



HGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 8th, 2024, Meeting held via Zoom

Quorum confirmed, meeting called to order by Penny Patterson (HGS President)

Time: 6:18 pm

2024-2025 Board Members

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Penny Patterson (P) | Patty Walker (PE) | Catie Donohue (VP) | Sophie Broun (S) |
| Glenn Lowenstein (T) | Angela Hammond (TE) | Ted Godo (E) | Lucia Torrado (EE) |
| Catherine Cox Strong (D2) | Lauren Seidman Robinson (D3) | Judy Schulenberg (D1) | Sharma Dronamraju (D4) |

Board Present

Penny Patterson (President)

Patty Walker (President Elect)

Glenn Lowenstein (Treasurer)

Catie Donohue (Vice President)

Angela Hammond (Treasurer Elect)

Lucia Torrado (Editor Elect)

Ted Godo (Editor)

Catherine Cox Strong (D2)

Lauren Seidman Robinson (Director 3)

Penny Patterson – Meeting started at 6:18 pm with Quorum of 9 Board Members present.

First Order of Business Discussion & Approval of the Minutes: Penny Patterson made minor changes to the draft of the September minutes. Patty Walker had also sent changes that have been incorporated. No other board members had any proposed changes.

Motion:

Motion to approve the August 2024 Minutes with suggested revisions as Final. Catie Donohue so Moved and Patty Walker Second the Motion. There was no other discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

The Final Minutes for July can be found in the HGS Dropbox under: Dropbox\HGS Committee Report & Board Minutes\Monthly Meeting Minutes Reports\2024-2025 Board Minutes\Final

No consent agenda.

Treasurer's Report – Glenn Lowenstein

Glenn Lowenstein presented the Treasurer's Report. Total equity up \$98,999 mostly due to Schwab One. Changes in Chase Checking mostly due to Africa conference. The Africa conference was also more than half of the total operating expenses. HGS has \$19,472 more revenue compared to this period.

Discussion was held on how best to show total financial performance for events as cash flows occur throughout multiple months. Angela Hammond shared month by month expenses and revenues plotted in different styles and some split by event. Patty Walker commented that actual revenue and expenses normalized are under the budget estimate for both. Agreement to keep creating the suite of plots for future meetings.

Glenn Lowenstein noted that we are on course and early in the budget year. No need for course corrections and sufficient liquid assets available.

HGS Treasurer's Report

September 2024

This report provides an overview of the financial status of the Houston Geological Society (HGS) as of the end of September 2024.

Executive Summary

- *HGS Total equity increased from August \$98,888 mostly due to Schwab One investments*
- *HGS investments increased in value over \$70,000 from August.*
- *All budgeted events are within projected targets.*

Equity

Total Equity in HGS portfolio.

| | August 2024 | September 2024 | Net Change (\$) |
|--|-------------|--|-----------------|
| Chase checking | \$85,679 | \$113,467 | \$27,788 |
| Chase savings | \$345 | \$345 | NC |
| Schwab Money Market | \$62,624 | \$64,464 | \$1,840 |
| Schwab One | \$795,227 | \$864,487 (\$64,535-cash; \$799,952- investments) | \$69,260 |
| Total Bank Accounts (Checking, Savings, Money Market) | \$943,875 | \$1,042,763 | \$98,888 |

Assuming an operating cost of \$30,000 per month, reserves in HGS liquid bank accounts cover 3.7 months of expenses.

Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues and expenses in September 2024 are shown as follows: HGS received \$68,213 in revenue, the bulk was dinner/ meeting registrations (56%), donations (15%) sponsorships (18%), and memberships (6%). Total operating expense this month was \$54,301, mostly composed of conference expenses (57%), payroll (12%), webstie maintenance (6%) and social event expenses (6%). There was net revenue of \$16,943 for the month and a fiscal year net of \$46,377.

