

MINUTES OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR GEODETIC SURVEYING

Date 8 July 2026
Time 4:06 pm EDT
Called to order by Dave Zilkoski

In Attendance	Dave Zilkoski	President
	Karen Meckel	Secretary
	Muge Albayrak	President-Elect
	Jay Doody	2 nd Year Director
	Rachel Alexander	3 rd Year Director/Vice President
	Tom Meyer	Reporter
	Jacob Heck	NSPS Liaison

Absent	Dan Martin	Treasurer
	Kevin Algren	Immediate Past President
	John Hamilton	1 st Year Director

Guests	Earl Burkholder
	Luis Vega

Approval of Agenda

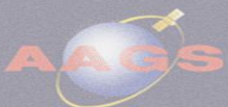
Board unanimously approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

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

Committee Reports

Publications—The SaLIS committee has met twice, just once since the last meeting and that was earlier this week.



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Virtually all of the things that are changing at the moment are changing on the NSPS side. They have a timeline to send out a blast email to their 26,000 members, probably in August, that they all now have a SaLIS subscription.

If NSPS members would like to see it, then they contact Trish. NSPS is not going to bulk load 26,000 people into the subscription database.

The May issue has not physically appeared yet. Tom is not sure why, but it is finished and good to go.

Education—Tom deferred to Dave Z. For the geodetic certification, the review process is complete. Dave sent that to Trish and asked her our next move about getting it into the test software. She replied saying that she will look at it and try to get back to him next week. That's moving forward and hopefully will continue to move forward.

YouTube—Muge stated that we did two YouTube videos this year and we will have one more in July, but she doesn't know when we publish it because of her work schedule. Muge thinks that we will publish that video in September.

We also have another video about the SaLIS journal.

There is a problem in that Muge is unable to access the journal. She does not know who can download papers from that journal. If we have a video, people should see that they can access the papers.

Tom asked Muge more about her trouble accessing the articles in SaLIS. She replied that she addressed the issue with Ahmed as well and that he advised that she contact Trish.

Discussion ensued about the way that subscribers to SaLIS are entered into the system and the separate sign-in required to access articles as a member. With the subscription being a paid one, open access is not available for all articles although they can be purchased through our website. They are also available through libraries with subscriptions such as university libraries.



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Muge asked how citations are made available for SaLIS. Tom responded that the journal used to be in the Scopus abstract and citation database, indexed like everyone else, but that SaLIS fell under poor management by a bad editor that resulted in its losing Scopus listing.

While the editing and quality of articles has improved, the journal is still not on the indexes. That is one of Ahmed's primary goals now, to return to being on the indexes.

Tom stated that the primary way, that people who are not in AAGS can find articles in our journal is through a university library.

Muge is concerned about the access issue as well as the need to update that journal page to include more recent articles before she moves forward with the YouTube video on SaLIS.

Tom will contact the representative from Ingenta, the publishing software, to see what options we have to simplify access. He will also look into the updating.

Muge said that we have two more videos, and that it will be best for us to have three or four videos per year.

Membership—See Education

COGO—Jay spoke with the secretary at COGO about how the questionnaire was going. The count is way too low, only 266 responses which is half the amount they received the last time. A few organizations just started putting out announcements two weeks ago and they're asking everybody to make another big push and hold it open a bit longer

We could use our new completed letterhead to send out a short encouragement to people to take the questionnaire. COGO annual meeting will be held next Wednesday from 1p to 4p Pacific in CA. Jay will probably sit in for the first 2 hours

The FGDC has designated Dan Roman to be our official liaison to do the report. He is our official contact person.



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Dave and Jay will put together a letter about the questionnaire to be sent to AAGS members and to state societies. A copy will be sent to Jacob Heck to share with NSPS in case they want to send it to their membership as well. The deadline for responses will likely be after the end of July.

NSPS Liaison—Jacob Heck noted that the NSPS fall meeting is scheduled for October in South Dakota with a ceremony at Mount Rushmore. They are hoping to get Senate Majority Leader Thune there as part of it since S.D. is his state and it is the country's 250th.

FIG—No report. John Hamilton and Kevin Algren are reps and not present.

Old Business-Renewal of the trademark, Dave signed in and filled out forms.

Discovered that there is a fee of nineteen hundred and fifty dollars. He was unaware of a fee, particularly in such a big amount and wants to confirm.

Dave put Salis for a publication and a shirt for business activity

Earl suggested that Dave might have come upon a third party offering a paid service.

Karen suggested that Dave call the trademark office for clarification.

Note: fee is \$1950, \$650 for each category and we have 3. Motion made by Rachel Alexander on July 14 that we reimburse Dave Z for the cost when he renews. Karen Meckel seconded. Motion passed on July 17 by five votes via email with no dissent.

