

American Association for Geodetic Surveying

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 08 February 2018

1. Open meeting, President
 - A. The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Charles Ghilani at 16:00 hrs. EST.
 - B. Secretary Dan Roman called the roll.
 - i. Present: Charles Ghilani, President; Thomas Meyer, President-Elect; John Hamilton, Immediate Past President; Dan Gillins, Vice-President, Director (3rd year); Herb Stoughton, Director (2nd year); John Bean, Director (1st year); Dan Roman, Secretary; Elisabeth Rollins, Acting Recorder; Dan Martin, Treasurer; Steve Briggs, Parliamentarian.
 - ii. Other Attendees: Ronnie Taylor, Frank Derby, Brian Riniker, Larry Hothem.
 - iii. Absent: Dave Doyle, AAGS/NSPS Liaison, delegate to NSPS Foundation; Dave Zilkoski.
 - iv. Two directors were present as well as a quorum; the meeting was authorized.
2. Agenda
 - A. As an addition to the published AAGS BOD agenda, Ghilani suggested discussing assisting the NGS with the GPS on Bench Marks Campaign.
 - B. Acceptance of the amended AAGS BOD agenda was moved by Briggs and approved without dissent.
3. Past Minutes
 - A. Acceptance of the January 11 meeting minutes was moved by Meyer and approved unanimously.
4. Acknowledgements (Ghilani)
 - A. Thanks were given to John Hamilton for his leadership as last year's president.
 - B. Congratulations were expressed to John Bean on becoming a board member.
5. Treasurer's Report (Martin)
 - A. Only one scholarship will be awarded, because of a lack of valid applicants. Also no qualified candidate for AAGS Fellowship. The Treasurer's report will therefore be amended.
 - B. Discussion revealed that money for the Best Student Paper Award is not a line item in the budget. This prize (\$1000) had been shared with GLIS¹ annually, coming from SaLIS profits. Stoughton moved that the Best Student Paper Award be included as a line item in the AAGS

¹ GLIS is dissolving. See section 8.F. *Surveying and Land Information Science (SaLIS)* for details.

budget each year, to be returned to the treasury if it is not used for award. After discussion, the motion was passed unanimously, specifically that the line item should come from the General Fund, not from SaLIS.

6. Vacant Reporter position (Ghilani)

- A. Ghilani invited Ronnie Taylor to accept the role of Reporter for this year with duties listed below. Taylor did so accept. The board approved without dissent.
 - i. Serves as the Chair of the AAGS Communication Committee.
 - ii. Serves as AAGS' representative to the [joint AAGS and GLIS SaLIS]¹ Committee.
 - iii. Attends and participates in Board meetings

7. Communications (Ghilani/Taylor)

- A. Briggs continues to monitor activities on Civil GPS Service Interface Committee (CGSIC) reporting to Board and on AAGS social media: FB and LinkedIn.
- B. Gillins clarified that his email address is Daniel.Gillins@noaa.gov.

8. Committee reports

- A. The Chair of each committee shall contact members to see if they are still willing to serve on their committees. Any changes should be sent to Steve Briggs.
- B. Council of Fellows Committee (Briggs)
 - i. Board members are encouraged to nominate potential candidates for the AAGS Fellowship.
- C. Membership Committee (Zilkoski *in absentia*)
 - i. Chair confirmed all committee members by email.
 - ii. Committee is prepared to work on member benefits, potential benefits, AAGS in member operations, membership development, and "Talk to an Expert" program concept.
- D. Geodetic Education and Certification Committee (Stoughton)
 - i. Stoughton sent out material completed last summer, looking for responses coming in March. He also contacted the county surveyors association.
 - ii. The state of Wyoming does not accept zip archives.
 - iii. Hamilton suggested placing the file somewhere online and providing a link.
- E. Communications Committee (Meyer)
 - i. Chair confirmed committee memberships, including Curt Smith and Karen Meckel. Steve Briggs has joined the Communications Committee.
 - ii. Content ideas were developed for inclusion in the SaLIS(?) newsletter:
 - The Best Student Paper of the year

- Quick bios of interesting members or other professionals, including award winners such as Joseph F Dracup Lifetime Achievement Award winner Dave Zilkoski, or scholarship award winners
 - Profiles of academic programs in Geomatics
 - Article on user upload of GPS data on Bench Marks
 - All ideas are welcome
- iii. The newsletter was discussed as a one page product for distribution to membership, social media sites, and affiliate state societies. After discussion, a quarterly newsletter was resolved upon without dispute, with the understanding that the newsletter could become monthly in the future.
- The newsletter created by Barbara Littell could be revised for use as a template. Gillins will also send a revision of this template.
 - The newsletter is the channel to deliver a definitive list of requirements and application materials for the AAGS Scholarship and/or Fellowship.
 - AAGS Newsletter content would be material that affiliate state societies could include in their newsletters.
 - The newsletter should include activities/accomplishments from in the past several years, including a student membership category, affiliate state society and affiliate members, videos, SaLIS articles, etc.
- F. Surveying and Land Information Science (SaLIS) (Meyer/Ghilani)
- i. Three student papers were sent to Meyer for selection of Best Student Paper.
 - ii. The May issue of SaLIS is complete, ready to be sent for production in March.
 - iii. The November issue of SaLIS is dedicated to the Surveying and Geomatics Educators' Society (SaGES) 2017 Conference.
 - iv. As AAGS Reporter, Ronnie Taylor is now a member of the SaLIS Exec Committee. See section 6.
 - v. SaLIS now has agreed penetration for markets in Turkey. Currently the committee is looking at possible markets in the People's Republic of China; then the old Soviet bloc nations.
 - vi. Bean informed the BOD that GLIS is dissolving.
"Per GLIS Bylaws, any remaining finances (approximately \$5,000) should go to a foundation for scholarship. GLIS has already allocated \$20,000 as a scholarship endowment and will deposit any remaining funds into that account when all is settled. We will also pass our ownership in the Surveying and Land Information Systems (SaLIS) professional journal over to our partner, the American Association of Geodetic Surveyors." (www.g-lis.org)
- Martin discussed what AAGS needs to do to take over SaLIS independently. SaLIS will become an AAGS product, so there is a need to transfer the copyright and

update boilerplate. Martin mentioned legal hoops, through printing, online, and any other SaLIS outlets.

