, and then presented to the Board for a final vote on the December 20 conference call.
S237 SSSA Membership and Society Identity
In response to Marty’s concern regarding membership dues structure and impact on reorganization/plan of governance, Dave will appoint a work group to address this and present a report at the May Board meeting.

S303 Vadose Zone Journal
ACTION: Moved by Dave Lindbo to approve the resolution for Dani Or thanking him for his service as VZJ Editor. Seconded by Chuck Rice. Carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.