

1 **OCIA International AGMM 2008**  
2 **Huatulco, Oaxaca, Mexico**  
3 **February 28, 29, 2008 March 1, 2008**  
4 **Friday, February 29, 2008**  
5

6 AGMM reconvened at 8:25 AM.

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8 **1. Selection of 2 Referees for Minutes**

9 JD asked for two refs for the day. Dale Maass and Keith Kadrmass volunteered.  
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12 **2. Restructure Proposal, Power Point Presentation by the Board : DeEtta Bilek**

13 JD advised the proposal would be presented and then there would be discussion, which would have a time limit.  
14

15 DeB advised she was heavily involved in the development of proposal and hosted conference calls which members  
16 were invited to. Notes were provided in the Communicator. DeB stated there were revisions completed along the  
17 way, which were completed at the BoD in-person meeting. DeB stated the 2007 AGMM requested a change to how  
18 OCIA operated; last year's proposal was not proposed, because it was rough.  
19

20 DeB clarified that the previous day's Three-Year Plan presentation was not the Restructuring proposal.

21 See Attachment .  
22

23  
24 DeB advised the BoD wanted to present the proposal and provide proposal in print, so small group discussions  
25 would bring about an ad-hoc committee.  
26

27 JD stated the BoD would like small groups to work out concerns.  
28

29 **Questions:**

30 Clark Phillips (CP) asked if BoD was aware there are chapters stating they will leave OCIA if the proposal goes  
31 through. DeB stated the BoD is not asking for a vote. CP asked why the BoD would continue to push this through.  
32 DeB stated the document is a work-in-progress and should be revised if members want changes. CP stated some  
33 members/chapters don't agree the proposal would accomplish the goals. CP asked why BoD isn't backing off as  
34 consultations have been done and the response was negative. DeB stated the calls/meetings started out negative, but  
35 after more clarification of intent, the opposition seemed to go away. CP asked if DeB was concerned about  
36 chapters leaving. DeB stated yes, but participating would be voluntary. DeB advised the BoD is concerned accred  
37 may force OCIA to make a change and only give a few weeks to do it.  
38

39 KVK stated he had asked for the 25%. He stated he had not seen a flow chart from beginning to end for files, but it  
40 was not provided. DeB asked if KVK had the skill to create such a document and if he was willing to work with ad-  
41 hoc committee; KVK stated yes. DeB stated BoD wants to be able to make members feel secure about structure.  
42

43 CE stated he did not understand most of the proposal and stated DeB said the chapters could participate voluntary,  
44 but to succeed it seemed that it would be mandatory (regarding accred). DeB stated that Mark Bradley/NOP said at  
45 Bio-F that accred agencies with chapters will be looked at closely and chapters will need to be accredited. DeB  
46 stated if there is an audit report that says OCIA is in non-com, the BoD has a plan.  
47

48 SS stated he is speaking on behalf of his chapter. His chapter would like to dump the idea and start from scratch.  
49 DeB asked if someone from the chapter who would be willing to sit in; SS said not now, but there may be someone.  
50

51 JD stated his interpretation from the DoB is the proposal is scratched; the BoD wants discussion and to get info out  
52 to members so OCIA can be proactive. JD stated it seemed the BoD is criticized for being pro-active.  
53

54 CP stated he had a response for DeB's response regarding the threat from accred, that they would give OCIA two  
55 weeks; CP stated no accred would only give that amount of time. CP indicated he felt the threat was felt through the  
56 whole presentation. CP would be willing to work on the committee.  
57

58 Tim Rogers stated he has not heard most of this information before (conflict of interest, etc); this information has  
59 come out suddenly and is concerns about each small group having their own discussion. He would be willing to be  
60 on committee.

61  
62 John Koskan said the BoD brought a proposal last year and hoped the members would be willing to discuss and  
63 come up with good ideas.

64  
65 JD stated he thought previously that the development of R&E was to address these issue, but it didn't work out that  
66 way.

67  
68 SE stated that on the By-Laws committee, he has looked at it in depth, and has been on one of the calls. SE stated  
69 he didn't see much revision, considering all the comments, but felt there was a lot of good in the proposal; how it  
70 would be incorporated into the org would be the bad part. SE stated the BoD need to have member input; it would  
71 work if made to fit into the OCIA structure.

72  
73 Dale Maass stated he was tired of the accred requirements. His chapter has done FOIA to get information from  
74 USDA about the requirements for Intl, and they are not requiring a change to the OCIA structure.

75  
76 JR stated the BoD would like as many groups as BoD members (one for each group); five groups.

77  
78 Nathan Cook suggested all items be put together so ideas can be built on each other. JR stated the meeting can vote  
79 to decide to meet as one group. JR stated the plan would be to have one BoD member for each group, proposal in  
80 print form would be provided, and recorders would be provided for information.

81  
82 SE stated in small groups, the comments don't all get out. JD asked if that was a motion. SE moved that proposal  
83 be worked on as assembly of one. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Randy Gubersky.

84  
85 Motion passed.

86  
87 CE stated there was talk about handling files, that NOP doesn't like it. CE wanted to know what the problem was, if  
88 chpt admin receives file and it's forwarded to Lincoln, but doesn't exercise control over file—is that handling.  
89 Would chpt need to be audited for that? JR stated the NOP (and other accred) the possibility of conflict of interest,  
90 the chpt admin seeing all paperwork but not part of accred process (chpt is not accred). CE stated the chpt admin is  
91 seeing it, but not making decision, that power was taken away previously. JR stated he is not disagreeing, but  
92 repeating what has been stated. JS stated in 98/99, it was an IFOAM issue—3<sup>rd</sup> party cert needed to be provided.  
93 OCIA tried to get accred in Europe; OCIA lost accred it IFOAm. In '99 the org changed structure to get IFOAM  
94 accred back. JS stated Dale was correct, it's not in exit interview, but in meetings it has been hinted that will be  
95 stated in the future.

96  
97 KVK stated there seem to be two problems: conflict of interest for chpt admin. JS stated 3<sup>rd</sup> party cert is now how  
98 cert is done, not self-cert which is how cert used to be completed. KVK stated the people handling the files don't  
99 seem to be qualified—per accred, and that the handlers are seeing the info. DeB stated the chpt admins schedules  
100 inspectors, in exit interview from audit, files have gone to inspectors for inspection and were not complete; chpt  
101 admin were shown to be not qualified, because incomplete files were sent.

102  
103 JR stated the proposal is complex; it's two proposals put into one. There is an issue of being competitive; the BoD  
104 is trying to deal with business problem with goal of steamlining process. Other problem is anxiety from the accred;  
105 JR stated no accred has said at this point OCIA is non-c and chpt system not possible, but BoD tried to incorporate  
106 what accred are saying into proposal to be proactive. JR stated it may have been wise to divide the proposal into  
107 two parts, but previous statements are why it was combined.

108  
109 DeB clarified point about if non-c came from accred, this could be the plan provided to accred. If OCIA would not  
110 have a plan, the accred could suspend the accreditation of OCIA. The timeframe could be two weeks or it could be  
111 longer, like a month.

