

HGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: November 12th, 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) (Joined late)
Angela Hammond (Treasurer Elect)	Lucia Torrado (Editor Elect)
Ted Godo (Editor) (Joined late)	Catherine Cox Strong (D2)
Lauren Seidman Robinson (D3)	Sharma Dronamraju (D4)

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. Catherine Strong had also sent changes that have been incorporated. No other board members had any proposed changes.

Motion:

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

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

Treasurer's Report – Glenn Lowenstein

Glenn Lowenstein presented the Treasurer's Report.

HGS Treasurer's Report

October 2024

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

Executive Summary:

- HGS Total Equity decreased (~\$9600) from September to 1,033,199 due to a decrease in investment income and a reduction in advertising income, but the Schwab Money Market helped offset an even bigger reduction. Most of the revenue from the Africa Conference came in the month of September, but increased revenue from the Golf Tournament and Continuing Education helped to offset.
- HGS Investments decreased in value by \$9,825.00 from September.
- All budgeted events are within projected targets.

Equity:

Total Equity in HGS portfolio:

	Sept. 2024	Oct. 2024	Net Change (\$)
Chase Checking	\$113,467	\$111,438	(\$2,029)
Chase Savings	\$345.00	\$345.00	NC
Schwab Money Market	\$64,464	\$66,754	\$2,290
Schwab One	\$864,487 (\$64,535-cash; \$799,952-investments)	\$854,662 (\$66,754-cash); \$787,908-investments)	(\$9,825)
Total Bank Accounts (Checking, Savings, Money Market)	\$1,042,763	\$1,033,199	(\$9,564)

Assuming an operating cost of \$35,000/month (approx. average spending per month to date during this fiscal year), reserves in the HGS liquid bank accounts for 3.2 months of expenses.

Revenue and Expenses:

Operating revenues and expenses in October 2024 are shown as follows (Figure 1): HGS received \$56,922 in revenue, the bulk was from the Golf Tournament (~35%) and General Administrative (~29%). Total operating expense this month was \$39,455, mostly composed of Golf Tournament (~33%) and General Administrative (~40%) expenses. There was net revenue of \$19,758 for the month and a fiscal year net of \$87,373.

Registrations and Membership dues are up from the same time last year (Figure 2). Likely bolstered by an increased push by current members to encourage new membership and the September President's Letter entitled "Membership Matters."

Sponsors income is down from this time last year. The spike in income from Sponsors last year was likely due to the 100th Anniversary Gala of the HGS. Although we haven’t seen the same magnitude in spike during any one month, the income has been steady during 2024.

The percentage that each of the revenue streams contributes to the overall revenue as depicted in Figures 2 and 3 are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Percentage of Revenue Streams from July 2023 to Oct. 2024

Revenue Stream	Revenue Total	% of Cum Total
Membership Dues	\$77,620.00	11.8%
Registrations	\$244,901.13	37.3%
Donation Income	\$30,673.23	4.7%
Sponsors Income	\$250,040.95	38.1%
Short Course Income	\$17,245.00	2.6%
Advertising Income	\$14,207.50	2.2%
Publication Royalties	\$21,562.58	3.3%
CUM TOTAL	\$656,250.39	

