

MINUTES OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR GEODETIC SURVEYING

Date 11 February 2026

Time 4:01 pm EST

Called to order by Dave Zilkoski

In Attendance	Dave Zilkoski	President
	Karen Meckel	Secretary
	Tom Meyer	Reporter
	Muge Albayrak	President-Elect
	Kevin Algren	Immediate Past President
	Rachel Alexander	3 rd Year Director/Vice President
	Jay Doody	2 nd Year Director
	John Hamilton	1 st Year Director
	Jacob Heck	NSPS Liaison
Absent	Jacob Heck	AAGS-NSPS Liaison (non-voting)
	Dan Martin	Treasurer
Guests	Ryan Hardy	
	Earl Burkholder	

Approval of Agenda

Board unanimously approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from January 2026 Board meeting read and approved by unanimous consent.



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Reports

President—Mikael Lilje contacted Dave Z, asked to speak with Board at the March meeting. Mikael is a candidate for FIG president.

Daniel Colling of NGA in FL would like to do a presentation to the board about NGA, probably in April or May. He runs geodetic surveyors. Dave asked him if he would review our geodetic certification questions. Danie agreed.

NGA has a set of questions that they use for their testing.

Karen observed that NGA is trying to hire geodetic surveyors.

Dave stated that NGS is trying to hire six or so geodesists. Tom Meyer posted those vacancies on LinkedIn.

Discussion ensued about receiving notices of AAGS LinkedIn posts.

Dave attended FGCS meeting. Good move by NGS. Getting more federal agencies on board. Worried about FEMA regarding flood elevation certificates and how the transition will be handled. Trying to work with Gary Thompson to determine what is necessary.

The FGCS meeting transcripts are public domain and available if requested. contact Galen. FGCS has a website that is not updated.

Secretary—No report

Treasurer—No report.

Reporter—Will post minutes to website. Question posed to him about LinkedIn notifications for posts to AAGS.

President-Elect—Muge is still waiting for Kevin's approval about the YouTube videos on NSRS modernization. Kevin responded that he needs to go through the NGS approval process, but the video is doable.

Muge has some ideas based on an AGU presentation. She would like to invite the speaker Ryan Hippert to do a YouTube series on UAV, Lidar or similar subjects

Immediate Past President—No report

3rd Year Director/Vice President—No report

Publications—Tom worked with Seneca on minor changes in SaLIS draft MOU approved by this board. Seneca sent the draft to the NSPS board. Tom does not know if it was voted on, but Seneca indicated that there were no objections from NSPS recent meeting. Possible vote pending for next AAGS meeting regarding MOU.

SaLIS journal is doing well. Receiving good submissions, with enough papers in pipeline for the rest of the year.



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Education—Trouble getting into a meeting on GoTo. No movement on the certification effort. We need additional eyes to work through questions and comments on certification exam rather than just Karen and Tom.

All the external reviews are back. Comments need to be read and incorporated into question set. Substantial amount of work. The initial review, including a three-person team, worked well. We need another three-person team to do this review.

Karen noted that we need a better meeting venue in view of GoTo problem from last meeting.

John Hamilton volunteered and mentioned that he has Zoom account we can use.

Tom also offered a Teams or WebEx account for use.

Membership—needs new chair. Muge asked Ryan to chair and said she will share with him. Ryan says that he will tentatively serve as chair of membership committee.

Dave wants to revisit selling space for advertisements or logos on website/ YouTube videos, etc. like what NSPS and ASPRS do. This would be a membership committee effort.

COGO—Jay reported that they had opening meeting w/re 2027 NSDI assessment. We have been doing this every 6 years, why are we now doing it every 4 years?

Assessments are now scheduled between ASCE 4-year reports. The 2027 report needs to be much more compact. AAGS part of the last report was twenty-seven pages long. It now needs to be seven pages long.

COGO is going to send the questions from the 2024 assessment, initially twelve questions, trimmed to five questions. The focus this time will be on data users. All questions will be sent in from different organizations by mid-March, then a Survey Monkey questionnaire will be sent to folks. We need to be able to get it to as many people as possible. Did not do so well last time. This time, we will get help from NSPS and post on different LinkedIn groups.

Jay has a written report for everyone to review. Will go out with these minutes.

There is a request from COGO to us to participate in a letter from GOGO to lobbyists. Discussion ensued about what to include as our input into a larger letter that will go out.

NSPS Liaison—GEO-week coming up. Dave will be going as panel member Jacob will send Jacob's email to Dave to me for inclusion with Minutes.

Question arose about AAGS funding some of the expenses for representatives attending conferences.



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Jacob mentioned that NSPS has put information out on the new NSRS and how it will affect different organizations and how to communicate that with leadership. Links and more information shown in the included .doc version of email from Jacob to Dave Z.

FIG—John Hamilton is officially appointed as FIG liaison by Dave Z.

Kevin Algren is planning to go to the FIG meeting in South Africa. He thinks we should support those going to these meetings in monetary form. We might be able to use money from the scholarship fund if available.

Dave Z will check with Dan about subsidizing hotel for Dave for GEO-week conference and for John Hamilton going to FIG conference as our liaison.

Announcements—Tom Meyer read for the good of the Order statement

Next Meeting—March 11, 2026. 4pm EST

Meeting Adjourned

Dave adjourned the meeting at 5:02pm EST

For the good of the Order: 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

