

HGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: March 18th, 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)	Catie Donohue (Vice President)
Glenn Lowenstein (Treasurer)	Sophie Broun (Secretary)
Angela Hammond (Treasurer Elect)	Lauren Seidman Robinson (D3)
Ted Godo (Editor)	Judy Schulenberg (D1)
Catherine Cox Strong (D2)	Sharma Dronamraju (D4)

Penny Patterson – Meeting started at 6:19 pm with Quorum of 10 Board Members present.

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

Motion:

Motion to approve the February 2025 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 February 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

HGS Treasurer's Report

February 2025

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

Executive Summary:

- HGS Total Equity increased (\$6,417) from January 2024 to \$1,019,469 due to interest/growth of the Schwab accounts.
- All budgeted events are within projected targets.

Equity:

Total Equity in HGS portfolio:

	Jan. 2025	Feb. 2025	Net Change (\$)
Chase Checking	\$140,959	\$142,212	\$1,253
Chase Savings	\$345	\$345	-
Schwab One	\$871,748 (\$80,123 – cash; \$791,625 – investments)	\$876,912 (\$82,360 – cash; \$794,552 – investments)	\$5,164
Total Bank (Checking, Money Market)	\$1,013,052	\$1,019,469	\$6,417

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. **Expect a decrease in investment value due to the falling stock market.**

Revenue and Expenses:

Operating revenues and expenses in February 2025 were as follows:

Majority Revenue = \$37,520 from sponsors (Scholarship night and Student Expo) and \$4,790 from registrations (General lunch and Scholarship night).

Total Revenue = \$43,135.



Majority Expenses = Meeting expenses = \$13,910 (Scholarship night & Continuing Education); Payroll= \$6,156; Committee (Student Expo & Continuing Education) = \$6,061. **Total Expenses = \$36,854.**

Comparison of February 2024 to February 2025

Overall increase in Net Revenue in 2025 from 2024 is \$5,593.

Total Revenue: Increase of \$16,526 from 2024.

Biggest impacts: Sponsors increased in 2025 by \$22,620. Slight dip in 2025 from registrations <\$2,127> and short course income <\$2,950>.

Total Expenses: Increase of <\$11,196> from 2024.

Biggest Impacts: Meeting expenses (\$7,151) in 2025; Committee (\$6,031); and social (\$2,100.00). Decreases in expenses from 2024 were payroll <\$3,438> and legal <\$2,323>.

Motion: Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Catie Donohue 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 7 new Active applicants and 2 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
Cody	Trigg	Member	Apache	PhD, Geology, Stanford University
Raghd	Gadrbouh	Member	Viridien	Masters, Petroleum Engineering, Imperial College London
Umesh	Prasad	Member	Rocksci Y&P.LLC	Ph.D., Mining & Metallurgical Engineering, McGill University, Montreal, Canada
Raul	Huerta	Member	Retired ExxonMobil	MA Geology, Univ. of Texas Austin
Shailee	Bhattacharya	Member	GSI Environmental, Inc.	PhD, Geology, West Virginia University
Dylan	Cobb	Member	APA Corporation	MSc, Geology, Colorado School of Mines
Terry	Daigle	Member	GeoMark Research, Ltd	BSc, Biology, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
First name	Last name	Membership	Employer	Degree, Major, University
First name	Last name	Membership	Member since	Age
First name	Last name	Membership	Employer/Professor	Degree, Major, University, Exp. Graduation
Rachel	Williams	Student	Zane Jobe	
Juan	Gutiérrez	Student	Jacob Covault, Michael Sweet	PhD Geosciences (ongoing), MSc Geology, UT Austin

Motion:

Motion to approve the agreed upon status of membership was made by Catherine Strong and Judy Schulenberg 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.

HGS GSH Case Studies Seminar – Date agreed January 15th 2026.

Continuing Education Certificates: New design to include instructor signature, name & company on certificates but not display logos.

Editor - Ted Godo

Bulletin is in good shape. Several one-page articles, and other technical and social material will be sent through. Cutoff date for submission approx. 25th of the month.

Vice Presidents Report – Catie Donohue

Bohacs and E&E meeting well attended. 4 attendees signed up after attending a lunch talk. March lunch was canceled. April will be UT Alumni night. May general meeting will be at a more casual venue (original Spanish Flowers).

Directors Reports:

Judy Schulenberg

Continuing Education Committee meet Thursday (no report today). Nottingham elementary science night had 3x volunteers & between 175 – 300 attendees. Outreach committee provided 4 judges for the Exploring STEM challenge.

Upcoming events: HISD high school challenge, Rice reach for the stars & tent on discovery green.

Upcoming courses Geomechanics aspects in CCS (zoom), Carbonates and Petroleum Geochemistry.

Catherine Strong

Science and Engineering Fair write up will be included in Bulletin. Winners received signed Roadside Geology of Texas book. HGS are sponsoring 2 week internships for 3 interns at HMNS.

Lauren Robinson

Neo Geo and Student Expo committees are going well no action needed. Social media advertising all Spring events including NeoGeo cornhole tournament, Crawfish Boil (April 4th), volunteer opportunities, Africa Conference, GeoGulf and Bulletin for advertisement & articles.

Sharma Dronamraju

Crawfish Boil coming up, efforts next time to attract Operator attendance.

Presidents Report:

Office Report

Old Business

New Business

Next Meeting Date – April 15th Tuesday at 6:15pm

Motion

Motion to adjourn the meeting Catherine Strong and seconded by Ted Godo.

All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.