112  
113 ST asked how many members present remember 20 years before; ST stated the members/industry cannot run scared,  
114 there has always been people fighting against organics, but customers want the food. ST stated it may be important

115 to be regional, but she does not want members/org to be afraid. Regarding chapter admin before IFOAM, structure  
116 was changed but 3<sup>rd</sup> party cert was created already—inspectors not part of chapter would do inspections. When  
117 chpts were not making final decisions, the accreditors were satisfied, but it was stated the importance that farmers  
118 see the files first and help applicants. CDT cannot be as educated as those in the chpts, need advice. Chpt is not  
119 making the decision, but guiding, and the CDT is the entity to make the decision. ST stated it seemed it was  
120 indicated the chpt admin's want to keep the structure for the job, but that she (and other chpt admins) do not really  
121 get paid for their time.

122  
123 JR asked ST to finish her point; ST stated she has made her points.

124  
125 SS stated he knew the Peter and the Wolf story, and that is what he is hearing here. SS stated that sometimes our  
126 forms cause govt to think we are not complying. SS would like someone to look at docs in QMS to ensure they are  
127 accurate and represent what OCIA actual does.

128  
129 JS asked if Juan Del Mar would clarify the meeting regarding Peru conflict of interest. The issue was writing checks  
130 for file handlers. SS stated the problem started with a form that said the chpt did certification, which wasn't true.

131  
132 SE stated he preferred if speakers would state what they didn't like in proposal and a way to fix it. If info from  
133 accred is not on paper, it may be the opinion of the person at accreditor. SE indicated he liked the overall umbrella  
134 organization, a CEO could run the cert part of OCIA.

135  
136 JR stated he would like to move from accred issue to business/competitive issue. OCIA is difficult and expensive,  
137 and although OCIA delivers more, but sometimes much more than competition (more than 20%). JR indicated the  
138 business side of proposal was intended to deal with that issue, and that is what started the move to create the  
139 proposal. JR stated example for SK chpt #9, they did what proposal suggested; they contracted with regional office.  
140 It could be possible use that as an example, but MCLC has problem with that. MCLC sees a conflict of interest in  
141 having regional office admin being chpt admin. JR stated the MCLC should not make such experiments impossible.

142  
143 MMcB said she was unsure where communication broke down, because there was calls available and in-person  
144 presentations in Canada. Issue in area is employability of chpt admin, members like lots of contact and need that  
145 assistance. MMcB asked if at chpt level, the admin would be able to be paid for mentoring; stated chpt admin may  
146 not be skilled for marketing. Stated there are procedures for conflict of interests, and perhaps that should be used.  
147 Service Center size may be an issue; feels a center would need to be more than 200 to be viable. Stated concern  
148 about on-staff inspectors, doesn't not see that it would really save OCIA money.

149  
150 Martin M stated there seems to be two issues: independence and cost structure. Independence seems to be a  
151 technical issue, it can be done in accounting setting without restructure. Admin problem should be fixed through  
152 training issue. Regarding cost, 84% of cost is admin personel, if cutting costs by 25% people seem to have to be laid  
153 off or efficiency would be needed.

154  
155 JS commented that ISO 65 has strict rules, this is now the guideline for certification. In ISO, control must be  
156 demonstrated for all parts of the process. OCIA Intl has no control over file handling of the chpt; chpt is not accred.  
157 Example: chpt can assign inspector for JAS when inspector is not approved. OCIA Intl can only not accept file.  
158 Restructure is attempt for a way around that. One-stop-contact would send TCs, send files to CDT,... currently  
159 many points of contact, many people handling file. The BoD is attempting to simplify the handling.

160  
161 MM stated if there is no control over the chpt, that is a technical issue; structure would not need to be changed to do  
162 this.

163  
164 JS stated in the IFOAM audit in Sept 07, chpts sign contracts with inspectors that give inspectors more time to return  
165 inspection report than 7-days, which is the contract inspector signs with OCIA Intl. Chpt contracts say 30 days after  
166 last inspection. It was pointed out by auditor that OCIA is not doing what procedures say. Intl has no tool to deal  
167 with chapters. It is expected that auditors will look at chpts and it needs to be clear that accred have control over  
168 chpts.

169  
170 MM stated he doesn't believe this proposal will provide this control.

171

172 JS stated options are to get rid of chapters or use chapters for another function/purpose.

173

174 Amy Krasne (AK) stated it appears the need to work with more govts; suggested OCIA be made structure, and have  
175 different groups: USA, Canada, LA. They can determine what they need to function (budget, etc). AK stated the  
176 chpt is growing, because more Amish are joining. The org is currently structured to help them fill out paperwork  
177 through chpts; Amish members may be lost if there is not someone to help fill out paper.

178

179 JS stated the size of around 200 files was intended to have a more local presence. JS stated the intent is not to  
180 change the vision of OCIA, but bring it to the level of what is expected.

181

182 AK stated the local chpts should be able to control issues.

183

184 JS stated there are By-Law proposals to allow for local control. JS stated the members will decide, if the members  
185 don't like something—they can change it.

186

187 NC stated he thought the accred problems were because the BoD is farmer-controlled. The CAC committee has a  
188 wide variety of members; if it became a cert board that handled cert issues for regional office. May be problem if  
189 some members were farmers. The current BoD could then work on crop improvement, marketing, etc.

190

191 DeB sent around list to request members for ad-hoc committee. DeB stated appreciation for opportunity to run  
192 through proposal.

193

194 Meeting was recessed at 10:10? AM.

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196 Meeting reconvened at AM.

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### 3. Standards Committee Report and Introduction to the Standards

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Susan Tyler Introduction to Standards:

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**Standard S1** (nanotechnology): Susan presented revised Standard, meaning is the same as original but with

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improved wording, on advice received from scientists who work in this area. ST moved, seconded by SS. John

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Koskan (JK) supports proposal on its face but is concerned that it may be interpreted in ways we don't intend, it may

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be applied to products such as manure, chicken litter, seed treatments, etc. Susan – we have never been able to make

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standards that go too far into future, first we must learn. This is not as strong as our standard against against GMOs.

215

In the future we may go that far but today we don't know enough. This is a first step, using the Precautionary

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Principle. The nanotechnology industry is completely unregulated at this point. The UK Soil Association has already

217

banned products from Nanotech, other certifiers are looking at it. John Koskan question – is there a firewall in place,

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how far back would a producer have to go. Susan – there is no guarantee, if we learn that neighbour allows nanotech

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products on his farm you may not be able to use that product. JK will oppose just because it is too broad and could

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have serious implications, although he does support the concept. Concern that inspectors may mis-interpret, but

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inspectors do not interpret questions go back to Standards committee. If manure has not had an application of a

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prohibited substance you may use it under the standard, even if neighbour fed animal GMO feed. We don't know

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anything about nanotechnology in manures yet – so we are unsure if it will be a problem.

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225

Jim Robbins (JR) commends ISC for beginning to deal with this issue. He doesn't know very much about it but his

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initial conversations lead him to be frightened of these kinds of manipulations. What is correct interpretations?

227

Would a reasonable interpretation cause an inspector to write up a non-compliance on a farm that was using manure

228

from an operation that may have used nanotech product. Susan – not sure how far back we can go. OACC (Organic

229 Ag Centre Canada) is doing research. We don't know of anyone who is feeding livestock feed containing  
230 nanotechnology product. At this point we are only saying you can't use it and our current standard says you can't  
231 use it if it has had a prohibited substance applied. JR – so the question is were nanotech products applied to manure,  
232 not were they fed to the animal. We require the same thing now with GMOs, and any prohibited product.

