Call to Order - President Michele Riggs called to order at 10:16 am. Additional participants were Vice President Edward Wheeler, Past President Dan Corum, Directors David McDonald, Samantha Fleischner, Nehemias Chalma, Mary Harrington, Kate Kurtz, Justin Maltry, Tami Thomas, Jetta Antonakos, Jack Hoeck & staff Katie Bohocky. Webex attendees: Alternative Gabriella Uhlar-Heffner.
Alternate: Michelle Andrews
Excused were: Treasurer Scott Deatherage, Directors Kyle Bair, Andrew Bary and Sam Schaefer-Joel.

CONSENT AGENDA:
April 20, 2017 Board meeting minutes were accepted with changes.
May 31, 2017 Financial reports were accepted without changes.

Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Anti-Trust policy - Michele read to attendees.

Trace Organic Contaminants in Biosolids Presentation – Kate gave a presentation on understanding the risk of biosolids. Kate explained a risk assessment was conducted to estimate the risk to human health by examining how harmful a chemical is (toxicity) and the amount of contact with that chemical (exposure). Her research found it would take many lifetimes of working or playing around biosolids or compost made with biosolids to equal everyday exposure to many common products. The difficulty came when trying to translate this to the general public. Kate reviewed a brochure created to help explain and translate the minimal risk to the public when using biosolids or compost.

REPORTS:
Financial Report - Katie reviewed total assets of $81,538.82.

Membership – Review of paid vs. unpaid 2017 members to date. Board members will reach out to unpaid members to renew their membership dues:
Jack - Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  Mary - WiSerg Corp
Michele - SPECTRA Laboratories  Samantha - Northwest Fish By Products
Ed - Snohomish County Solid Waste

Membership Drive - Justin and Ed created a membership drive letter and emailed 50+ prospective members for recruitment. Justin would like to make a single sheet .pdf of the information on the tri-fold brochure for bulletin board posting at these prospective member facilities. Prospective member lists are on the Google drive, and Board members are encouraged to contact prospective members and send the membership drive letter. Next, Justin and Ed will tailor the letter and target compost facilities. Board would like to create a Listserv to promote upcoming WORC events.

Oregon Update – Jack updated the Board with the Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) initiatives is to increase the amount of food recovered and recover more organics out of the waste stream. Discussion of why Oregon should be involved with WORC. Information, education, training, newsletters, legislative reports, etc. among the benefits of membership. WORC would like to grow our membership to surrounding states, Alaska and BC to become a Pacific Northwest advocate instead of just Washington State.
Marketing/Recruiting Material – David, Michele, Kate and Mary will work on the Soils for Salmon banner. Information & pictures to Katie to send to TRS to create a proof. Justin encouraged everyone to upload their pictures to the Google drive.

Outreach & Communication – Justin will follow up with Sam to Chair the committee.

Joint WSRA/WORC WRED event - September 28th on “Follow the Food”. Educational event in the morning regarding the full circle of food. Followed by a tour of Lenz in the afternoon. Working on speakers and content. Information and registration should be out in July.

Northwest Biosolids Management Association & Coast Waste Management Association – no updates.

Coast Waste Management Association – no updates.

Upcoming Events – discussion of WORC having a booth at any upcoming events. Katie creating a “booth box” for items to display and give away at the booth. Board would like to give away a free WORC membership to a new member when hosting a booth. Food waste reduction workshops possible events for WORC to have a booth. Mary will send dates and locations of the workshops.

Areas of expertise – Board members signed up under each category that is within their expertise to field calls on specific matters.

Tilth Alliance Conference – Conference committee will work on the 2018 possible locations and coordinating with the Tilth Alliance Conference and booth opportunities.

Event Committee Reports:

ROT Event – August 22nd classes at Tagro in Tacoma. Discussion of topic and agenda. 5 registrants so far. 2 classes will be held in Eastern Washington in March 2018. CEU’s will be offered.

CFOT Event – October 23-27, 2017 at WSU in Puyallup. Change to the contract with AMI to include CFOT work instead of time at the ROT event. Michelle reported the regulatory panel is on board. Draft agenda, finalizing and confirming speakers and field trips (JBLM, Silver Springs & LRI Compost Factory). Board would like to discuss establishing a scholarship program for the following year.

Annual Conference – Jetta reviewed the timeline of the day, possible speakers and possible tour of Lynden. Location will be at the Semiahmoo Resort. Conference committee and Katie will work on costs, opening registration for attendees, sponsorships and tables and sending out and email flash and posting on the website.

Soils for Salmon: David discussed incorporated stormwater research into all LID training modules and programs. Need to have a volunteer to help take over the 2 Soils for Salmon websites when David steps off in 2 years. Michele discussed getting a grant or co-writing a grant to fund an initiative to educate about implementing bioretention in new and rebuild construction. Board would like a voice of reason regarding use of organic compost and its effects on stormwater. Someone that understands soil systems, fish biology and aquatic biology Ecology funded projects going away from organic recycled compost. Discussion of working with AMI for grant management, or partnering with a group or conservation district that has the grant funding and management. Committee will be David, Michele, Tami and Samantha for Soils for Salmon.

Legislative: 2017 Legislature may have a third special session. Senate Bill 5431 and House Bill 1590 “Concerning the Protection of Composting from Nuisance Lawsuits” were by resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status during the second special session. Kate suggested who to contact for scientific papers on the bioaerosols topic. Gabriella will contact Jay to find out if these Bills will move forward and if WORC should send another letter of support or testify.

USCC compostable plastics taskforce working on updating the draft model of legislation. Michele has asked that Brenda Platt and Laurie Loder join a conference call with Sego to talk to us about issues, or anything to learn to help push the issue. WORC will need to discuss any changes needed from the State of Maryland House Bill 1349.
Ecology WAC 173-350-173 Rule revision – The new draft Section 995 on “Impacted Soils and Sediments” from the Second Preliminary Draft may be removed from the rule update. No rule changes are anticipated that would impact composting facilities. Possibly pushed back to 2018.

**New Updates:**
Compostable fruit and vegetable stickers – backing by the city of Seattle to have compostable stickers or an imprint on all fruits and vegetables. Working on developing a compostable sticker and adhesive. WORC would like to re-enacting the WORC group on this issue.
Avian flu workshop is Monday, June 19th.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:47 pm.

**Action Items:**
1. Each Board member to gain 2 new members
2. Each Board member update Google Doc’s for accurate information
3. Justin to contact Sam to Chair Outreach & Communications committee
4. Kate, David, Mary & Michele to work on an additional banner for WORC and one for Soils for Salmon
5. Communications committee to create a community partnership agreement on behalf of WORC
6. Costs for Annual Conference attendees, sponsors & vendors to Katie to start the online registration and email flash.