



# NAPA

## Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas

### Minutes of NAPA Executive Committee Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> EC Meeting held on

**Sunday, June 5, 2022; 7:30 - 9:30 PM CST**

#### Executive Committee

##### President

Dr. Pradeep Wagle

##### Vice President

Dr. Ramjee P. Ghimire

##### General Secretary

Dr. Nityananda Khanal

##### Joint Secretary

Dr. Sushil Thapa

##### Treasurer

Dr. Bishwo Adhikari

##### Members

Dr. Buddhi Gyawali

Dr. Dev Paudel

Mr. Dol P. Dhakal

Dr. Kripa Dhakal

Dr. Pramod Pokhrel

Dr. Uma Karki

Dr. Megha N.

Parajulee, Immediate

Past President

#### Attendance

Attendance	
<b>Attendees</b>	Pradeep Wagle, Ramjee Ghimire, Nityananda Khanal, Sushil Thapa, Bishwo Adhikari, Buddhi Gyawali, Dol P. Dhakal, Dev Paudel, Kripa Dhakal, Pramod Pokhrel, Uma Karki, Megha N. Parajulee,
<b>Informed in absentia</b>	-
<b>Uninformed in absentia</b>	-
<b>Invitee</b>	-

1. General Secretary Dr. Nityananda Khanal conducted the meeting with the **review of the agenda** among attendees.
2. **Introduction among newly elected Executive Committee members:** Each member introduced themselves.
3. **Oath administration:** President Dr. Pradeep Wagle administered the Oath to newly elected Executive Committee Members Drs. Buddhi Gyawali and Sushil Thapa, who were not present (in-person or virtually) at the induction event during the Annual General Meeting on May 29, 2022.
4. **Welcome and vote of thanks:** President Dr. Wagle welcomed the attendees and extended vote of thanks to the Outgoing Executive Committee, Conference Organizing Committee, and specialized committees for their contributions.  
  
Dr. Wagle moved a motion “the new Executive Committee (EC) extends sincere thanks to the Outgoing Executive Committee, Conference Organizing Committee, and specialized committees for their contributions.”  
  
Dr. Buddhi Gyawali seconded the Motion.  
  
All agreed – Motion carried.
5. **Reflections and guidance from Past President:** Immediate Past President Dr. Megha N. Parajulee congratulated the newly elected EC members; acknowledged his non-voting role as Immediate Past President; solemnly promised that he would not interfere but provide

guidance and feedback to the new Committee; thanked to Drs. Wagle and Ghimire for their highly committed 24/7 services to NAPA under his leadership in the past EC term. He expressed his confidence of success of the new EC for being represented by nearly half of experienced past EC members and promising new members in the team. He highlighted that various panel discussions in the 3<sup>rd</sup> NAPA International Conference held on May 27-29, 2022, provided insightful recommendations to NAPA, exemplifying plenty of opportunities to expand NAPA activities. He challenged the new EC to make this term as a turning point for NAPA. He admired the performance of the leadership of Webinars and Agri-Connection Committees in the past and urged to continue with that spirit and commitments; admitted that the Global Journal of Agriculture and Allied Sciences (GJAAS) could not be published up to his expectation in terms of frequency of publication; promised to work hard for more frequent high quality publications, and hand the baton over to the new executive editor in the future. Dr. Parajulee admired the effort of Dr. Dev Paudel for the upkeep of the Associations' website and IT needs and expects to have a new flavor in showcasing information on the website with Dr. Paudel's leadership, and input from all of us. Finally, he advised to review, re-structure, reconstitute or change the portfolios of the specialized committees for impactful programs.

- 6. Revisiting specialized committees and programs of NAPA:** President Dr. Wagle moved Motion for the following lead roles assignments of Executive Committee members to specialized committees, which were seconded by the following EC members:

**Chair, Resource and Capacity Building Committee:** Dr. Pramod Pokhrel; Motion seconded by Mr. Dol P. Dhakal.

**Chair, Information Technology Committee:** Dr. Dev Paudel; Motion seconded by Dr. Buddhi Gyawali.

**Chair, Membership Committee:** Dr. Ramjee P. Ghimire; Motion seconded by Dr. Uma Karki.

**Chair, Collaboration and Extramural Grants:** Dr. Buddhi Gyawali; Motion seconded by Dr. Uma Karki.

**Chair, Rewards and Recognitions:** Dr. Uma Karki; Motion seconded by Mr. Dol P. Dhakal.

**Chair, Women in Agriculture and Allied Professions:** Dr. Kripa Dhakal; Motion seconded by Dr. Dev Paudel

**Chair, Socio-cultural Committee:** Mr. Dol P. Dhakal; Motion seconded by Dr. Ramjee P. Ghimire. Dr. Bishwo Adhikari proposed to incorporate wellness component in such a committee.

