

# American Association for Geodetic Surveying

## Board of Directors

### Monthly Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

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1. CALL TO ORDER (President) (3:00pm Central, 4:00pm Eastern)
2. ROLL CALL (Tony Cavell)
  - 2.1. Present:
    - President: Tony Cavell
    - Secretary: Dan Roman
    - Treasurer: Dan Martin
    - Reporter (Communications, Geodetic Cert, UESI): Thomas Meyer
    - President-Elect (ASPRS Liaison): Bob Burtch
    - Immediate Past President: Dave Zilkoski
    - Director (2nd year): Scott Martin
    - Director (1st year): Kevin Ahlgren
    - NSPS Liaison (non-voting): Jacob Heck
    - COGO Liaison (non-voting): Jay Doody
    - Guests (non-voting): Tim Burch, Earl Burkholder, Craig Rollins
  - 2.2. Absent:
    - Director (3rd year)/Vice-President: Eugene Levin
    - SaLIS Editor (non-voting): Ahmed Elaksher
  - 2.3. At least two directors were present as well as a quorum; therefore, the meeting was authorized.
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  - 3.1. Upon a call for additions, the AAGS BOD agenda was accepted as distributed May 11 (with a spelling correction).
4. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - 4.1. The April 13 AAGS Board Meeting Minutes final draft was accepted as distributed May 11.
5. REPORTS OF OFFICERS
  - 5.1. President (Cavell)
    - 5.1.1. Four *goals* for AAGS may not be fully accomplished in the next seven months, but steps need to be taken through active committee work:
      - 5.1.1.1. Bring our governing documents up to date (to increase clarity and relevance):
        - Update AAGS operational documents—*Bylaws and Policies* committee can expect to be busy during coming weeks, to include documentation of Policies

- 5.1.1.2. Increase membership to double current total: Increase membership: study dues, membership types AND challenge every member to bring a new member on board.
    - + One dues deduction per year as incentive to bring another member to AAGS
  - 5.1.1.3. Increase relevance of AAGS (website, certificates, presence at other meetings).
    - + Update website to show SaLIS Abstracts
    - + Add searchable *keywords* to web pages, e.g. “speaker’s bureau”
    - + Publish bulletin regularly
    - + Consider creating a student competition in geodetics
    - + AAGS members should consider publishing in SaLIS, or at least cite an article already published in SaLIS
  - 5.1.1.4. Increase revenue for AAGS.
    - + Increase *student* dues (outdated)
  - 5.1.1.5. Volunteers and nominations are needed for committee chairmen
  - 5.1.1.6. Go “live” on the web, even if “beta”, re “Ask the Geodesist” and “Geodetic Certification”, by the third quarter of 2022.
- 5.2. Secretary (Roman)
- 5.2.1. The logo copyright process is moving forward.
    - + Dan Martin’s name and email are on the renewal application.
    - + Roman is keeping notes about it.
- 5.3. Treasurer (Dan Martin)
- 5.3.1. The Bank of America signature card is in process, taking a very long time, but will be done.
    - + Tim Burch as Exec. Director
  - 5.3.2. The Treasurer’s Report was distributed May 11, and raised no questions.
    - 5.3.2.1. AAGS Operating Account: \$47,082 (as of 04/30/2022)
    - 5.3.2.2. ML Investment: \$42,444 (as of 04/30/2022)
    - 5.3.2.3. Scholarship: \$69,838 (as of 04/30/2022)
    - 5.3.2.4. YTD Total Income: \$841.18
    - 5.3.2.5. YTD Total Expenses: \$12,481.97
    - 5.3.2.6. YTD Net Income: -11,640.79
- 5.4. Reporter (Meyer)
- 5.4.1. To promote diversity, Meyer reached out to the Women Surveyors’ Summit to discuss AAGS sponsorship.
    - + WSS is scheduled for July 28-31 in Williamsburg, VA.
    - + Having received no response from the WSS website contact button, nor from Future Surveyors’ President Heather Sides directly through LinkedIn, Meyer asked for direct phone or email contact information.
    - + Tim Burch will reach out to Heather to see what’s up.
- 5.5. President Elect (Burtch)
- 5.5.1. Cavell will email Burtch this month to discuss the role of Program Director as discussed at the April meeting.

5.6. Immediate Past President (Zilkoski)

5.6.1. See Membership Committee below.

5.7. Director (3rd year)/Vice-President (Levin)

5.7.1. Nothing to report.

5.8. Director (2nd year) (Scott Martin)

5.8.1. As discussed at the April meeting, Martin has taken the role of County and State Surveyors Liaison for AAGS. The closest he could find was the National Association of County Surveyors.

+ Cavell understood that state-appointed geodetic coordinators, recognized by NGS, were more or less connected with each other, each serving as a nexus between federal and local governments.

