**2016 WERA-103 Committee Meeting Agenda**

**DRAFT**

**USDA/ARS Agriculture Systems Unit**

**2150 Centre Avenue**

**Fort Collins, CO**

**April 11, 2016, 12 – 5 pm**

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 1:30 Opening remarks and introductions; officer succession (Joan Davenport, Chair)

Action item: 2016-17 Executive Committee

Jim Walworth - Chair

Troy Bauder - Vice Chair

Nominate/elect secretary for 2016-17 (begins at the close of this April 2016 meeting

1:30 - 2:00 Report from WERA-103 Advisor; Question and Answer (Rich Koenig)

2:00 - 3:00 WERA 103 Member Reports (Group) – keep them brief (~10 minutes each). Provide a powerpoint slide if you’d like to. Highlight multi-state activities

3:00 - 3:15 Break

3:15 - 4:30 WERA 103 Member Reports (Group, continued).

4:30 - 5:00 CSA news ; WERA-103 Contribution Report (Galen Mooso)

CSA NEWS Audience: 15,000 certified professionals. Article length: 800 words or less; Images: .jpg or .tif format, high resolution (at least 300 dpi); size = at least 3.5" wide. Images can not be in Word and no copies from a web site. Deadlines: it is a quarterly, printing in March, June, September and December, the copy is due to ASA on the 15th of the prior month so deadlines for copy are Feb 15; May 15; Aug 15; Nov 15.

* Review 2015/2016 CSA news contributions.
* **Action item:** 2016/2017commitments from WERA members.

**April 12, 2016, 8 am – 5 pm**

8:00-8:30 Breakfast/Beverages

8:30-10:30 Planning for 2017 Western Nutrient Management Conference

* + Select chair for 2017 Meeting
  + Review of 2015 Meeting
  + Location
  + Symposia
  + Speakers
  + Posters

10:30 - 10:45 Break

10:45 - 11:30 Complete Planning for 2017 Western Nutrient Management Conference

11:30 - 12:30 Other Agenda Items

* + - Methods Manual - status of updates and how to acquire

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch

1:30-3:00 Breakout Session to review past tasks and identify specific tasks / projects that address WERA-103 Project Objectives / Procedures.

1. Develop and/or improve nutrient recommendations for diverse cropping systems based on soil, water and plant analysis results and management strategies in the Western Region.
   1. Procedures for Objective 1:
      1. Provide nutrient correlation and calibration data for crops in the region.
      2. Work toward uniformity of nutrient use recommendations for similar crop production systems in the region.
      3. Evaluate and apply new nutrient analytical and interpretive methodologies.
      4. Evaluate the efficacy of new fertilizers and formulations.
2. Promote effective use of soil, water, plant, manure, and compost analytical information.
   1. Procedures for Objective 1:
      1. Integrate analytical test results into nutrient management software
      2. Maintain and update the Western States Soil etc Testing Manual
      3. Review status of soil/plant/water analysis Extension guides and summarize interpretive guidance
      4. Explore method for internet distribution of methods manual, analytical interpretation guides etc. Website would be for clientele outreach.
3. Provide education on the principles of soil-plant-animal-water system management and the tools and practices that lead to sustainable agricultural production.
   1. Procedures for Objective 3
      1. Facilitate regional education among government agencies, private industry and universities through conferences, websites, extension publications, newsletters, and other appropriate media.
      2. Disseminate information within the Western Region to extension educators, private agencies (e.g., Certified Crop Advisors) and other interested parties (e.g., K-12 teachers) through conferences, training the trainer opportunities, and access to published interpretive materials.
      3. Conduct direct education to agricultural producers through conferences, grower meetings, and published interpretive materials.

3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-3:45 Reports from each of the 3 groups summarizing their discussion

3:45-5:00 Finish up WNMC Planning

* + Symposia
  + Speakers
  + Posters

5:00 Adjourn

**April 13, 8 am - 5 pm: Agricultural Tour in the Fort Collins area, including CSU research Farm, Ethanol plant, greenhouse tomato operation, New Belgium Brewery, compost operation, and an industrial hemp facility. Hosts Troy Bauder and Bob Miller.**