233

234 JK hopes it would be interpreted that way but is not sure. Outside body may look at it and wonder if we are  
235 following our standards. He thinks S1 is okay but in S2 it makes it clear that it is an input. Susan – if you pass S1  
236 you will be prohibited from using any nanotech inputs. JK – probably S1 is okay but he is worried about S2. eg dry  
237 chicken litter is processed, they may use nanotech in process.

238

239 Bryce Stephens (BS) wonders why we are talking about manure, we should be concerned about our food. We could  
240 not worry about it, NOP doesn't prohibit it. If OCIA standards could cover use of them in our system. He practices  
241 Bio-Dynamic agriculture, they work with natural systems. Susan clarifies that would be allowed because natural  
242 products are allowed. BS would be in favour.

243

244 Brother Kurt (BK) teaches a class in Nanotechnology. The way it will get to your farm is on the paint on your truck,  
245 that is where it is used. Also tarps, other things. Susan – we are not going that far. We are talking about production  
246 and processing inputs.

247

248 Sven Schalit (SS) these standards are about not allowing another Pandora's box to open up. It is a good thing to put  
249 a barrier in place before that happens.

250

251 Vote on S1 – carries.

252

253 **Standard S2 (nanotechnology)** – ST moves to floor, SS second. Wording revised again on advice of scientists.

254

255 Jim Robbins (JR) asks John Koskan to propose wording to make it clear this is just one step back, to cover his  
256 anxiety about the manure. Susan – this is not the manure standard, it is under general procedures for crop  
257 production, other. Assorted plants and other preparations, and a bunch of other stuff. JR – if this is not the  
258 appropriate point, could it be referred to ISC for further work this year. Susan – yes but if someone wants something  
259 in now it would have to be proposed as amendment. At this point she doesn't feel they have enough information but  
260 would be happy to work with the ISC and OACC to learn more in the next year. JR – would it be correct to assume  
261 that if an inspector is assessing manure then we do not have a standard that covers nanotech in manure? Susan – yes  
262 – it just covers applications, not animal feed.

263

264 Vote on S2 – carries

265

266 **Standard S3 (nanotechnology re livestock)** – ST moves to floor, SS second. Revised wording presented.

267

268 John Koskan (JK) asks for clarification, it only refers to feed stuffs? Susan yes, 3.5 is feed, 3.5.1. discusses what you  
269 can feed, 3.7.3.k is under supplements, 3.9.10 is animal health. JK supports this.

270

271 Vote on S3 – carries

272 **Standard S4 (nanotechnology re processing)** – ST moves, SS seconds revised version to floor.

273

274 Vote on S4 – carries

275

276 **Standard S5 (nanotechnology re materials)** – ST moves, SS seconds revised version to floor.

277

278 Vote on S5 – carries

279

280 **Standard S6 (definitions re landless systems) and also nanotechnology)** – ST moves, second by SS.

281

282 Marion McBride (MMc) wonders why it is necessary to add extra information to definition, not leave it at just  
283 definition. Susan – thought it added clarity. MMc – sometimes simpler is better. ST – we can simplify when we  
284 know more.

285

286 Tyler Remoue (TR) asks about 100 nano metres, would smaller than 100 be a nanoparticle? Susan thinks it is a  
287 standard definition.

288

289 Brenda Frick (BF) from R&E – did not write definition, she doesn't know enough – but it was obtained from  
290 someone who knows more than we do.

291

292 Vote on S6 – carries

293

294 **Standard S7 (water tests)** – ST moves, SS seconds. Vote on S7- carries.

295

296 **Standard S8** (document review) ST moves, SS seconds. Accepted amendment at workshop to add “annually” to  
297 document review. Vote on S8 – carries

298

299 **Standard S9 (landscape enhancement, biodiversity)** ST moves, SS seconds. This was a requirement received late  
300 from IFOAM. ISC thought it was already covered, but submitted it with the comment that it was already covered.

301

302 Jim Robbins (JR) biodiversity is enhanced on organic fields simply by not spraying.

303

304 Bryce Stephens (BS) can improve landscaping by purchasing big equipment. Is in favour of it, doesn't think it is a  
305 problem – adds to our credibility.

306

307 Liz Sarno (LS) supports, refers delegates to poster submissions on biodiversity research that has been done – the  
308 amount of biodiversity is amazing. There is research on how farmers can incorporate more biodiversity into their  
309 farms.

310

311 John Koskan (JK) wonders why we need to put more words in. ST – it is a mandate from IFOAM. They have raised  
312 the issue before so if we don't address it now it will become serious. – we were told it had to be dealt with this year.  
313 We received a non-compliance for it, they actually wanted it dealt with last year. JK this can impact new people. ST  
314 the non-compliance was that it had to be in our standard, Brian told them it was already there, but they want us to  
315 put it in in this section. Since it is already there the ISC did not think this was an issue we should fight them on, we  
316 already do it so there is no extra burden. SS – it has been 3 years we have not complied.

317

318 Vote on S9 – carries.

319

320 **Standard S10 (split production)** – ST moves, SS seconds. She explains difference between parallel and split  
321 production. IFOAM wanted us to write a whole standard requiring people with split production to clean their  
322 equipment between conventional, organic fields. We already had standard governing that for parallel, it was simpler  
323 to just add split production to same standard.

324

325 Carl Eidsness (CE) – asks about buffer strips. ST – this standard just says you must take same care of equipment  
326 whether you have split or parallel production.

327

328 Jim Robbins (JR) – split production is bigger issue – commonly producers have livestock that is not organic. If he  
329 takes a bale of hay into corral in winter for cattle, what does this imply when he uses that tractor for a field operation  
330 on land. ST – you are not driving on field that has had prohibited substance, the parallel production standard already  
331 does, and this addition does, say that when you go from organic to transitional/conventional you have to make sure  
332 the equipment can't cross contaminate. She doesn't see how this could contaminate – she would not interpret it that  
333 way.

334

335 Vote on S10 – carries

336

337 **Standard S11 (livestock access to pasture)** – ST moves, SS seconds. This is another IFOAM requirement. It  
338 allows animals to be inside for inclement weather.

339

340 Vote on S11 – carries

341

342 **Standard S12 (crop production materials list re copper products)** – ST moves, SS seconds. IFOAM requested  
343 we add these words but ST doesn't think they change things very much. Rolling average is interpreted by ISC as  
344 averaged over time. CE says that rolling average is changed, eg if it is average over last 10 years, it is always the  
345 last 10 years.

346  
347 Vote on S12 – carries

348  
349 **Standard S13 (processing sanitation).** ST moves, SS seconds. IFOAM wanted us to define exactly what is  
350 prohibited. ST does not think it is a further restriction.

351  
352 Vote on S13 – carries

353  
354 **Standard S14 (processing materials list).** ST moves, SS seconds. Another IFOAM requirement. They tried to find  
355 out if it would be difficult for anyone, but did not hear that it was.

356  
357 Keith Kadrmas (KK) – was this not used as irrigation cleanout? ST – this is processing standard.

358  
359 Vote on S14 – carries

360  
361 **Standard S15 (processing materials list).** ST moves, SS seconds. ST reminds this is processing, not field crop  
362 materials. No prohibitions, just adds restrictions or different uses. They tried to find out if there were people who  
363 would be hurt, no response.

