

by Carrol McCracken

1. **Welcome and Call to Order:** Meeting was called to Order at 9:05 a.m., PST by IGC Vice President, Sharon Slauenwhite, presiding. Agenda, and discussion documents have been emailed out along with link for the call.
2. **Roll Call:** There was a roll call /introduction of all members on the conference call. They included:
 - Region 1 Representative Yoli Matranga was proxy for Ray Mehler Region 1 Secretary/Treasurer
 - Region 2 Representative Kim Hiebert, International Director 2 year, Chapter 36
 - Region 3 Representative Carrol McCracken, Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer
 - Region 4, Ross Greene, President Chapter 52
 - Region 5 Representative Pat Petitto, Past Int. Pres. & Advisory Council and Beth Smith
 - Region 6 Representative Matt Harris, Region 6 Secretary/Treasurer
 - Region 7 Representative David Whitlock, Chapter 45, PDC Chair
 - Region 8 Representative James Hardy, Region 8 Vice Chair
 - Region 9 Representative, Lee Hamre, Past Int. Pres. & Advisory Council
 - Region 10 Representative, Jenna Wood, Region 10 Chair

International Executive Committee:

Sharon Slauenwhite, Vice President, IEC Liaison/Chair
Mark Rieck, CEO
James Olschewski, Secretary

3. **Agenda**
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Carrol McCracken reported the March 27, 2019 minutes were emailed out and there were no corrections from members on the call. There was a motion by Lee to approve the minutes and a second by Matt. Motion carried
5. **Communications/Feedback from Regions:**

Feedback from any of the regions about the GTF project:

R1- Yoli. Their spring forum was in Reno and Ray did a presentation on the status. On the question whether we should be governing the association or governing the profession. They felt the word governing was the wrong word. Ray is on updating everyone on history on the project.

R2 -Kim. They had a joint forum with Region 9 last week and Lee and Kim did a presentation. They will coordinate an email survey with Chapter leaders. They may also have some leadership calls. They are planning a fall breakout session. Lee added they will also be doing an email with the questions as they didn't have enough time for input during their joint forum.

R3 – Carrol. Their forum will be starting April 29, so he can report afterwards.

R4 – Ross. They had their forum last weekend and he reported our progress. They had “crickets” for responses. Jeff Jones and Ana Rausch were there. Some people voiced thoughts after the meeting with some thinking the GTF will “blow up the system” and others think the GTF won’t do anything to change the current system.

R5 – Pat. Their forum will be this upcoming weekend. Their Region Chair, Beth will present at the forum as Pat cannot attend. Their Vice Chair has promised to take good notes.

R6-Matt. As he reported before, they had their form on March 16. He had sent the information to their Chapter and Region leadership and had discussions. Their question right now is if the Governance Task Force will make recommendations? His answer was yes.

R7 – David. As previously reported, their forum was on March 8, and they had a lively discussion. There was good feedback and agreed we will provide a recommendation for action but won’t be rushed.

R8 -James. Their forum will be this weekend. No feedback since our last call.

R9 – Lee. See report for R2.

R10 – Jenna. Their forum was April 13 and was well attended. They discussed project perception is heading backwards because they were on board with how governance project was going. They feel well informed. She shared that not all of the task force was involved before or as well informed.

Lee: There is some frustration and a lack of confidence in how the process moved forward because there appeared to be a goal in place prior to collection of information, but it has morphed in an unexpected direction. We need to move forward with a plan or look at other ideas.

Sharon: The mandate from the Edmonton was to stop the process, gather information, review information and her feeling is we are to do two things: Report on process and provide recommendation going forward. She doesn’t believe one singular model will be presented, but it will have to be more inclusive, improve communications, and what needs to be fixed to do it.

Ray: Concurred with Sharon’s assessment.

Pat: Will we go over the models brought forward along with other models?

Sharon: We may have some solutions from models as there are some common elements that were positively received which will make things better. Right now, the committees don’t have a voice and International Chapters don’t have a voice on a region level.

- In response to Lee: We went into a process without trying to steer towards one model. Piece Lee has seen is cut in directors, and no change mode.
- Lee mentioned how a large number of directors were cut in the models which was a concern. As a past IEC member, she understands that it can be frustrating to feel like good ideas have been thwarted because of too many members, but she does not think that the answer is to greatly reduce the number of Directors just to enable ideas to be pushed through more easily.
- Sharon mentioned in director meetings, they found many people to be sworn in (approximately 20%) were proxies who weren’t up to speed on the issues to be

discussed and voted on.

