

HGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: February 13th, 2024, Meeting held via Zoom

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

Time: 6:19 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)	Catherine Cox Strong (D2)
Glenn Lowenstein (Treasurer)	Catie Donohue (Vice President)
Angela Hammond (Treasurer Elect)	Sophie Broun (Secretary)
Ted Godo (Editor) Joined Late	Lauren Seidman Robinson (D3)

Penny Patterson – Meeting started at 6:18 pm with Quorum of 8 Board Members present.

First Order of Business Discussion & Approval of the Minutes: There were minor edits received. No other board members had any proposed changes.

Motion:

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

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

HGS Treasurer's Report

January 2025

This report provides an overview of the financial status of the Houston Geological Society (HGS) as of the end of January 2025.

Executive Summary:

- HGS Total Equity increased (\$24,144) from December 2024 to \$1,013,052 due to interest/growth of the Schwab accounts.
- All budgeted events are within projected targets.

Equity:

Total Equity in HGS portfolio:

	Dec. 2024	Jan. 2025	Net Change (\$)
Chase Checking	\$130,143	\$140,959	\$10,816
Chase Savings	\$345	\$345	0
Schwab One	\$858,420 (\$78,267 – cash); \$780,153 – investments)	\$871,748 (\$80,123 – cash; \$791,625 – investments)	\$13,328 (corrected from last month)
Total Bank (Checking, Money Market)	988,908	\$1,013,052	\$24,144

Assuming an operating cost of \$35,000/month (approx. average spending per month to date during this fiscal year, reserves in the HGS liquid non-investment bank accounts (Chase checking) for 4 months of expenses.

Revenue and Expenses:

Operating revenues and expenses in January 2025 were as follows:

Majority Revenue = \$20,880 from Scholarship night; \$14,000 from Student Expo; \$11,060 from continuing education; \$5,750 from General Dinner; and \$3,306 from G&A (membership dues & publication royalties). Total Revenue = \$58,966

Majority Expenses = \$21,098 from G&A; \$5,844 from General Dinner; and \$1,040 from NeoGeos. Total Expenses = \$28,197.

Comparison of Jan 2025 to Jan 2024

Total Revenue: Increase of \$37,000 from 2024.

Biggest impacts: Registrations increased (\$41,482) and offset Sponsors decrease (\$25,552)

Total Expenses: Decrease of \$15,063 from 2024.

Biggest Impacts: Conference expenses increased (\$61,844); Meeting Expenses decreased (\$21,504); Social Events decreased (\$16,144); Bulletin expenses decreased (\$11,740); rent decreased \$8,341; and contract labor increased (\$5,295).

Motion: Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Judy Schulenberg so Moved and Catherine Strong Second the Motion. There was no discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

Secretary Report – Presented by Sophie Broun

New Membership Applications Report:

We had 6 new Active applicants (one was moved to Associate) and 4 Student applicants. The final approved list is shown below with accepted candidates marked in green. All were approved.

First name	Last name	Membership	Employer	Degree, Major, University
John	Martin	Active	Shell	PhD Geology/Geophysics, University of Minnesota
Kenneth	Werner	Active	Chevron	M.S. Geology, Oregon State University
Bill	Armstrong	Active	Armstrong Oil & Gas, Inc.	BS, Geology, SMU
Mark	Graham	Active	Apache	MSc Geophysics, University of Leeds
Sydney	Fuller	Active	Hess Corporation	M.S. Geology, Louisiana State University B.S. Geology, Sewanee: The University of the South
First name	Last name	Membership	Employer	Degree, Major, University
Cory	Fehr	Associate	Integrity Insitu	Project Management, Mount Royal University
First name	Last name	Membership	Member since	Age
First name	Last name	Membership	Employer/Professor	Degree, Major, University, Exp. Graduation
Riley	Schwartz	Student	Ninbe Aguilera	Associates of Science, Lone Star College University Park
Christine	Reimer	Student	Catie Donohue	Energy Geoscience, Rice University Earth and Oceanographic Science, Energy Geoscience, Bowdoin College
Robert	Ramos	Student		BS-Geology, North Carolina State University
Joshua	Kuhn	Student	John Beltz	BS Geology, University of Akron

Motion:

Motion to approve the agreed upon status of membership was made by Catherine Strong and Catie Donohue 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 – Refunded deposits. Take away for next year is to promote first before signing contract.

HGS GSH Case Studies Seminar – Three dates were proposed for the event: September 18th 2025, September 25th 2025 and January 15th 2026. Judy Schulenberg so moved that January 15th 2026 be the date and Catie Donohue seconded.

HGS Board Elections: Paul Britt indicated we have 3 people running for 2 Director positions. Preference would be for another candidate to also run.

Editor - Ted Godo

Bulletin is in good shape. Sending reminders to submit advertisements. Will include bios for HGS board election candidates.

Vice Presidents Report – Catie Donohue

Held first in person HGS general lunch well attended. Next will be the last week of February – Permian Basin focused. May dinner will be held at the Spanish Flowers as a market test to see if members like the venue and format compared to the Norris Center.

Jumoke Akinpelu from University of Houston has students who are interested in volunteering in Earth Science. Suggestion to connect with Janet Combes

Directors Reports:

Judy Schulenberg

Janet Combes reported the next several months have several outreach events including STEM night. Volunteers are needed for upcoming events including Nature Nest, HISD Geoscience Challenge and others. Suggestion made to add calendar of volunteering opportunities to Bulletin.

Continuing education. DHI course is complete with 62 people registered. Jon Rotzien has offered his clastic stratigraphy course.

Catherine Strong

Science and Engineering Fair is Saturday. Winning students with earth science topics will receive gifts / awards from HGS. Paul Mann shared that University of Houston awarded a scholarship funded by HGS.

Lauren Robinson

Neo Geo and Student Expo committees no action needed. Social media advertising February events and Geo Gulf as well as some of the volunteer opportunities.

Presidents Report:

Office Report

Old Business

Ted Godo: Members have reported difficulty accessing reporting old Bulletin editions from the website. Penny Patterson will follow up to resolve.

New Business

Next Meeting Date – March 18th Tuesday at 5:30pm

Motion

Motion to adjourn the meeting Catherine Strong and seconded by Glenn Lowenstein.

All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

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