364  
365 Marion McBride (MMc) is concerned about restriction on Diatomaceous Earth. Does not know of other uses, but  
366 perhaps it could be. ST – if we know of people who would use it in another way we could submit a dossier to  
367 IFOAM. She suggests we strike it for now and send a memo out to all processors asking if there was a problem. ST  
368 – the memo would have to ask if it would be used as processing aid for anything other than sweetener in wine. ST  
369 accepts as friendly with condition that communication to IFOAM indicates members feel we may need to prepare a  
370 dossier on it.

371  
372 Vote on S15 – carries

373  
374 **Standard S16 (processing materials list)** ST moves, SS seconds. This was manipulated at workshop last night.  
375 Two listings for glycerin, it was suggested that we are not dis-allowing it except as extracts and tinctures. This could  
376 be done in one entry, so second glycerin was taken out and 1<sup>st</sup> one revised.

377  
378 Marian McBride (MMc) has same concern as she had for Diatomaceous Earth – asks that it be sent back for same  
379 reason. ST could accept, except they did ask and did not get a response from any processors. They have no reason to  
380 think processors would have a problem. MMc – it seems like a relatively harmless substance to be restricting. ST –  
381 suggests an amendment (not friendly)

382  
383 Jake Geiger (JG) is a processor. He supports MMc position. ST – then she would leave glycerin as it has appeared in  
384 our standard – one entry. Will need to write dossier explaining why we need to keep this – would need help. JG –  
385 first rule of business is to stay flexible – doesn't think we should eliminate alternatives. He uses this product but  
386 can't say he could not get along without it. If we can't argue that it is clearly a need, the dossier may not be  
387 accepted.

388  
389 Vote on S16, as amended to remove changes to glycerin.

390  
391 Jim Robbins (JR) – we are puzzled because these are things we have come to think of as natural and allowable. ST –  
392 ISC has asked same questions of IFOAM. IFOAM does not have prohibited and allowed list, they have just positive  
393 list. They could allow it if we give them a good argument – but no processor was able to tell her anything.

394  
395 Rob Koskan (RK) – if IFOAM has not yet responded to our question then he suggests we don't vote on it until we  
396 get a response. This may keep someone out of OCIA. Susan – agrees but that would be more work (especially staff  
397 time to write dossier). All ingredients are only being prohibited because they do not appear on IFOAMs positive list.  
398 We can write dossiers, but not best use of time to do it if there is not a need.

399

400 John Koskan (JK) – we have had our arms twisted for years by accepting IFOAM standards, if we are their biggest  
401 customer maybe we should twist their arms.

402

403 Jake Geiger (JG) when he runs his cleaner, processes grain, he uses everything. As a general practice he does not  
404 want to give up anything unless it is toxic. Some things he may not use now but he might. Doesn't want to limit  
405 alternatives if there is not a toxic reason. SS asks if rice hulls could be used as fuel. ST – this standard is just for  
406 processing aid.

407

408 Wes Baker (WB) asks if rice hulls are ingredient in product, ex personal care, or steamed sand as exfoliant. ST –  
409 that is non-organic ingredient. We have allowed it but we have a restriction. ST – we should mark all the standards  
410 we want dossiers on but she needs help from people who know about these substances. She does not know why  
411 these substances are prohibited. One option would be to defeat the whole thing, another would be to pull out the  
412 things we want to write dossiers on.

413

414 Jake Geiber (JG) – is it possible they could change their mind? ST yes, they may – but we have to write dossier  
415 arguing for change.

416

417 Carl Eidsness (CE) – why do we have to write dossier, why shouldn't they be forced to tell us what is wrong with  
418 them? ST – that does not appear to be the system we are in. We should have someone on World Board, also  
419 IFOAM Standards committee. SS- could we just write them a nice letter asking them?

420

421 Vote on S16 – defeated, one abstention.

422

423 ST asks for direction. SS – write letter asking for clarification on why these have to be prohibited. CE – letter should  
424 include clarification that it was brought up before our meeting, prevailing logic is expressed in vote. We feel they  
425 should explain why these things should not be allowed. If there is strong explanation or good reasons, then it will  
426 come back to our membership for a vote.

427

428 CE moves, SS seconds that Susan write an explanatory letter to IFOAM telling them that this was brought to the  
429 floor of our AGMM and defeated almost unanimously after substantial discussion, the essence of which was that if  
430 IFOAM feels these products should be banned they should be explaining why, we should not be explaining why we  
431 want them. They are, after all, natural products.

432

433 Vote on above motion – carries with one abstention (ST)

434

435 **Standard S17 (social justice re child labour)** – ST moves, SS seconds. This is another IFOAM requirement we  
436 have had for 3 years. She thinks we did a good job on addressing it. Many of us bring our children to work with us,  
437 that it is good. But there are also places in the world where children are abused. With this proposal they have  
438 covered it – we cannot put children in dangerous situations, deny them education, or abuse them – but you can take  
439 them to work with you. SS – thinks the way it was handled is okay. As a coffee farmer he worries that during  
440 harvest, even school holidays are planned around coffee harvest. Children often help sort red from green beans – not  
441 hazardous. This would still allow children to do that. Many govts, including Mexico, do have social law that is  
442 enforced.

443

444 John Koskan (JK) asks who defines hazardous? Who defines jeopardize moral, social, etc? We are getting into area  
445 that is too open to interpretation. Does not think we need to adopt it.

446

447 Clark Phillips (CP) is farmer, not lawyer – but he knows that when people want to know what something means they  
448 often look it up in the dictionary.

449

450 Tyler Remoue (TR) in 1.3.3., section c – should that be children supervised by adults or have authorization from  
451 legal guardian – or should it be and. ST – they meant “and”, because if they had authorization from legal guardian  
452 they would only have it because there was an adult supervisor. Eg. Potato harvest, older people may not be standing  
453 next to child – but operation is being supervised by parent or other responsible adult.

454

455 John Koskan (JK) does not see humour in looking up in dictionary – it is not universal, same word in different  
456 country can mean different things, also cultural differences. Some pretty steep slopes on mountains, also lots of  
457 dangerous equipment on farms. Who interprets what is hazardous? SS – normally inspector would understand  
458 cultural practice for region and operation. Would not apply standards from another area to the farm he was  
459 inspecting. Asks what would jeopardize a child's moral development? SS – child pornography. JK – who is going to  
460 interpret and enforce? If we do not know those things it is irresponsible to put it into words. If we can't agree on  
461 general consensus of what we mean, why are we putting it in our standards?  
462

463 Liz Sarno (LS) – who enforces NOP standards? USDA. This was added at request of IFOAM to be in compliance  
464 with world norms. We care about plants, animals, should we not also care about people? This could help us (R & E)  
465 get additional funding from several organizations to work on projects to help develop better standards and  
466 procedures.  
467

468 Bryce Stephens (BS) – these terms are defined in IBS, by people who serve on a global membership board.  
469

470 Tim Rogers (TR) understands the importance of anti-child labour laws, protecting youth, but does not feel we as an  
471 organization should make social commentary. To conform to IFOAM requirement 1.3.1.d – if we comply with govt  
472 law no more should be said. ST – IFOAM requirement was actually to disallow child labour completely. We wrote  
473 this to allow for instances where child labour may be used. TR – in the US and probably most countries, there are  
474 laws. This could open too many cans. ST – does not want to restrict people from bringing their children to work in a  
475 positive way.  
476

