**Florida Entomological Society
Executive Board Meeting**

**AMCD, 120 EOC Drive, St. Augustine, FL 32092**

**Call to Order** - President Rui-De Xue called the meeting to order at 10:30 am, March 27, 2017.

**Attendance:** Rui-De Xue, Catharine Mannion (via phone), Heather McAuslane, Philip A. Stansly, John Capinera (via phone), Teresa DuChene (via phone), Blair Siegfried, Scott Ferguson (via phone), Hugh Smith (via phone), Kirsten Pelz-Stelinski (via phone), Muhammed Z. Ahmed and Vivek Kumar

Heather made a motion to approve last executive committee meeting minutes (Sep 28 2016); seconded by Phil. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Annual Meeting**

FES annual meeting arrangement report was provided by Phil. Phil and Teresa visited the meeting site (Verdanza Hotel, Isla Verde, San Juan) in Puerto Rico and discussed the possibility of a joint annual meeting with Caribbean Food Crops Society. Based on the meeting with committee members, a preliminary program has been straightened-out, and FES website has been updated with the details about the upcoming annual meeting. Abstract submission form has been uploaded, addressed to either Phil or Catharine Mannion. Deadline for symposium/workshop will be extended to April 30, and the new abstract submission due date will be May 15.

Based on low participation expected at the meeting, it was decided to reserve 40 rooms at the Verdanza hotel.

Scientific technical sessions will be on Monday through Wednesday, and on Thursday an optional field tour will be arranged. An additional field tour can be arranged on Friday but, that should be done using CFCS website.

Dr. Victor Villalobos will be the Keynote speaker, and Dr. Robert Vander Meer will give Pioneer lecture honoring Dr. William Buren and his work on fire ants. FES poster session will be jointly held with CFCS poster presentation sessions.

**Committee Reports**

i) Business manager activity report was provided by Teresa DuChene.

Rudy made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Phil. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

ii) Financial auditing and fiscal committee report was provided by Scott Ferguson.

Heather made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Rudy. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

iii) Publication Committee update was provided by John Capinera. This is the 100th year of the Florida Entomologist publication, so a note has been added in the first issue about the history of the journal. There are still some issues with the manuscript management system because of which some of the editors prefer handling paper via email submission. We had a considerable backlog at the end of the Waldy’s tenure, but now we are again on track and moving forward at a smooth pace. We have become more selective about the quality of papers being submitted. To reduce the additional workload on the editor/copy-editor for language editing, the poor quality manuscript is being rejected or returned to authors for resubmission after professional help. We have not seen any impact of an increase in publication charges on the submission numbers. We need to fill vacant Co-editor positions to reduce the workload on existing editors.

Phil proposed a motion to appoint John as the editor-in-chief of Florida Entomologist; seconded by Rudy. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Rudy made a motion to provide $5000/year as a stipend to the editor-in-chief of Florida Entomologist; seconded by Phil. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Heather proposed a motion to provide the editor-in-chief with travel benefits (waived registration + accommodation charges) to attend FES annual meeting; seconded by Blair. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

iv) Publication relation committee report was provided by Blair and Zaheer. We have >500 members on FES Facebook page and 25 followers of FES Twitter account.

v) Industry committee report was provided by Scott Ferguson.

Nomination committee has to decide candidates for FES Vice-President and member at large. Dr. Ken Linthicum from USDA/CMAVE, Gainesville and Dr. Nancy Epsky from USDA/SHRS, Miami were nominated for VP candidates, Blair Siegfried was nominated for member at large candidate, Chris Bibbs and Cathy Park from UF were nominated for student candidates.

To adjourn the meeting motion moved by Heather; seconded by Blair. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Adjourn 11:52 am

Submitted by: Vivek Kumar, Secretary.