Comparisons to this time 2023

HGS had \$19,472 more revenue compared to this period in 2023 due to more conference registrations and donations. Expenses were higher this period than 2023 by \$11,665 mainly due to the African conference venue downpayment

Motion:

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Patty Walker so Moved and Catie Donohue Second the Motion. There was no discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

Secretary Report – Presented by Oyie Ekeng (Sophie Broun Secretary was Absent)

New Membership Applications Report:

Oyie Ekeng (Membership Chair) displayed the list of applicants as Sophie Broun the Secretary was absent. We had 15 Active applicants and 1 student applicant. There were no applicants for Associate or Emeritus membership.

The board members reviewed the list of applicants. The approved applicants were marked with a green color and four were put on hold for more information and indicated with yellow.

List of Members Discussed (Not Final Approved List)

| First name | Last name | Membership | AAPG # | Employer | Degree, Major, University |
|------------|-----------|------------|--------|-------------------------------------|---|
| HongChen | Ye | Active | No | Advanced Groundwater Solutions, LLC | Doctoral, Civil Engineering, Louisiana State University Masters, Soil and Water Conservation, National Chung Hsing University |
| Taylor | Diehl | Active | No | HydroGeoLogic, Inc. (HGL) | Masters, Environmental Science, Oregon State University BSC, Environmental Science, Baylor University |
| Travis | Vick | Active | Yes | Ikon Science | M.S. Geophysics, Colorado School of Mines B.S., Geophysics, University of Oklahoma |
| Erik | Scott | Active | Yes | E&P Geoscience, LLC | PHD, Geology, LSU |
| Lauren | Eberhard | Active | No | BP | Master of Science, Geophysics, University of Texas at Austin Bachelor of Science, Geophysics, University of Texas at Austin |
| Umar | Alhassan | Active | No | Ghana National Gas company Ltd | Msc Project Management, Kwame Nkrumah University of science and Technology Msc: Mechanical engineering, Kwame Nkrumah University of science and Technology |
| Jason | Marshall | Active | No | eSeis, Inc. | Economics, University of Houston |
| Michael B | Johnson | Active | No | Demus E&P | MSc, Petroleum Geoscience, Imperial College London BSc. Mechanical Engineering, Southern University and A&M College - Baton Rouge |
| Carole | Decalf | Active | No | BP | MSC GEOLOGY, Texas A&M ME, Geosciences and Reservoir Engineering, IFP |
| James | Dodson | Active | No | Future Energy Consultants Ltd | MSc, Petroleum Geoscience, Manchester University BSc, Geology, Manchester University |
| Gela | Hamilton | Active | Yes | Vaalco Energy | BSc Hons, Geology, McGill University |
| Hannah | Proffitt | Active | Yes | ExxonMobil | Master of Science, Geophysics, University of Kansas |
| Yueh-Ping | Ku | Active | Yes | OPICOIL/CPC | PHd, Geosciences, National Taiwan University Masters, Geosciences, National Taiwan University |
| Taylor | Galloway | Active | Yes | Geophysical Pursuit, Inc. | Business major, University of Alabama |
| Andrew | DeMarco | Active | No | EnSafe, Inc. | MS Geology, University of Houston |
| First name | Last name | Membership | AAPG # | Employer | Degree, Major, University |
| | | Associate | | | |
| First name | Last name | Membership | AAPG # | Member since | Age |
| | | Emeritus | | | |
| First name | Last name | Membership | AAPG # | Employer/Professor | Degree, Major, University, Exp. Graduation |
| Kelly | McNair | Student | No | Dr. Kenneth Johnson | Geoscience, University of Houston |

Motion:

Motion to approve the agreed upon status of membership was made by Catie Donohue and Patty Walker seconded. There was no discussion. Vote passed Unanimously.

Catherine Strong read the definition for active membership and with this clarification further changes were made. One candidate was not approved for Active membership and marked with red and one more Active candidate was flagged with yellow for further review.

Finalized membership list with 10 Active members approved, 1 Student Member Approved, 4 to follow up with for next meeting and 1 not approved for Active Membership.