477 Randy Fendrich From Nebraska (RF) – is a machete hazardous? ST asks who is using it? Did you teach him how?  
478 Yes. Then it is not hazardous. That is okay, but there are possibilities for children to be abused. She doesn't think  
479 that because we use more words than IFOAM asks that we are making more restrictions. We are allowing for  
480 cultural differences. If a child that has never had a machete is in his hand is handed one – it could be hazardous.  
481 Farming is hazardous – but you need to be reasonable about what is dangerous.  
482

483 Jim Robbins (JR) what if we don't have social standards and we hear in the news that an OCIA certified operator is  
484 using children without paying them, or is in some way abusing them (ex classes in suicide bombing at end of day) –  
485 is that not a black eye for us? Govts have had to deal with this because there are people who will operate  
486 irresponsibly. In ancient England you worked in cotton mill from early age to 13 – when your lungs were shot.  
487

488 Juan Del Mar (JDM) in Peru they know children are abused in extreme cases, standards say you can hire youngsters,  
489 age 15+, or under 14 with parent authorization. If a person does not take child to field, how do they know what he  
490 does? We know children will go to coffee field and they have babies hanging in hammock from tree – reasons why  
491 on Saturdays and Sundays school is out so children may do field work. Inspectors interpret as contribution to region  
492 and to community. We have supervision by institutions who clearly state who may work and who may not. Dangers  
493 are in application of pesticides, eg pregnant women should not be allowed to do that. Social responsibility behooves  
494 us all – we are expanding children's skills and knowledge. This should be in our standards. International market  
495 wants organic and sustainable certification, also environmental. We need to move forward with this – other certifiers  
496 have these standards.  
497

498 Vote on S17- carries  
499

500 Meeting reconvened at 12:39PM.  
501

#### 502 **4. Budget Discussion**

503

504 **JD requested a motion to bring budget to the floor. Denis Brodner(DB) motioned, JR 2<sup>nd</sup>.**  
505  
506  
507

508 DB advised at the workshop last night, an idea was developed. Because commodity prices are rising, a large user  
509 fee amount may be collected, but there is no way to know how much. Grain prices are soaring, cattle prices are  
510 stable or losing ground (some sales have been reduced). Wanted to develop a system so members don't feel  
511 cheated if there is a large surplus. BoD had discussed wanting a 25% cash reserve, could it actually be cash plus

512 equity? DB requested Lyle explain what his chpt did with rplus.

513

514 Lyle Hammond stated his chpt had a large reduction in membership, because people went elsewhere. Chpt wanted  
515 to cut corners without decreasing service; ended up with a surplus. Surplus are good, but OCIA is not-for-profit. At  
516 chpt, the members have been notified, due to surplus, each member when renewing this year, will refund \$100, if  
517 they were certified w/ chapter last year. Chpt has responded favorably; people are interested in joining and some  
518 members are rejoining the chpt.

519

520 DB advised idea had started to develop before previous night, and more ideas had been added.

521

522 Marion McBride (MMcB) moved, as in previous AGMM, to not change balance of budget without changing  
523 something else to create balanced budget. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jake Geiger.

524

525 Motion passed.

526

527 JR stated sk#4 will do this this year. JR stated the money hoped to get for user fee, if there is extra income on line  
528 item, idea is to give back to member who gave to OCIA Intl. Lyle's chpt is using as a credit (towards user fees in  
529 2k9). It would be incentive for people to come back to OCIA next year.

530

531 Steve Elliot (SE) stated if his sales are twice what they are last year, he will not feel bad about giving twice as much  
532 money. If doing well, just don't spent on something stupid.

533

534 CE stated it makes a difference where people are on the scale, if and person paid \$50 or \$100 if price went up. If  
535 people paid \$3000 one year and next year pay \$6000, it makes a big difference. If people in his chpt had to pay all  
536 of that, and OCIA Intl had a windfall, chpt members may be loss.

537

538 CE would like to make a motion, like what JR stated.

539

540 MMcB clarified for SK #4 it will not go to user fees, due to admin, it will be a rebate of cert fees to the chpt. Recd  
541 well by members well, members will pay if it's needed. Bought credibility of members. Chpt projected high, and  
542 did ok, and the chpt is not keeping the surplus. What is rebated may be based on what was contributed in percentage  
543 form.

544

545 Tyler R (TR) stated a question for Steve; we have something that works—why not keep what we have. Does it  
546 work, are we competitive anymore? Eg. If he pays \$8000 in u-fees vs \$2000 at other, he would be tempted to leave  
547 to go elsewhere.

548

549 Randy F (RF) With rebate members would get back, it would make OCIA competitive with other agencies. Stated  
550 he expects something back at the end of the year as long as BoD is responsible with money.

551

552 SE asked if he was asked a question. Stated the questioner is assuming he thinks the system works and members  
553 should stay with it. States system should be developed for cost for sales made. SE stated the idea of a rebate,  
554 member should back percentage of what's paid, because it would be paid, but that method may be an administrative  
555 problem. SE would support coming back next year.

556

557 CE stated Thu that she was present last night at discussion and she didn't indicate it would be a problem to  
558 administer. The percentage would not be a problem to figure out.

559

560 TH stated calculation is very easy. Eg. 1/3 of user fees would be refunded.

561

562 RF stated 6 years ago, chpt had 70 members. Have 30 members now and expect membership to continue to go down  
563 if action isn't taken.

564

565 Meeting recessed for lunch at 1:00 PM.

566 Meeting reconvened at 2:19 PM.

567

568 DB advised of discussion at workshop previous night. Most everything that came to the BoD, there was no change  
569 to the bottom line, but R&E did feel their budget was low. Small Business Bursary—suggested to raise level to \$16,  
570 667 (up from 10k), concerns by small producers.

571  
572 CE asked to make a motion. JD asked if it was an amendment. CE advised yes, basically. CE brought a motion to  
573 amend the budget to: in light of probability of significant increase in sales revenue, projection from Thu (\$691  
574 dollars) will be exceeded. Would like to see mechanism

575  
576 CE moved to have u-fees above \$600,000 collected in 2008 be refunded proportionately to people who made them  
577 in first quarter of 2009 in form of a rebate or deduction of u-fees in first quarter. If can't be made in first quarter, it  
578 should be onto 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup> by RF.

579  
580 TH advised the number is \$600k, not 700k. First 16k of sales, there is no u-fee.

581  
582 JD requested discussion.

583  
584 ST stated that since R&E needs money, perhaps assign them 10k more dollars, but same amt for refund might be  
585 available because of additional fees.

586  
587 Gordon Felzien (GF) suggested to give refund back to growers to use, either to give to growers or to use to stop  
588 decline of chapters.

589  
590 JR per MMcB's motion, 10k could be move and still have a balanced budget. BoD had hoped R&E could wean  
591 themselves from support, but 3 more years of budgeting is expected. Regarding CE's motion, attractive idea, but no  
592 rebate will occur unless there is a surplus. Suggested If the surplus would be insignificant, the program may not be  
593 used. Self-financing program, if not surplus rebates would not happen. Called it an excellent idea.

594  
595 SE spoke against amendment. Feels money could be put to better use by investing in infrastructure of OCIA (pay  
596 on building, buy building elsewhere). SE stated the reason for the windfall is being members have invested in  
597 organization. Cert Should be looked at as investment, as there is lot of return on investment.