- Peter Borbas has been appointed to work on finalizing, and to work with Martin.
- Meyer proposed using withdrawal language from a previous transition of the same kind, which could be helpful. Bean will open the conversation with Bob Jupin.
- Meyer asked about the financial implications of the GLIS pull-out. Bean stated that GLIS will put the year's profits back into SaLIS. SaLIS costs are covered by SaLIS profits – it is self-sustaining.

G. NSPS Government Affairs (Doyle *in absentia*)

- i. The NSPS function will be reinstated next year.

H. Awards (Doyle *in absentia*)

- i. Patricia Milburn communicated with Doyle on scholarship reviewers.
- ii. Discussion revealed that the foundation does not have the contributions necessary to fund the Fellowship. Dues include a standard but optional amount (\$10) dedicated to the Fellowship Award. No action was taken.

9. New Business – Assist NGS with GPS on Bench Marks Campaign

A. Discussed AAGS assistance with NGS campaign: <https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/>

B. Discussed division of USA into areas for each board member to contact, to cover the listing of prioritized Bench Marks: <https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/prioritize.shtml>

- i. Members will be speaking from AAGS, not NGS.
- ii. Martin confirmed creatively working within his eight regional states, urging them to contact their NGS regional advisor. Reluctant to “dabble in” another advisor’s region. Ghilani removed Martin’s name from the list of states for this campaign, and adopted those states for this activity. Indicated that it is good to urge states to work with their regional NGS advisor.
- iii. Gillins remarked that no Bench Mark locations are prioritized for Hawaii. Utah is indicated twice. Instead of Utah, Gillins will check on Alaska Bench Marks.
- iv. Martin indicated that NGS has planned an online map to indicate which Bench Mark locations are targeted and which have been occupied. Data submission for each occupied Bench Mark is to be used to populate a tracking tool covered in a webinar on the campaign. See link below.
- v. Stoughton provided GPS on Bench Marks direction to Wyoming DoT and Land Surveyors, and made contact with Charles Pearson of County Surveyors

C. Ghilani provided a model email to be sent out to state leaders regarding campaign.

- i. Gillins moved that letter be passed around the board for review, as he wished to address the sentence about NGS non-support of passive control.

- ii. Bean moved that Gillins send a fresh draft to the board for rapid review this week, in view of the upcoming webinar. The Board accepted without dissent.
 - iii. A possible e-mail template was discussed for contacting state leaders:
 - To direct/mobilize parties to provide reliable GPS data at NGS-priority Bench Mark locations.
 - Private surveyors can record observed elevation data from Bench Marks, using a GPS or GNSS receiver planted for 4 or more hours.
 - Data is to be submitted to *OPUS-Shared Solutions* at <https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/OPUS/view.jsp>.
 - Data may be submitted anytime, but data to support GEOID18 must be submitted by August 2018; and additional coordination efforts often occur annually the third week of March. By August 2018, NGS would like to have data from all states.
 - It is in each state's best interest to assist the NGS in performing this task to help provide reliable data for flood plain and other orthometric applications.
 - Zilkoski recently published an article on this for GPS World, which can be viewed at <http://gpsworld.com/ngs-2018-gps-on-bms-program-in-support-of-napgd2022-part-5/>. This article explains NGS 2018 GPS on BMs program, and their priority list of stations.
 - iv. Stoughton encouraged AAGS to spread webinar to field contacts for registration: https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/web/science_edu/webinar_series/Webinars.shtml
 - v. Martin indicated that the majority of comments entertained by NGS come in the form of official responses, through official channels.
 - vi. Questions and Answers from 2017: <https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/GPSonBM2016WebinarQA.pdf>
 - vii. Michael Dennis, NGS, will be giving a webinar Thursday, March 8, 2018, at 2pm Eastern, on *"The State Plane Coordinate System: History, Policy and Future Directions"* *A new version (SPCS2022) will replace SPCS 83 as part of the transition to the Terrestrial Reference Frames of 2022. This webinar gives a historical overview and explores changes being considered for building the SPCS of the future.*
10. The next meeting of the AAGS BOD is scheduled for Thursday, March 8th, 2018, @ 4:00 PM EST.
- Suggested Future Board meetings for 2018 are shown below. If a sufficient number of board members express conflict with a specific date, the meeting will be rescheduled.*

March 8 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
April 12 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
May 10 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
June 14 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
July 12 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
August 9 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
September 13 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
October 11 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
November 8 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time
December 13 @ 4:00 PM Eastern Time

11. Stoughton read: "For the Good of the Order, the AAGS Board gives the President and Treasurer the authority to carry out the day-to-day activities of the AAGS until the next Board Meeting."
This motion was unanimously approved.
 12. Ghilani adjourned the meeting at 17:07 hrs. EST.
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Respectfully submitted,

Elisabeth Rollins

Acting Recorder

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Date: 26 February 2017

Compiler: Elisabeth Rollins