Jenna: Feels the breakdown was in how models were presented in Edmonton. There wasn't an intent to pick one of the models. Status quo was also an option, but it wasn't conveyed there in writing. After the model presentation a lot of people were upset and didn't hear that verbally people had said our existing model was an option.

Lee and Pat: They don't recall ever hearing that keeping our existing model was an option.

Yoli: Asked if a white paper had been developed by Task Force? She feels that moving forward will be a better use of time.

Sharon and Mark: We are almost there.

Mark: We need to remember a strategic plan was developed. Questions on the forum presentation document to members are critical to the organization. We should have training for 200 plus directors.

Matt: Hearing people were given a product without any idea on where it came from. Can we do a demonstration at the Annual Conference of what the task force has done and get more feedback?

Sharon: Could we give a short update on the GTF at the Annual Conference Leadership Session? Mark said this could be done.

6. IRWA Remodeling Discussion (Report from the June 27, 2018, Session):

Sharon mentioned this document came from round table discussions held in Edmonton. The list of advantages and disadvantages (pros and cons) were transcribed from handwriting in that session. In some cases, items on the list had numbers behind them which indicated they heard comments multiple times. The list was uploaded last October on the International Directors Member Network site.

The process was stopped except for the member survey because of the strong response at Edmonton. Survey results will be the topic of next month's discussion. There were only 39 or 40 responses, so it is a small group sampling. This was the last piece compiled by Tecker. If the models would have been positively received, it would have moved ahead over the next year for discussions with the IGC and Regions on how to implementation one of the new models and then to Portland for a vote.

Thoughts on the model presentations document?

- Aimee and Sharon had some emails talking about how are we coming along with forming and presenting recommendations to the IGC?
- Sharon: Can we set a goal for to provide IGC a recommendation for their meeting in September? Depending on how possible this is, a new mandate from the IGC could be given to this or another group. Next month we should finish our historical document review. In May, can we set up a subcommittee for forum feedback and have that feedback available for our June meeting. At that June meeting, we may be able to break down recommendations into 5 or 6 topics or categories such as bylaws, communications, org chart, future needs, etc. That will give us

July or August to get more feedback.

- Matt: Yes
- Lee: Region 2 and 9 feedback will come after May, because Region 2 is a large part of membership.
- Sharon: With the information we have gathered and shared, it shouldn't be a surprise to Regions as they have been a part of this and have gotten the information.
- James: A goal is good, and a deadline is good. He will volunteer for subcommittee since he cannot attend the Annual Conference.
- James Olschewski asked if we should have a motion for Aimee/the IEC?
- Sharon: Not sure at this point.
 - a. In July there will be an IEC meeting. It will be on the agenda. We need to ensure we are not pushing a choice but are keeping people informed and looking at options. At the September IGC meeting we may have a recommendation on how this will take shape.
 - b. Shows we are still committed. Done 18 months of review to date, which has been important and necessary.
 - c. As mentioned before, there may be some subheadings for recommendations: Bylaws, strategic planning, etc.

7. **Other Items:** Sharon mentioned the June GTF meeting in Portland will possibly be sometime Monday or Tuesday. Someone will send out a Doodle Poll with a few slots. It is important for us to meet in person.

Mark said he has some information he will pass along for some governance changes done by the American Society of Farm Managers. He had shared this with the IEC, but no one else. He will pass this information along to us. It doesn't mean we have to do what they did, but it is good information.

Sharon asked if there was anyone else who should be invited to participate in our next call. No one was suggested.

Yoli asked if the leadership training session at the conference is mandatory and if invitations will be sent to new chapter leadership? She has seen a lot of International Directors not attend last year. Mark said it isn't mandatory, but invitations will be sent, and it is already mentioned in last month's Leader's Edge. Sharon added it doesn't hurt for experienced leaders to also attend.

8. **Next Meeting:** Survey results post Edmonton Conference of Current Governance Model Pros and Cons.

Next meeting is May 22, 2019, 9:00 a.m. PST

Email Sharon with any questions or items for the agenda.

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting concluded at 10:10 a.m., PST