598  
599 Martin M (MM) If there is an overfundage, if there is a concern that OCIA is high-priced certifier, rebate would be  
600 at least a token gesture, rather than investing elsewhere. R&E: will put forth plan to be self-suff.

601  
602 JR stated that SE stated rebate may be small, but it could potentially be large. Even if it's small, if tied to continuing  
603 to cert with OCIA, a good marketing angle bigger than the actual amt of money given back.

604  
605 CE stated the rebate would be psychological took for those who will go back to chpts who have members who are  
606 considering going to another certifier. Can show the members voted on this, and the possibility of a rebate.

607  
608 LH spoke in favor of the motion. Shows good-faith on OCIA's part to members. Any surplus should be given out  
609 on basis of previously paid by members, requested it be a credit to the producers acct, not a check that is mailed out.

610  
611 JD called to vote on motion.

612  
613 Motion passed.

614  
615 ST small holder bursary, currently 10k in budget. available to first 100, with conditions. ST made motion to without  
616 changing the budget, raise eligibility to same amt listed in the budget (for those who don't pay privilege use fee):  
617 want to change 10k to \$16, 667. CE 2<sup>nd</sup>.

618  
619 JD requested discussion on the motion. There was none.

620  
621 JD called a vote on motion.

622  
623 Motion passed.

624

625 JR offered a motion, like CE's, about reserves target. The reserve target for OCIA Intl should be 30% of annual  
626 expenses, as at the last financial statement, at least half of which should be in the form of cash reserves. Equity in  
627 physical assets will be counted towards reserves, but will not exceed 50% of reserves.

628  
629 JR answered why it would be raised to 30%; physical assets would not be in liquid form. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jake G.

630  
631 JR stated this is a conservative way to handle finances but keep OCIA safe. Physical Assets should be considered  
632 part of reserve. Rather than pay rebate, put towards original target of cash reserves. Would set up reserves and set  
633 up motion from CE that passed.

634  
635 JD called for vote on motion.

636  
637 Motion passed.

638  
639 MM stated R&E's budget is requested 20k more than is on budget viewed here, asked if it could passed here.

640  
641 DB asked what additional amt would be spent on.

642  
643 MM chpts would apply for grants for small-based research, research made at the chpt level. Micro-grants. More  
644 info would be provided at R&E meeting.

645  
646 MM made a motion to add 20K more to R&E budget, subject to approval at the R&E meeting.

647  
648 JD advised would need to take something from the budget per MMcB.

649  
650 advised there is a surplus.

651  
652 Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz Sarno (LS)

653  
654 LS stated this would improve presence of OCIA with small farmers, give grants to members, so they can do  
655 research—would like to tie in with universities so research can be designed. Would be a talking point when talking  
656 to new potential members.

657  
658 John Koskan (JK) asked if there was accountability on grants.

659  
660 LS stated the person applying for the grant would be encourage (\$1500 max) to work with local university, person  
661 would need to report back—which could be published.

662  
663 SE asked if Marion's motion would remove surplus. Asked if intention was to keep balanced budget. MMcB stated  
664 wanted to keep balance.

665  
666 ST spoke in favor of motion, to give money back to where we live.

667  
668 MMcB spoke in favor of motion. Stated it was unrealistic for R&E to be self-sufficient, they do lots of promo for  
669 OCIA. As long as doesn't jeopardize OCIA, favors it.

670  
671 Motion passed with one abstention.

672  
673 SE stated it is unrealistic to expect R&E to be self-sufficient.

674  
675 SE made motion that there be a memorial scholarship, administered by R&E, in the amt of 10k a year in honor of  
676 Victor Chrapko. This would be separate from increase in R&E's budget.

677  
678 Deb Miller (DM) advised Victor's family has asked that all memorial funds be given to the fight against GMOs.

679  
680 SE withdrew motion.

681

682 CE made a motion to accept budget as proposed. 2<sup>nd</sup> by JK.  
683  
684 Dale Maass advised that motion is already on the floor, so the motion is out of order.  
685  
686 CE withdrew motion.  
687  
688 GK stated, in regard to scholarship in Victor's name, stated he would like to have Victor's name attached to  
689 something. Wouldlike his name recognized attached to a scholarship.  
690  
691 GK made motion to give \$5000 to SOD/OAPF and \$5000 be an annual scholarship, in Victor's name, to be  
692 administered by R&E. 2<sup>nd</sup> by SS.  
693  
694 MMcB asked if the donation to SOD/OAPF be one-time or annual.  
695  
696 GK stated donation would be one-time.  
697  
698 JK asked how it would be administer the scholarship. Stated difficulty in administration in annual vs one-time.  
699  
700 RK would like to pay proper respect to Victor, would want his name attached.  
701  
702 Brenda Frick (BF) stated R&E currently has a scholarship they administer for young organic researchers. The  
703 amount of work is not a problem; they are already set up to do it.  
704  
705 BF stated, since Victor's family had requested memorials go to fighting GMO, the scholarship could be specific to  
706 GMO and would benefit people throughout the world.  
707  
708 Wes Baker (WS) proposed a friendly amendment. Donation to SOD/OAPF could be one-time donation.  
709 Scholarship for \$5k or \$10k could be annual, for researchers who are interested in studying effect of GMOs on  
710 organic farming.  
711  
712 Friendly amendment was accepted.  
713  
714 JR stated R&E currently administers \$1k scholarship, which they fund. Victor should be honored, requested to be  
715 line with things done in the past. Suggested there be an additional scholarship in Victor's name or double the  
716 current R&E scholarship and rename for Victor.  
717  
718 CE agrees with JR. As JR, admires Victor, but feels assembly should be careful in spending.  
719  
720 RG would like to modify motion, \$5000 in Victor's name for a scholarship, for students who will research effects of  
721 GMO.  
722  
723 BF asked if the 5k would be added to current scholarship, the current one is not specialized to GMO. Agrees if it's  
724 an additional scholarship.  
725  
726 RG clarified it was an additional scholarship.  
727  
728 SE asked for clarification. He is for motion; there won't be another Victor.  
729  
730 ST asked if there will still be a donation or just a scholarship.  
731  
732 RG annual \$1000 scholarship, for students engaged in GMO studies, to be administered by R&E. Would be in  
733 addition to R&E's current 1k scholarship, which is for other organic research. Also a \$5000 one-time donation to  
734 SOD/OAPF.  
735  
736 SS  
737  
738 JD asked for vote on motion.

739

740 Motion passed.

741

742 SE asked how much money had be spent that had to be made up.

743

744 DB stated it was 26k.

745

746 SE wants receptionist in office. Proposed raising fees on DA members by 3%; should be enough to get receptionist  
747 back. 2<sup>nd</sup> WB.

748

749 JR agreed that although answering machine answers, with one button it will go directly to a person. There are  
750 competitive problems on DA fees; some corporate are okay with fee schedule, but some have complained they can  
751 get service elsewhere at cheaper costs. If fees go up, going against econ grain.

752

753 CE doesn't support motion, agrees with JR. Motion would make competitive problems worse.

754

755 MMcB agrees.

756

757 JD called for vote on raising DA fees 3%.

758

759 Motion failed.

760

761 MMcB asked if expense could be afforded to courier convention packets to arrive on-time, or some method to  
762 receive in timely manner.