List of Finalized Members

| First name | Last name | Membership | AAPG # | Employer | Degree, Major, University |
|------------|-----------|------------|--------|-------------------------------------|---|
| HongChen | Ye | Active | No | Advanced Groundwater Solutions, LLC | Doctoral, Civil Engineering, Louisiana State University Masters, Soil and Water Conservation, National Chung Hsing University |
| Taylor | Diehl | Active | No | HydroGeoLogic, Inc. (HGL) | Masters, Environmental Science, Oregon State University BSC, Environmental Science, Baylor University |
| Travis | Vick | Active | Yes | Ikona Science | M.S. Geophysics, Colorado School of Mines B.S., Geophysics, University of Oklahoma |
| Erik | Scott | Active | Yes | E&P Geoscience, LLC | PHD, Geology, LSU |
| Lauren | Eberhard | Active | No | BP | Master of Science, Geophysics, University of Texas at Austin Bachelor of Science, Geophysics, University of Texas at Austin |
| Umar | Alhassan | Active | No | Ghana National Gas company Ltd | Msc Project Management, Kwame Nkrumah University of science and Technology Msc: Mechanical engineering, Kwame Nkrumah University of science and Technology |
| Jason | Marshall | Active | No | eSeis, Inc. | Economics, University of Houston |
| Michael B | Johnson | Active | No | Demus E&P | MSc, Petroleum Geoscience, Imperial College London BSc. Mechanical Engineering, Southern University and A&M College - Baton Rouge |
| Carole | Decalf | Active | No | BP | MSC GEOLOGY, Texas A&M ME, Geosciences and Reservoir Engineering, IFP |
| James | Dodson | Active | No | Future Energy Consultants Ltd | MSc, Petroleum Geoscience, Manchester University BSc, Geology, Manchester University |
| Gela | Hamilton | Active | Yes | Vaalco Energy | BSc Hons, Geology, McGill University |
| Hannah | Proffitt | Active | Yes | ExxonMobil | Master of Science, Geophysics, University of Kansas |
| Yueh-Ping | Ku | Active | Yes | OPICOIL/CPC | PHd, Geosciences, National Taiwan University Masters, Geosciences, National Taiwan University |
| Taylor | Galloway | Active | Yes | Geophysical Pursuit, Inc. | Business major, University of Alabama |
| Andrew | DeMarco | Active | No | EnSafe, Inc. | MS Geology, University of Houston |
| First name | Last name | Membership | AAPG # | Employer | Degree, Major, University |
| | | Associate | | | |
| First name | Last name | Membership | AAPG # | Member since | Age |
| | | Emeritus | | | |
| First name | Last name | Membership | AAPG # | Employer/Professor | Degree, Major, University, Exp. Graduation |
| Kelly | McNair | Student | No | Dr. Kenneth Johnson | Geoscience, University of Houston |

Andrea Peoples will add the names as New Members and put their names into Constant Contact.

Motion:

A second clarification vote was held. Catherine Strong so moved to approve the candidates labeled in green in the membership list above and Patty Walker seconded the motion. Vote passed unanimously.

Major items for Discussion Penny Patterson

Penny Patterson moved up the priority items in the Agenda.

Grand Canyon River Trip – Penny Patterson wrote an article draft and emailed to Steve Earle. Will send to Ted Godo also. Spoke to Hatch River Expeditions and mentioned low attendance – they commented other trips were also low as people are going internationally instead. There will be no price increase in October for participants. They will work with us if we do not have a full boat. The decision to run the trip will be made early February 2025. We need 28 participants and currently have 2 registered.

Patty Walker asked about details on how the trip would be the boats with participants (HGS, external etc). Hatch River Expeditions have said they are willing to work with HGS and there are a few different options about how boats and would be filled. The trip is open to all with an age limit not just HGS members. Catie Donohue mentioned we could do targeted marketing particularly with people not constrained with school schedules or vacation time. There was further discussion about the sign up procedure as participants must know and be a guest of a HGS member to be able to register.