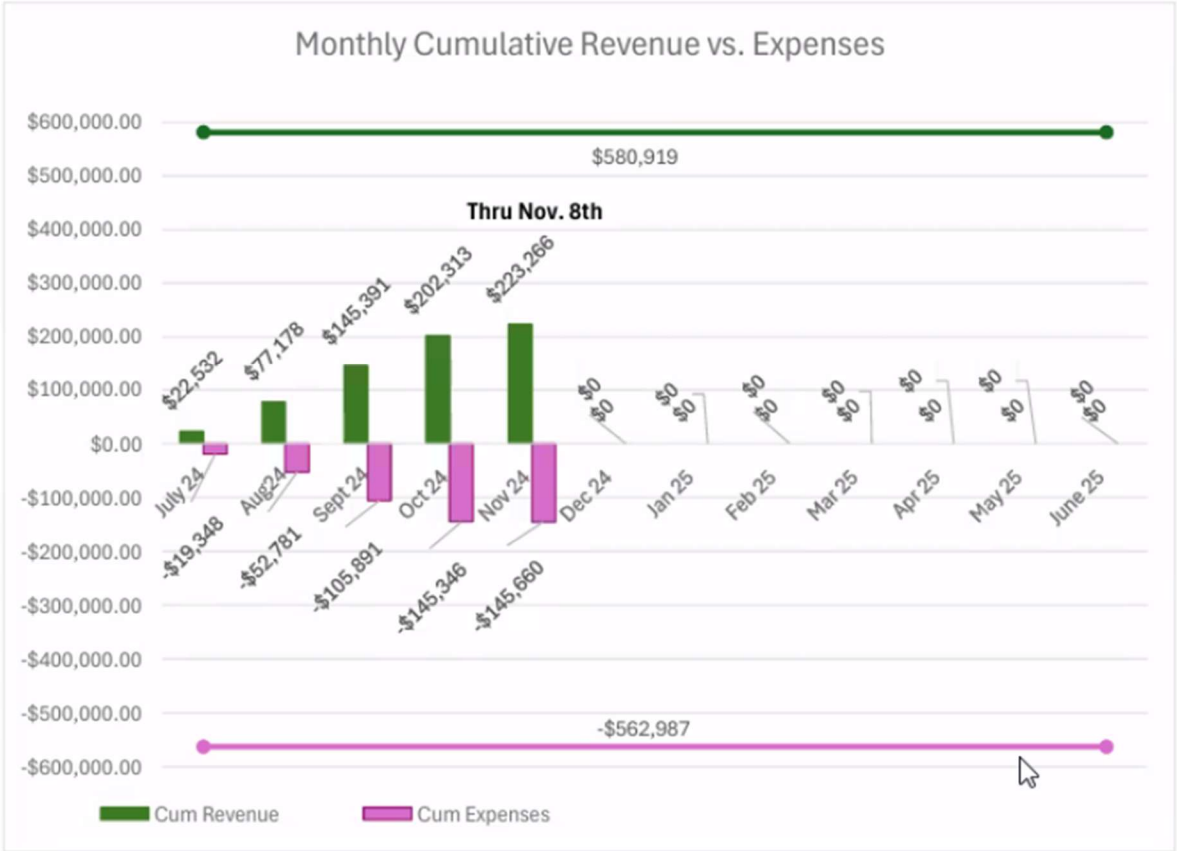


Figure 1. Monthly Cumulative Revenue vs. Expenses

Motion:
Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Catherine Strong so Moved and Sharma Dronamraju Second the Motion. There was no discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

Secretary Report – Presented by Sophie Broun

New Membership Applications Report:

We had 14 new Active applicants and 5 student applicants. There were no applicants for Associate or Emeritus membership.

The board members reviewed the list of new applicants and some candidates that were carried over from last month. The final approved list is shown below with accepted candidates marked in green and some on hold for additional information marked in yellow.

Membership for November

First name	Last name	Membership	AAPG #	Employer	Degree, Major, University
RICHARD	ANSTEY	Active	No	Stratum Reservoir	Geology, Academy Canada
David	Groombridge	Active	No	Riedel Resources Ltd	Bachelor of Science (Honours) University of Melbourne Bachelors Geology, University of Tasmania
Friedemann	Baur	Active	Yes	Chevron	PHd Geology, RWTH Aachen
Chase	Parsons	Active	No	HVJ Associates, Inc.	BSc Geology, University of Houston
Kelly	Poret	Active	Yes	Chevron	MSc Geology, Louisiana State university
Cynthia	Lawry-Berkins	Active	No	Lonestar College	Ms, Geology, Texas A & M University Commerce
Matthew	Fry	Active	Yes	Viridien	Petroleum Geochemistry, NEWCASTLE
Austin	Boles	Active	No	Beacon Offshore Energy	PHd, Structural Geology and Tectonics, University of Michigan
Roberto	PETTINELLI	Active	Yes	TotalEnergies	Master Natural Sciences, University of Perugia Master Geology, Micropaleontology, University of Perugia
Sarah	Catalina Garcia	Active	No	University of Houston	Master of Science Geology, University of Houston
Parker	Torres	Active	No	SeisWare	Bachelor of Science, Earth Science, SMU
Meaghan	Gorman-Maupin	Active	No	Marathon Oil Corporation	MS Geological Sciences, The University of Texas at Austin BA Earth Sciences, Boston University
Michael	Robert Castele	Active	No	MRC Subsurface LLC	MS Geology, Boston College
HongChen	Ye	Active	No	Advanced Groundwater	Doctoral, Civil Engineering, Louisiana State University Masters, Soil and Water Conservation, National Chung
First name	Last name	Membership	AAPG #	Employer	Degree, Major, University
Taylor	Galloway	Associate	Yes	Geophysical Pursuit, Inc.	Business major, University of Alabama
Daniel	Baker	ASSOCIATE	No	EDGE	BA Economics, University of Texas
Taylor	Diehl	Associate	No	HydroGeoLogic, Inc. (HGL)	Masters, Environmental Science, Oregon State University BSC, Environmental Science, Baylor University
Jason	Marshall	Associate	No	eSeis, Inc.	Economics, University of Houston
First name	Last name	Membership	AAPG #	Member since	Age
		Emeritus			
First name	Last name	Membership	AAPG #	Employer/Professor	Degree, Major, University, Exp. Graduation
Fabian	Estrada	Student HOLD - Follow up to confirm Geology	No	Tyrone Smith	Lee College
Richard	Caeli	Student	No	Joseph Hill	B.S. Geology, Sam Houston State University
Jumoke	Akinpelu	Student	Yes		PHd Geology, University of Houston
Jigo	Mismanos	Student			Energy Geoscience, Rice University
Christian	Naillon	HOLD - Follow up on degree / University			Geosciences
Muhammad	Iqbal	HOLD (Carry over) Sophie To Follow Up with a Call. Confirm Student Status	Prof Dr. Mian Swohail Akram		BS Applied Geology, University of Punjab Lahore

