

MAGRUDER COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, February 17, 2003, Sacramento, CA

Alan Hanks, substituting for Ed Huber, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a. m. Seventeen were in attendance, including 8 committee members. Minutes were approved from the August 7, 2002, Kansas City meeting. Joel Padmore moved to accept with a second from Alan Hanks.

Joel Padmore gave the Treasurer's report on the financial condition of the Magruder program. Total income from July 1, 2002 to February 14, 2003 was \$7,269.57. Expenses were \$14,018.26. Net income was (-6,748.69). The balance for Magruder is \$30,897.02. Labs are now able to pay by credit cards. Payments will go to AAPFCO and then a check will be written to Magruder. Magruder has around 120 labs. This is down from 160.

The nominating committee recommended having Mike Hojjattie and Kerry Cooner stay on the committee. Mel Bryant will replace Ken Armock. Nancy Stouffer will be contacted to see if she would like to stay on the committee. All the officers will continue. Joel Padmore made a motion to accept the committee's recommendations with Harold Falls giving a second. The motion passed.

Samples were chosen for 2003-2004.

A questionnaire regarding fertilizer reference material was sent out several months ago. The response was that most labs would want a reference material and that they would supply the materials and help with the analysis.

Magruder Lab results are now on the Web in a PDF format. A discussion followed regarding putting the sample schedule and minutes on the web. The current year sample results plus one past year results will be on the Web Site. A \$10 discount may be given if labs want to download the sample results instead of having a hard copy mailed to them. This will be decided at the next meeting.

During a discussion about methods of statistical evaluation, George Latimer gave an explanation of using the median instead of the average. He said that the median method was a valid method and that it could replace the average method. Harold Falls said that in his opinion the median method is a better method for Magruder than the Magruder average from all the material that he has seen. The median method allows application of statistical evaluation to small numbers of results, as when only a few laboratories use a certain method. His proposed Excel spreadsheet program uses the median instead of the average. The Excel program will be reviewed with new data. Data can be received electronically with the new Excel program. He says we may need to go to electronic reporting to save time. Harold is sending out some copies of his proposed Magruder Excel program to be reviewed. The Magruder Committee needs a copy of the current Magruder program in case something happens to Bob Coelho.

On new business, Harold Falls said that on one check sample, 2002-12, for Iron, his lab could get results from .6% Fe to 3.7 % Fe depending on the digestion used. Iron can be difficult to get into solution. This needs to be studied.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a. m.