Student Expo

Huge success. Over 300 students signed up (both in person and zoom). In the budget, sponsorship will come in February through May.

GSH HGS Conference – Moving forward so far lower registrations. Two board members will be presenting at the conference.

President Elect – Patty Walker

Website

Patty Walker, Paul Britt, Andrea Peoples and Kevin Crosskrey went through a proposal for the website together. Proposal discussed need to transition the website to a new platform and do a total re-write but with the design would be the same (approx. \$20-25k).

Also discussed an option for completely re-designing the website using a template (approx. \$30-35k) which would take approximately 3-4 months if we use eMUNNICATIONS.com as a starting point. Suggestion was made to have sponsors who can advertise on the website.

Preference is for a re-write of the website. We need to ensure the website is suited for phones also. Paul Britt will follow up on searching for website sponsorship. Patty Walker to follow up with other companies to evaluate other offerings, cost estimates, timeline.

Agreed to create a website committee and Catie Donohue volunteered to join. Penny Patterson suggested connecting with other Societies to find best practices.

Editor - Ted Godo

In good shape for technical and feature articles. Discussion around an idea for HGS international Bulletin issue featuring international articles. For the Africa Conference, photographs have been sent and are available. Penny Patterson will write a non-technical article on the Africa Conference and include pictures.

Lucia Torrado mentioned we could consider reaching out to SIPES to advertise Grand Canyon. Suggestion made to reach out to Jeff Lund to take flyers for tables and group agreed.

Vice Presidents Report – Catie Donohue

Africa Conference doesn't have final numbers yet but it should be profitable and should close with just under ~\$10k profit. Feedback technically and from attendees positive. Four verbal commitments for extended abstracts to potentially be included in the (ideally) December Bulletin issue. Feedback from survey 18 responses showed technical content was strong. Participants were interested in vendor technical style talks. Committee will look for ways to stay active and connected.

Commitments for General Meeting technical talks for the remainder of the year.

October 15th: Jeff Lund

November 11th: Sheriff Lecture at Norris Center. Support sought from HGS for judging. Secured commitment from 3 x meteorologists from NOAA to judge. U of H will provide childcare for university participants.

December: Harris Cander talk focused on Onshore operators

Philosophy of more inspiration talks at dinner and lunches more skills focused.

Directors Reports:

Catherine Strong

The annual Earth Science Week celebration is October 12th at HMNS. Committee Chair for this event is Barbara Hill; but HGS HMNS committee members, lead by Janet Combes and Ina Immega, have been working to provide volunteers for this event and the concurrent GEMS event (Girls Engaged in Math & Science). Janet Combes requested additional volunteers to work the GEMS event, where HGS is showcasing rock types and giving away samples from the Hockley Salt Mine.

Ted Godo requested an article with photos for Earth Science Week be provided in time for the November Bulletin; Catherine Strong agreed.

Paul Mann, Chair of the Academic Liaison Committee, has been preparing for the Sheriff lecture to be held Nov. 11th at Norris Conference Center at Town & Country.

Dorene West (Science & Engineering Fair) reports there will be no activity or reports from her committee until February.

Lauren Robinson:

Neo Geos have pickleball next week and last happy hour of year is November. Social Media is focused on advertising upcoming events in fall and Grand Canyon field trip. Following continues to stay the same or go up month to month. AAPG cross promotion are putting note about golf tournament to go out in their Geo Lifestyle newsletter to go out on October 10th.

Sharma Dronamraju (Not present)

Presidents Report

New Business

Andrea Peoples has created a financials spreadsheet to help track financials for individual events across the years. This will continue to be updated.

HGS Mentorship Program has been discussed previously. Catie Donohue said Juliet Irvine would be interested in heading this up and has experience in managing these programs. Penny Patterson

proposed a Committee Chair position could be the best way to stand this up and for Juliet Irvine to lead this as Chair.

Next Meeting Date – November 12th Tuesday at 6:15pm

Motion

Motion to adjourn the meeting Patty Walker and seconded by Catie Donohue

All in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

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