Motion:

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

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

Major items for Discussion Penny Patterson

Penny Patterson moved up the priority items in the Agenda.

Grand Canyon River Trip – 7 signed up for field trip. 20 needed.

Holiday Party – Will be held December 16th at the Cadillac Bar on Shepherd, 5:30 – 8:00pm.

President Elect – Patty Walker

Website

Funds will need to be raised for a total re-build from a template. Aiming to launch in April to support the membership drive. There will be a committee formed to support the effort. Plan to incorporate sponsorship through advertising into the new website to assist with fundraising. Approximate cost estimate is ~\$30 – 35k.

Mentor Program

Mentoring committee is being established to be led by Juliet Irvin as chair under Patty Walker. Aims to cover multiple areas incorporating soft skills and technical skills.

Editor - Ted Godo

Sufficient articles have come in for the next edition of the Bulletin. Discussion was held about what last minute information is to be expected before publication. Anticipating additional write-ups including from Africa Conference.

Vice Presidents Report – Catie Donohue

Sherriff lecture well attended with approx. 140 attendees. Article will be drafted for the Bulletin.

Monthly dinner meetings are all booked and finalized through May with a question mark over December. Working on backup options for December. Discussion was held around options for the May meeting. Proposal to cancel reservation at the Norris Center for May and the board agreed. Further discussion about venue options for hosting events going forward.

Lunchtime meetings to be more targeted ~30 mins and hosted at operator / sponsor facilities.

Directors Reports:

Penny Patterson for Judy Schulenberg (absent)

One student had to change career path so the check was returned. Re-assessed students and Calvert Scholarships will award 18 students (rather than 17) in 2024-2025 (9 PhD and 9 Masters students). Allison Barbato will be co-chair for the 2025 scholarship night event.

Catherine Strong

Houston Museum of Natural Science student expo went well. The energy institute went to the Bureau of Economic Geology for an educational outreach event. Houston gem and mineral show was held in Humble and many volunteers attended with rock samples given to teachers for educational outreach. Two STEM nights are coming up which HGS volunteers will attend.

Lauren Robinson

LinkedIn continues to be the heavy hitter for social media outreach with the most activity and followers. Continue to advertise upcoming fall events, Grand Canyon and Geo-Gulf across all platforms.

Sharma Dronamraju

Golf tournament was very successful, final report to follow in next few days.

Clay shoot is coming up on 22nd November. 22 teams (4 more than last time). Conversation was held about potential prizes for the event.

Presidents Report:

New Business

Letter of Transmittal for Bones in Schools program has been drafted to document transfer of Bones to Sam Houston State University. The transfer occurred on 30 October 2024.

Interest in following up with members who have not renewed their memberships. Discussion about considering an option for discounted membership rates given the remaining time left in the year. Conversation continued about strategy to increase membership renewal with targeted outreach.

Next Meeting Date – December 10th Tuesday at 6:15pm

Motion

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

All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.