763

764 CP stated he had a question for JS. Stated in the past, the printing company close to the Canadian border would  
765 print and mail. Wanted to know what happened to that system and if it could be reinstituted.

766

767 JS stated it could be done again. Angie had a cheaper company.

768

769 LH moved to call the question, to approve 2008 budget.

770

771 Budget passed.

772

773 Meeting recessed for break at 3:31 PM.

774 Meeting reconvened at 3:48 PM

775

## 776 **Bylaws**

777

778 Steve Elliott, Bylaw committee chair, introduced the members of the committee. Accepted position because he  
779 thought it would be easy – Susan would wup him if he screwed up. See attached report.

780

781 1<sup>st</sup> thing they dealt with was motion from last year's AGMM. Tried to investigate through minutes but was not  
782 enough information. Finally got necessary information at last minute. Neither of the proposals in the packet take in  
783 all the concerns of the members at last years AGMM. Proposals from Board mostly pertain to restructuring. Several  
784 proposals were sent in by members, some pertain to setting up regional fee structures in future. 3 proposals from  
785 committee, one was where they found that what they assumed was conflicting information, another was obsolete  
786 practice left over from when chapters did certification, another is one that has been mis-understood by staff for  
787 several administrations. Occasionally they will help members write bylaw proposals, but that is not in their mandate.  
788 The Bylaws are empowering, they allow members to do certain things – but the rest of the power is in this assembly.

789

790 **Bylaw B-1 (regional fees paid in local currency):** moved by SE, seconded by Dale Maas (DM). Jim Robbins (JR)  
791 advises that the Board supports this proposal.

792

793 Marion McBride (MMc) asks about wordsmithing from last nights workshop. The secretary has received the  
794 changes.

795

796 Vote on B-1 carries

797

798 **Bylaw B-2 (Pilot offices):** moved by SE, seconded by DM. JR: Board did not come to consensus on this.

799

800 MMc – more wordsmithing “limit” should be “limits to”, second line from bottom. This proposal was created as a  
801 result of not being able to pursue office in Spain as we hoped. This will allow that.

802

803 DeEtta Bilek (DeB), this proposal would allow us to start, Minnesota may be interested in working with this and  
804 also some of the chapters who are struggling to have an administrator. Peru may also be interested. This could be  
805 brought back in 2 years for assessment, but would be start.

806

807 SS: - if it is true, miles should be changed to something.

808

809 DM – speaks against because it gives away the keys to the Kingdom.

810

811 ST – speaks against.

812

813 Jeff See (JS), we may be facing some situations that we don't know how to resolve. If Board does not have the  
814 authority to set up new structures to help resolve those situations, then you are tying their hands and we will see  
815 continued loss of chapter membership and continued decline of OCIA.

816

817 Richard Gross (RG) – doesn't want restructure proposal pushed down us, but would be nice if chapter wants to try  
818 as a pilot project the ground work could be done so if the time comes we need to go that direction would have basis.  
819 He supports it.

820

821 Gordon Fe WHO??? (GF) asks about oversight on pilots. He asked last night but there was no answer. Does  
822 someone have answer today? JS would be responsible for staff, but Board must evaluate effectiveness of pilot and  
823 whether it solves the problem it was created to address. Reminds that this is just a trial.

824

825 Clark Phillips (CP) is concerned from point of view of democratic procedure. Board presented restructure proposal,  
826 that was not acceptable. Although there was no vote it was clear that the membership did not support. A committee  
827 was struck to address in the next year. This Bylaw gives the Board the authority to do this anyway. If we don't like it  
828 we can vote them out in 3 years, but that is not good process. Would like it to be tabled to next year after the report.

829

830 Brother Kurt (BrK) – table because he is hearing about problems with Mexico, Peru – if they crashed we need to  
831 examine why before we set up something new.

832

833 SS: opposes because it would allow Board and ED to mess up things with chapters when there is something they  
834 don't like.

835

836 Change 100 miles to 5,500 miles away from a chapter. Thank you for speaking clearly Sven.

837

838 Juan Del Mar (JDM) – in Peru the competent authority, SENESA, which is founded on fact there should be standard  
839 that complies with ISO 65. a standard, mechanism that all cbs comply with all over the world. Regrettably, we have  
840 seen in EU, US, some places in Latin America, it is used to avoid conflict of interest. In Peru we found they couldn't  
841 resort to that tool as something to be implemented because the rules and regulations in our chapter, after many years  
842 of working in Peru, certifying as OCIA without problem. In 2006 Peruvian standard was approved and we were  
843 required to comply with standard. Asked Int'l office to do research. Result, SENESA as competent authority said we  
844 could not continue to certify if we do not comply with Peruvian law. That is why. This is possible way to resolve  
845 problem without damaging large number of members – membership is growing, OCIA certification is important to  
846 them. They have not been able to do anything else, OCIA makes chapter not a certifying entity – we agreed to this at  
847 an assembly. We agreed to continue to work as cert entity until December, since then have been operating as pilot  
848 regional office. Does not see convenience in doing this. They continue to be members, conduct activities, but  
849 certification is now done by regional offices. This is part of a pilot test. As a consequence he would have to agree  
850 with this proposal.

851

852 SS: this is why Peru got \$25,000 in budget for regional office. You don't need pilot project to get what govt wants.  
853 Mis-stating functions of a chapter is what gets us into trouble. Chapters do not certify, they do file handling. We do  
854 not need pilot projects.  
855

856 Susan Tyler (ST) surprised when she heard from Peruvian board member that he was supporting this because he has  
857 a regional office. We do not need bylaw change for regional office. We should support what we originally set up, ie  
858 regional office. If regional office could not function because of chapters handling certification, she agrees with  
859 Sven. She also supports members in Peru and hopes they continue with their regional office successfully. Opposes  
860 Bylaw.  
861

862 Elliott Driscoll (ED): mixed thoughts, does not want to see failure of chapters. Also thinks maybe this bylaw  
863 proposal is not going to mean Doomsday if it is passed. The way he reads it the bylaw could be rescinded at another  
864 AGMM.  
865

866 Clark Phillips (CP) reads existing section of Bylaws. Given the situation we are in now, the existing passage is a  
867 good guideline for what we want to do in Peru. Wait for report of restructure committee – next year hopefully they  
868 will bring well constructed, organized proposal.  
869

870 SS: agrees with Clark.  
871

872 John Koskan (JK) exciting time in organics, but model is changing. He disagrees that sky is falling. He has been  
873 certified since 1988. in today's world we need to offer more models to attract people. Now we have two: direct and  
874 chapter. Maybe there are more. We need to be competitive. We have two years to assess and react. We may be  
875 missing opportunities, we need to be progressive. Trust your Board, elect one that will do the best for this  
876 organization. Does not believe Board wants to do away with chapter structure. Trust them.  
877

878 David Bell (DB). There are a lot of things to work over.  
879

880 Motion to table, David Bell, seconded by Susan Tyler (ST).  
881

882 John Koskan – motion is not in order because he made prefacing remarks. You can't make comments and then table.  
883 Sven Schalit moves to table. Susan Tyler seconds. Vote on tabling motion – motion carries.  
884

885 OCIA International meeting recessed for day to allow for OCIA Research and Education Annual Meeting at 4:25  
886 p.m.  
887

#### 888 **R&E**

889 Wes reminds that we have 314 votes on floor for R&E quorum, need 189. Quorum is achieved.  
890

891 Brenda Frick (BF) called R&E meeting to order at 4:27 PM.  
892

893 Wes Baker (WB) announced nominees to both boards.  
894

895 R& E Board nominees:

896 Marian McBride

897 Randy Gubersky

898 Tim Rogers

899 Patrick Carr, nomination form sent. WB read bio (See Attachment).  
900

901 WB asked candidates to speak about themselves.  
902

903 MMcB stated she worked on R&E board when it started and enjoyed it. Setting up by-laws was a good job and  
904 setting up the scholarship was rewarding. She hopes to contribute to committee and thanks for the nomination.  
905

906 RG Organic producer certified for 4 years, 3<sup>rd</sup> gen organic farmer. Wife is 7<sup>th</sup> months pregnant with another son.  
907 RG volunteered with OAPF; to make changes, need to be active to make those changes. Can provide knowledge,  
908 get some from others, and help make changes.