+ Cavell and Martin discussed fostering organizational connections and how Martin can get AAGS in the door to make presentations, and get the ball rolling toward various opportunities.

5.9. Director (1st year) (Ahlgren)

5.9.1. Nothing to report.

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

6.1. Membership Committee (Zilkoski)

6.1.1. Zilkoski will send Cavell the draft document defining AAGS Corporate Membership, for review.

6.1.2. At the Membership Committee meeting, it was agreed that webinars and Board meeting presentations come under the Communications Committee.

+ As Zilkoski indicated, to avoid overload, Communications Chairman Meyer needs help, and NGS Galen Scott can help by scheduling and organizing webinars.

+ Zilkoski will reach out to Scott, who is the Constituent Outreach POC for NGS. Zilkoski will mention past and present AAGS Board members who are involved already, and Scott may reach out to these.

6.1.3. Zilkoski attached a draft policy associated with a draft web page announcement for *Ask a Geodesist*, sent by Meyer and under review by the Membership Committee for presentation to the Board at the June meeting.

6.1.4. Zilkoski suggested reduced AAGS Membership dues for members who are willing to work actively on a committee, such as Galen Scott is being asked to do.

+ Reduced dues may encourage new AAGS members to take an active role.

+ Cavell felt that it would be difficult to implement dues reduction in an equitable fashion.

+ The concept will be further discussed at the next Membership Committee meeting.

6.1.5. Cavell suggested that on the AAGS Membership application form, there could be a blank for an "Endorser" – the name of the AAGS member who recommends the new member.

6.1.6. The next Membership Committee meeting is Wednesday, May 25, at 4:00 PM Eastern.

6.2. Geodetic Certification Committee (Meyer)

6.2.1. Nothing to report.

+ The draft version of questions was well received.

+ Cavell remarked that certification may be a way to involve members who are not geodesists per se, but in related fields.

+ Scott Martin remarked that AAGS helps decode what geodesists say, making it accessible and available for practical use by land surveyors, GPS, etc., putting research into practice.

### 6.3. SaLIS Editor (Elaksher)

6.3.1. SaLIS has a good number of articles in the pipeline.

6.3.2. Four articles were processed by the publisher for the May Issue and expecting another four for November.

6.3.3. Thank you all for your help with the review process.

### 6.4. COGO (Doody)

6.4.1. The committee for *Geodetic Control*<sup>1</sup> met in May, including AAGS and NSPS, and AAGS (Doody, Zilkoski, Heck) brainstormed ten questions ahead of the deadline (09/15/22). COGO will meet again before the end of June to finalize the questions. NSPS will prepare an online survey mechanism to survey members state by state.

### 6.5. ASPRS (Burtch)

6.5.1. Burtch is reviewing bylaws and amendments, to be completed this summer.

6.5.2. A one-hour GeoByte webinar, 2022 Update of the USDoL Geospatial Technology Competency Model (GTCM), presented by Dr. Rodney D. Jackson, is scheduled for June 3, at 2:00 PM Eastern, online.

Details available at:

[https://my.asprs.org/ASPRSMember/Events/Event\\_Display.aspx?EventKey=GB20220603&WebsiteKey=9126ee3f-e9e1-43bd-a00c-0cfa63182579](https://my.asprs.org/ASPRSMember/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=GB20220603&WebsiteKey=9126ee3f-e9e1-43bd-a00c-0cfa63182579)

### 6.6. UESI (Meyer)

6.6.1. The UESI Surveying and Geomatics 2022 Conference, scheduled for October 2-4 in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, is in good order.

Details available at: <https://www.surveyingconference.org/>

6.6.2. At a recent meeting, it was mentioned that UESI is putting together a Bulletin-style periodical, investing real resources to hire staff and give it a real budget. In that meeting, + Meyer suggested that AAGS could contribute. UESI is interested to hear more about how AAGS could contribute.

+ Zilkowski agreed, depending what kind of articles they would include, and asked whether contributors would need to be UESI members.

+ Cavell noted that if AAGS could promise regular contribution, then AAGS might have its own series or even segment in each issue.

+ Zilkoski would be interested in contributing, as he already does with another publication, synthesizing NGS material down to 1200-1500 words with pictures. Commitment would be possible, depending on the frequency issues are published. Quarterly might be more reachable than monthly.

+ Meyer's notion is that it would be published twice a year.

