

NCF Envirothon Operating Committee Minutes

May 6, 2021 11:00 a.m. EST

Via Zoom

Millie called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. EST. Andrea called roll. In attendance were, Jeanne Dryburgh, Andrea McKeown, Lorelle Steach, Wendee Dodds, Millie Langley, Carrie Milligan, Jacqueline Monteith, Becky Geneau, Debbie Waycott, Kerin Hume, Brooke Myres, and Mark Hedge. Staff in attendance: Jennifer Brooks and Stephanie Tolar.

Millie called the meeting to order at 2:02 EST.

February 2-3, 2021 minutes were reviewed. Wendee moved to approve as presented. Kerin 2nd, motion carried.

Board Membership Update – Lorelle will retire from her role in Pennsylvania Envirothon. She will let us know if she will stay on the NCF operating committee later in May.

NCF Updates – Jennifer; NACD Summer meeting happening in person July 24-27 in Chicago. Board of trustees for NCF will meet May 20th, 2021. NCF now has its own website.

www.nationalconservationfederation.org

Program Updates – 45 states/provinces have paid dues. \$17,000 collected in dues. Submitting a NAAF (Native American Agriculture Fund) grant request for \$60,000.

Education Updates – Stephanie; NCF Envirothon learning objectives have been approved and will go into effect for the 2022 Envirothon year. They will be posted on the website in August or September of 2021. I-naturalist forestry activity now on the website. She is continuing to update social media posts. Resources have been posted on the website for NCF Envirothon 2021.

Stephanie has been working with Ohio to get the planning started on test writing and resources.

2021 Nebraska – Jeanne

- Schedule of events is posted on the website. Sunday is the big day with opening ceremony. Nothing has changed since the last time we met.
- Registration fee for teams and guest have been set.
- Finances and Budget – Working to make sure their budget will cover everything. The budget has been moved around to fit the virtual needs. It has already hit over \$100,000 for technology. Part of the budget they are working on is adding to prize money for more than the top 4 teams.
- InSpera is the testing platform to be used for 2021 NCF Envirothon Competition. This platform matched all the criteria needed. It includes a proctoring side.
- Oral Presentation – They will be a live zoom they are contracting spaces with University Campus. The judges will be in person with a time keeper in the room. They have 8 rooms for presentations.
- Opening and closing ceremonies will be prerecorded. They will go into the production studio to record this.
- Joel Sartore will be the keynote speaker. He is a native to Nebraska and famous photographer.
- Anyone who registers will have access to the virtual platform.
- Volunteer needs – Need Kerin for scoring. Need the CAT Team.
- Hybrid meeting for NCF Operating Committee Meeting – During event.

Registration – Jennifer updated 13 states and provinces have paid to date. Waiting on payments from 6 others. Looking to have 44 teams with potential of 47. 4 Guests registered to date. Register by June 1st and you will get a swag bag.

2021 Nebraska resources are posted on the website and ready to go. Any questions ask Stephanie.

Virtual 2021 NCFE Competition Rules & Regulations – Lorelle/Jennifer –
Went thru rules to make sure they covered a virtual competition. Lorelle went thru the document showing the changes made.

- Who can be a proctor? - State/Provincial reps will be responsible to locating a test proctor for the virtual test. If a proctor cannot be found a variance will need to be sent the NCFEOC.
- Discussion on Team Gathering – What does it look like if the team cannot be together. If they can't be in one room or location is a variance needed and what qualifies as a reason.

Lorelle made a motion to accept rules incorporating the virtual components as presented. Sending NCF Board of Trustees for approval. Andrea 2nd, motion carried.

2021 NCF-Envirothon Test and Oral Presentation Rules and Guidelines document as presented–
presenting for approval by the operating committee.

Jennifer will send this out with corrections and additions made during the meeting for the NCFEOC to approve via email.

2022 Ohio – Wendee Dodds – Committees in Place. The planning committee will meet at the University next month with an overnight.

2023 New Brunswick – Becky Geneau – Nothing New To Report

2024 New York – Nothing New To Report

Committee Reports –

Diversity Grants – Nothing New To Report

Education Committee – Nothing New To Report

Scoring Committee – Nothing New To Report

Rules/Program Policies Committee – Already covered earlier

Old Business –

- Hall of Fame Award for 2021 – Lorelle will reach out to committee and report back.

New Business

Next Meeting – Will be determined and sent out.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:40 p.m. EST

Respectfully Submitted, Andrea McKeown