OSTA MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 6, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 9:10. Members present: Ava Wilhelm, Joyce Cheatham, Annette Huett, Deborah Hill, Tim Laubach, Tamara Lookabaugh, Mark Rausch and newly appointed treasurer, Tina Fugate.

Budget Report: The finance committee met on Wednesday, September 3rd, and came up with a framework for the budget. Right now our balance is $12, 133.42. We looked over the proposed budget and discussed items line by line. We added $300 to the brochure line. Bank charges were discussed, specifically charges for members paying with credit cards. $30 registration fee ends up being $24.99 when paid with a credit card. Finding a new bank was discussed and Tina F said she would look around in Stillwater. Our liability insurance carrier is Mercer and the annual fee is $422. There is a line for a CPA. We need one to help with filing paperwork to make us a legitimate non-profit. Our website expense is $3800. Updating the look and ease of use on the website was discussed. The finance committee had discussed getting sponsors on our website to help offset the cost. Tina F asked how we reach out to teachers. Pros and cons of all the things we do were discussed. How could we do an email blast to the science teachers, new and old, across the state? Is this where we should be spending more time and money? OK School of Science and Math was brought up because they reach out to all high schools across the state. Tina F suggested that we reach out to Dr. Wang and get his mailing and/or email list. Debbie suggested contacting NSTA, NABT, AAPT, ASC to do the same. Joyce suggested we add advertising for OSTA as a line on the budget. Tamara remarked that we really need a cool poster that had OSTA on the bottom. This sparked a long conversation! Tim suggested getting a corporate sponsor to underwrite the cost of the posters. Maybe Boeing? Annette said Norman Career Tech would design it and print it for free if they could put their logo on it. What should be on it? OASS, OCTM, STEM, Career Tech Engineering practices? Catchy, fun picture??? Theme?? What about “Are You Ready?” That suggestion came from Tim. 8 engineering practices was suggested by Annette. Maybe connect those to math? Maybe connect it all to Bloom’s Taxonomy? So we need to know who our audience for the poster will be. All agreed the audience is students in the classroom. So we need a poster that teachers will actually use. “DOING Science” was also suggested as a theme. Then Tim started drawing on the board to illustrate how the poster should NOT show a hierarchy of any skills. It should relate how all the skills are interrelated and of equal value. Tina F suggested the main picture should be a picture of a JOB so that we show how science at school and industry/jobs are connected. Someone suggested that offer a prize to the career tech student with the best poster design. All of that led to this: We should put $1000 on the advertising line of the budget.

Awards Reception Report from the President Elect: Bethany sent Joyce the menu for the 31st. It sounds delicious! It will be more of a real meal served buffet style. Bethany has a friend who will be doing our centerpieces.

Random conference conversation: Deborah and Tamara suggested coercing/ prodding teachers in their buildings to present. Deborah encouraged board members to check out the Climate Workshop at Lake Texoma. Cost is $25. It will be September 26-28. You go to OklaScience.org to sign up. Science Matters has $$ for professional development. Joyce has asked a friend at NSTA to find out how much, or even IF, those funds can be used for conference.

Old Business:

Journal: We are on track to roll out at the conference. We will have 6, maybe 7 articles. Tim will make an announcement about OJSS at the conference before the key note.

More on awards reception: We will ALL have to help set up and take down. We need to be there by 5:00. Awardees will need to be decided BY next meeting to give them time to make arrangements to attend. We should be able to nominate via Base Camp. NEWS: Our very own Becky Hammack is a Presidential Award nominee!!!! The state teacher of the year finalists who are science teachers will be invited. Deborah will be inviting all awardees and she read what she had written thus far on the invitation to us all. Travis will be in charge of plaques and trophies. Joyce had written the schedule for both the conference and the reception and everyone’s assignments so far.

Tim has arranged for Gregg Garn from the OU College of Education to sponsor our conference breakfast, $200. Tamara volunteered to join the awards committee with Suzanne and Deborah.

Do we want goodie bags? If so, we need sponsors. So right now it is NO on the goodie bags.

Deborah volunteered to get apples and bananas for breakfast.

Poster Session: Since last meeting Tim has sent an email out to all sci-ed educators, so hopefully, we will have a good session.

Theme for next silent auction basket? SCIENCE! We still need items for the Thunder, Bedlam, and Curl Up with a Good Book baskets. Bring them next time. It will be our last meeting before the conference!!!

Deborah and Joyce compiled a list of who else to invite: sponsors, education leaders (Bareesi), etc. Deborah will also get a PD certificate for conference made up for our next meeting. Joyce made a heartfelt appeal for silent auction items. Meeting adjourned at 11:25.

Next meeting is October 11.