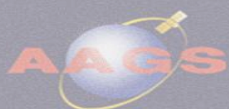
General membership meeting. Dave would like to wait until we have more on the geodetic certification. September or October might work for the meeting. We can discuss the certification, the YouTube videos and Salis to hopefully get more people engaged.

The last time we had a speaker. Dave asked if there is a topic we can use to draw some people to participate by having a speaker. He suggested someone from the international community.

Dave suggested something with FIG or maybe the vertical adjustments that Kevin is working on.

Karen suggested that surveyors might be interested in what the real time network managers are going to do about switching over to the new NSRS.

Dave stated that the North Carolina RTN is planning to run a parallel port for that switch. Gary Thompson runs the NC system and will run it for a



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few users with the new information rather than everyone to start with. Karen suggested that Gary might like to give us a talk on what he's doing with that change.

The AAGS letterhead should have some sort of contact information. Jay suggested using the website since it has a contact section. Rachel provided some corrections for her information on the letterhead.

Women Surveyors Summit—Karen spoke with Anna Rios by phone about AAGS sponsorship. The summit is in September, the 17th to the 20th at the Westgate Hotel in San Diego. The conference is booked solid with speakers, so we cannot get a spot for a formal presentation. However, we can get a 10-minute spot for an introduction.

Muge was slated to do this and was invited to also bring information about Oregon's geomatics program to be placed on the table at the welcome gathering.

Our sponsorship entitles us to include items for a swag bag. For a sponsorship option, we can sponsor something they already have planned using the A La Carte option on the sponsorship form.

If we want to stay in the \$2K range like we did last year, we can add or subtract from that but should probably add if we are going to change the amount. We can sponsor a break. They will ensure that we are acknowledged as sponsoring that break. If we want to sponsor a meal, that cost will run from \$5K to \$7K. Karen explained how to fill out the form for an a la carte sponsorship. Depending on the amount we provide, they will upgrade the offerings at the break or meal that we sponsor.

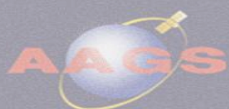
We need to decide the amount and type of sponsorship we want, and it has to be done by the end of July.

Karen suggested that we sponsor a break at \$2,500 and fully sponsor Muge for going and giving our introduction.

Muge asked what was the benefit for AAGS when we sponsored last year.

We were listed in the program as sponsors at the \$2K level and a link to our website was included in both the program and the Future Surveyors Foundation website, the Future Surveyors Foundation being the parent organization for the conference.

Karen did not know if we got any new members from the sponsorship but thought that Muge's appearance might improve that. We did not get a



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banner or print ad the way that the gold and platinum sponsorships received for the \$3K and \$4K sponsorships. Karen did talk to several of the attendees, but we did not get much mileage last year. It is something we need to work on.

We might want to see about providing a speaker at next year's conference. If it is the same conference that is trying to recruit Dave Doyle's wife, then maybe we can get something more substantial going for 2027. Information on the 2027 conference will not be released until September.

Jay seconded Karen's proposal that we sponsor a break at \$2,500 and provide funding for Muge to attend on AAGS's behalf.

Discussion ensued during which Muge stated that she would not be able to attend the conference due to her schedule at the university and the fact that she would not be speaking with the support of the conference organizers.

The motion was amended to do a break sponsorship for \$2,500 and the attendee issue was tabled. Jay seconded and motion passed with five favorable votes.

Karen will check with Wendy Lathrop and others about attending and a new motion will follow if an attendee is located. She will also contact Dan Martin about the paperwork and payment of the sponsorship.

Note: motion made by Karen Meckel on July 9 that AAGS sponsor Wendy Lathrop attendance at the Women Surveyors Summit 17-20 September. John Hamilton seconded. Motion passed with five votes via email and no dissent on July 15.

New Business—

Tom made a motion that we send flowers to Tony Cavell's funeral. Dave Z seconded.

Motion passed unanimously. Tom will send the flowers and be reimbursed for the cost by AAGS.

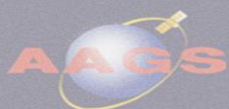
Board Reports

President—No report

Secretary—No report

Treasurer—No report

Reporter—No report



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President-Elect—No report

Immediate Past President—No report

3rd Year Director/Vice President—No report

2nd Year Director—No report

1st Year Director—No report

Dave Z asked if there was anything more to discuss. Nobody had anything to add.

Announcements—Tom read for the good of the Order statement

Next Meeting—August 12, 2026. 4pm EDT

Meeting Adjourned

Dave adjourned the meeting at 5:21pm EDT

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