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<sup>1</sup> *Geodetic Control* provides progress reports to the FGDC Coordination Group. For more information, see <https://cogo.pro/report-card>

## 6.7. NSPS (Heck)

- 6.7.1. NSPS announced the selection of 2022 scholarship awardees, including the AAGS Joseph F. Dracup Scholarship Award (\$2000), awarded to Mariam Youssef of Cal Poly Pomona, and the AAGS Graduate Fellowship (\$2000), awarded to Oscar Duran of Purdue University. + Scholarship winners have been notified. Letters are mailed out with the award checks. Details available at: <https://www.nspis.us.com/general/custom.asp?page=Scholarships>
- 6.7.2. Meyer remarked that in view of the dearth of geodesy programs, particularly in the united states, AAGS could reach out to applied math and physics departments, or advertise AAGS scholarship opportunities through organizations such as the American Geophysical Union (AGU) and the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). Geodesy has always been of interest to mathematicians.
- 6.7.3. Heck had a phone call with John Hohol last week, regarding Preparation for FIG Working Week 2023 in Orlando, which is going well. Hohol remarked that after the Working Week, a golf outing is planned, so Working Week participants should stay one more day for it. Plenty of golf clubs are available for rent at the golf course.

7. SPECIAL ORDERS (IF ANY)<sup>2</sup>

7.1. None.

## 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (IF ANY)

8.1. None.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1. Motion by Zilkoski: *To provide financial support for an AAGS representative to the FIG conference in Poland in September 2022.*  
 + Roman estimates costs in the \$4000 range, to cover airfare, accommodation, and sundries.  
 + Cavell questioned affordability given the Treasurer's Report for YTD 2022, but Martin clarified that numbers are down in part because of the stock market, and in part because SaLIS income is not counted until an issue is published. Nevertheless, if money should be used to subsidize conference representation, then it should be listed in the budget for the year.  
 + Burtch seconded the motion, which Cavell re-read, "*To investigate the notion and quantity of support to provide a representative to FIG 2022.*"  
 + Prior to becoming a FIG member in 2019<sup>3</sup>, AAGS paid a substantial fee to NSPS for joint participation in FIG, and AAGS contributed to funding travel for AAGS delegates.  
 + Without certainty, the current candidate to represent AAGS at FIG appears to be John Hamilton.  
 + With no objection from the Board, the motion to investigate was passed, and Zilkoski will so do.
- 9.2. Burtch made the motion: 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. Seconded by Meyer, the motion passed without objection.

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<sup>2</sup> Important business previously designated for consideration at this meeting

<sup>3</sup> During the 2019 Working Week the American Association for Geodetic Surveying (AAGS) joined FIG as an FIG Member Association with the full support of NSPS.

10. GOOD OF THE ORDER<sup>4</sup>

10.1. Coordinated by Meyer and announced by Cavell, the Board recognized the note-taker with a handsome brass survey marker, coordinated by Meyer, inscribed:

ELISABETH ROLLINS SURVEYING THE FUTURE AAGS 2022

Rollins thanks the Board for recognizing her work. She is glad to contribute to the success of AAGS!

10.2. Dan Martin recounted a fun memory with Dan Roman, from the 2018 UESI conference at Cal Poly Pomona. Roman drove Martin, Dru Smith, and Michael Dennis to a pizza restaurant, where Martin's door would not open from the inside. When NGS Chief Geodesist Dan Roman opened the door for him, Martin announced that now he could retire.

10.3. Tim Burch is stepping away from his commitment to GPS World writing articles, and suggested that AAGS may be able to recommend someone to write for them.

10.4. Burch also suggested that as AAGS puts together the framework for a strategic plan (bulletin, certification, membership, increasing revenues) Burch would like to see AAGS and NSPS work together in a more integrated way in the future.  
+ Later this summer or early fall, Burch suggests that a few AAGS members could get together with him and one of the AAGS officers, to plan strategically, brainstorming and looking into the future.  
+ Cavell supported this idea enthusiastically, understanding the challenges ahead.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

11.1. The Next AAGS Board meeting: June 08, 2022, 3:00 PM Central/4:00 PM Eastern.

Online: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/557836501> or

Phone: +1 (646) 749-3112 Access code 557836501#

<i>Suggested future AAGS Board meetings are shown below. If a sufficient number of Board members express conflict with a specific date, the meeting may be rescheduled or canceled.</i>	
June 08, 2022 @ 4:00 PM Eastern July 13, 2022 @ 4:00 PM Eastern August 10, 2022 @ 4:00 PM Eastern September 14, 2022 @ 4:00 PM Eastern	October 12, 2022 @ 4:00 PM Eastern November 09, 2022 @ 4:00 PM Eastern December 14, 2022 @ 4:00 PM Eastern

12. ADJOURN

12.1. AAGS President Cavell adjourned the meeting at 16:15 Central/17:15 Eastern.

<sup>4</sup> The term *Good of the Order* refers to that portion of the agenda or meeting during which members may make statements or offer observations about the character or work of the organization without having any particular item of business before the meeting. Items that may come up under this heading are statements such as compliments or criticisms about some program or activity that the organization had undertaken, announcements of concern or compliments. — *Robert's Rules of Order*

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Roman, AAGS Secretary

File: *Documents\AAGS\AAGS Board Minutes May 11, 2022 final.docx*

Date: May 31, 2022

Compiled by: Elisabeth Rollins