909

910 TR from Boston, now in Iowa. Had always wanted to farm growing up. Certified org since '01 with OCIA; garlic,  
911 lettuce, etc. Would like to see more research into human food chain; concerned about stability and safety.

912

913 WB asked if there were any questions. BF: there are five openings, two are specifically for researcher: American  
914 and Canadian. Patrick Carr is American, do not have Canadian researcher.

915

916 WB announced OCIA BoD applications:

917 Juan Del Mar

918 Nathan Cook

919 Jorge Esturco (Guat)

920 Keith Everts

921 Lyle Hamann

922 Joe Dietz

923 Jeff Dewald

924

925 WS stated there are four positions open for the Board. Three of the seats are full 3-year term, one for 1-yr term that  
926 was declared vacant before AGMM. Of candidates who win, someone can choose 1-year term—can run again next  
927 year, or BoD can do a straw pull.

928

929 JDM: Thanked proposal made to take part in democratic election. Convinced group made up of OCIA Intl and  
930 BoD has worked during 2007. Very hopeful we can continue to serve growers more efficiently, since markets are  
931 more demanding. Demanding quality in products, and in certifiers. Aware of certifiers who deal lightly with  
932 standards, quality at OCIA high, because applicants qualify. Has made OCIA good for many years. Participation  
933 would be based on what members think best. Agronomist by training, works as consultant in COPLA-cocoa and tea,  
934 and other tropical crops that are organically managed.

935

936 KE: Rancher from Alberta Canada. Trader/broker and manage pasture land. Organic beef is one of top demanded  
937 products in Canada, with OCIA-seal. Have two fed-inspected slaughter plants and additional value-added plants.  
938 They used co-packers, but once pasture to plate, start hearing about issues. After being on BoD, though certified for  
939 many years, learned more. On BoD, with work, see where industry is going. OCIA has high integrity. Also need to  
940 bring new members in, including supporters of organic movement. KE stated OCIA needs to be owned by farmers  
941 to keep integrity high.

942

943 JD from MN. 8 years coming to AGMM. Farm 450 acres, grain crop. Former livestock and dairy. OCIA is  
944 backbone of society, have done a lot and high integrity.

945

946 LH mixed farm, north of Regina SK. Decided to be nominee, feels can bring something to the Board. Has done  
947 some public speaking, but primarily a farmer. Sole job, no other job and has worked for farm. A lot of OCIA  
948 members are producers and sole incomes from farming. Would like to see some changes: like AGMM, but need  
949 more order. At times, things get dragged on, heated discussion, but feels meetings should be shortened up. Don't  
950 have to be long-winded to make a point.

951

952 NC 200 acre farm in Southern Ohio, row crop, little livestock. OCIA member since 2000, President of chapter, OH  
953 #2.

954

955 JD from ND. Been in organics for long time, first year certified in '82. '87 chapter was developed. Been OCIA  
956 member since. Served on chpt boards in many capacities. Served on IRC for Intl for 2 years, multiple years on Intl  
957 BoD. Farmed Organically nearly all his life. Stated it would be an honor to serve again if membership wishes.

958

959 WS asked for questions:

960

961 MMcB asked for each nominee to advise of volunteer capacity in local chapters. How involved are they locally at  
962 home.

963

964 JDM: Chairman of OCIA Peru. 2 3 year periods. Part of organizing committee before. Headed it permanently  
965 now. Chpt is new, because there was option for chapter in 92/94, as there were other chapters that no longer exist.

966 As organic producer, more than 15 years. First org worked for, certified by OCIA since '96 and continues to  
967 improve. Take advantage of experiences in order to move forward: his org.  
968  
969 KE: on chpt BoD for years, but headquarters is far away. On fed govt advisory board, advised govt on organic  
970 standards and for planning org ag in Alberta. Help producers fill out forms before passing them onto Deb Miller.  
971  
972 JD member of northern plains for years. Not member of board. Member of chpt for 8 years, served on board for 7  
973 years. VP for 7 years, this year as President. Try to motivate people, try to market. Encourages field days, so  
974 producers can learn more. Attend upper Midwest conferences(MOSA, etc) and go to ACRES. It pays to keep up  
975 with people, and attend seminars to bring back to chapter.  
976  
977 LH certified since '95, as long as OCIA exists, will stay with OCIA. Two years as cert chair for chpt, current  
978 president. Wife is admin.  
979  
980 NC OH #2 member since 2000, 4 years as Treas, past two years President.  
981  
982 JDewald addressed in opening comments. Founders of ND #1 in '87, on cert committee for many years (7+). VP  
983 for few years and other offices.  
984  
985 JDietz on cert committee until they let it go.  
986  
987 KVK asked #1 thing they'd like to do for board.  
988  
989 JDM: put the train back on the tracks, so to speak. All issues discussed, arrived at a decision, so certifier can be  
990 excellent and efficient. Social part of organization is highly interesting (members from all over), but would be  
991 useful to solve problems by consensus.  
992  
993 KE accountably, credibility, integrity. Need to strengthen chpts. Figure out how to obtain growth and continue that  
994 way.  
995  
996 JDietz Have restructuring available in case it's needed. Goal would be to have more chpt members. When attending  
997 conferences, always trying to gain members.  
998  
999 NC would like to assist in pushing org in direction the general membership would like it to go. Org needs to roll  
1000 with punches as they arrive, but move when they come. Whenever that is.  
1001  
1002 JDewald strengthen and unify, do what's in the best interest of board and OCIA Intl. Hard to say exactly what you  
1003 will do, but to do what's best for OCIA Intl.  
1004  
1005 SS...Guate member is member of #1, long-time member. Processor (coffee), speaks three languages.  
1006  
1007 Keith Kadrmas asked to know which members are not up for reelection.  
1008  
1009 Denis Brodner, DeEtta Bilek, Jim Robbins, Ed Snavely  
1010  
1011 R&E: Brenda Frick,  
1012  
1013 BF recessed R&E membership meeting at 5:11 PM.  
1014  
1015  
1016  
1017 **4. Budget Discussion**  
1018  
1019 **6. Approve 2008 Budget**  
1020  
1021 **7. By-laws Committee Report and Introduction of By-law Amendments**  
1022

1023

**8. Call R&E to Order**

1024

1025

**9. Presentation and Approval of the Rules**

1026

1027

**10. Presentation of Candidates for Intl BOD and R&E Board**

1028

1029

**Presentation of 2008, 2009, and 2010 Budget**

1030

1031

**11. Recess**

1032

1033

1034