**Editor-in-Chief, Agri-Connection Newsletter Editorial Board:** Dr. Sushil Thapa; Motion seconded by Dr. Nityananda Khanal.

All the above Motions were supported by EC members unanimously and the Motions were carried.

The EC delegated the President, Vice President, and General Secretary to identify prospective Chairs for the Webinars Committee and Student Coordination Committee. The EC members also proposed to share ideas about the naming the specialized committees, defining their roles and prioritizing the activities through Google Docs, emails, or special brainstorming EC meeting. The proposals will be shared in Google docs for the inputs by individual EC members.

Dr. Uma Karki proposed that EC decides the theme and scope of the Webinars and develops thereof a policy document to be published. Dr. Wagle affirmed that the Webinars will be conceptualized with those perspectives, and the Chair and/or Webinar Committee should be involved in charting the theme, scope, and White Paper development.

**7. Formation of rosters for subject matter roundtables:** President Dr. Wagle and Vice President Dr. Ghimire briefed on the purpose of facilitating subject matter roundtables to facilitate connection, networking and collaboration among the experts and students in the related fields. The RCBC will facilitate the formation of the roundtables through the self-enrollment by the NAPA members in the following broadly categorized disciplines, which can be updated or reformed as need arises:

1. Crop and Soil science, Horticulture, Organic Agriculture
2. Veterinary, Animal Science, Poultry, and Aquaculture
3. Economics, Statistics, Agricultural Extension, and Social Sciences
4. Entomology, Plant Pathology, and Plant Protection
5. Plant Breeding, Genetics, Biotechnology, and Molecular Biology
6. Forestry, Agroforestry, Natural Resources, Hydrology
7. Biosystems, Ag. Engineering, Food Science/Technology
8. Climate Change, Ag. Ecosystems, Ecology, GIS & Remote Sensing

Dr. Buddhi Gyawali highlighted the importance of having resource directory of the NAPA. In his meeting with colleagues and stakeholders in Nepal, they requested to have access to the resource directory of NAPA for relevant contacts and collaborations.

NAPA is working on it and plans to release soon (within a couple of months).

**8. ListServ update:** Dr. Dev Paudel shared the following ListServ updates:

**New email addresses to use (GMAIL):** [napa@napaamericas.org](mailto:napa@napaamericas.org)

Google groups is created under the above email (309 members). All the following emails can send mass emails to:

NAPA Activity	NEW EMAIL
ALL NAPA official	napa@napaamericas.org
Grants/Research	research@napaamericas.org
NAPA members ListServ	napa-members@napaamericas.org
Online seminar/Events/Trainings	events@napaamericas.org
Newsletter/Agri-Connection	newsletter@napaamericas.org
Conference	conference@napaamericas.org
Student coordination committee	students@napaamericas.org
Students ListServ	napa-students@napaamericas.org

9. **Media and publicity strategy:** Vice President Dr. Ghimire introduced the agenda and highlighted the need of publicizing NAPA activities for further outreach and impact of the NAPA programs. This will be discussed in the future meetings.
10. **Conference news & publications:** President, Vice President, and General Secretary will follow up with Conference Committees to obtain the news and make use of various publication outlets.
11. **Regular EC meeting timeline:** As in the past, EC meetings will be held every two months. However, given that there are several urgent tasks on hand of the new Committee, the next couple of meetings will be held on monthly basis. The next meeting will be held on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
12. **Other agenda:** Vice President Dr. Ghimire stated the need of transfer of Treasury account and signing authority from outgoing treasure Dr. Santosh Dhakal to the new treasurer Dr. Bishwo Adhikari. This process will be facilitated by the President Dr. Wagle and Vice President Dr. Ghimire.
13. **Closing remarks and meeting adjournment:** Vice President Dr. Ramjee P. Ghimire thanked the past EC, Conference Organizing Committee and other specialized committees for their contributions, and the EC meeting attendees for their active participation and contribution to the agenda resolutions.

**Minutes prepared by:** Dr. Nityananda Khanal, General Secretary