



HGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 13th, 2025, Meeting held via Zoom

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

Time: 6:21 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)	Sophie Broun (Secretary)
Ted Godo (Editor)	Angela Hammond (Treasurer Elect) – joined late
Lucia Torrado (Editor Elect)	Judy Schulenberg (D1)
Catherine Cox Strong (D2)	Lauren Seidman Robinson (D3)

Penny Patterson – Meeting started at 6:21 pm with Quorum of 9 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 March 2025 Minutes. Catherine Strong so Moved and Patricia Walker Second the Motion. There was no other discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

The Final Minutes for March 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

April 2025

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

Executive Summary:

- HGS Total Equity decreased (\$80,531) from March 2024 due to a donation pay-out and slight investment loss
- Budget - for the most part HGS has been trending positively on expenses and revenue throughout the fiscal year but in April, expenses were 9% more than budgeted. However, HGS collected more than 20% of the budgeted revenue and is still in the Black.

Equity:

Total Equity in HGS portfolio:

	March 2025	April 2025	Net Change (\$)
Chase Checking	\$160,326	\$81,727	<78,599>
Chase Savings	\$345	\$345	-
Schwab One	\$866,638 (\$84,314 – cash; \$782,324 – investments)	\$864,706 (\$86,568.00 – cash; \$778,138 – investments)	<\$1,932>
Total Bank (Checking, Money Market)	\$1,027,309	\$946,778	<\$80,531>

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 greater than 4 months of expenses.

Revenue and Expenses:

Operating revenues and expenses in April 2025 were as follows:

Majority Revenue - \$14,500 from sponsors (Student Expo, Shrimp Peel, General Lunch & Dinner) and \$5,015 from registrations (Shrimp Peel & General Lunch & Dinner) and \$4,762 from publications. **Total Revenue = \$31,996.**

Majority Expenses – Donations - \$47,037, Social Events - \$7,622, Payroll - \$6,341, Conference - \$5,000, Meeting - \$4,951 Computer software - \$3,577
Total Expenses = \$84,226.

Net Revenue = <\$52,230>

Comparison of April 2024 to April 2025

Overall decrease in Net Revenue in 2025 from 2024 is <\$61,575>.

Total Revenue: Decrease \$10,228 from 2024.

Biggest impacts: Sponsors decreased in 2025 by \$8,700, registrations down \$7,343. Membership dues down \$2,414 Short course income up \$2,324 and website ads up \$2,000 as well as publication royalties up \$4,762.

Total Expenses: Increase of <\$51,505> from 2024.

Biggest Impacts: Donations - \$44,502, Social Events. - \$5,487, Website Maintenance - \$1,786, Decreased expenses (minor) in 2025 included legal, ballot, meetings, and phone/ internet.

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

Secretary Report – Presented by Sophie Broun

New Membership Applications Report:

We had 1 new Active applicants and 1 Student applicant. The final approved list is shown below with accepted candidates marked in green.

First name	Last name	Membership	AAPG #	Employer	Degree, Major, University
John	Cooper	Active	Yes	Britanco LLC	MSc Geology, University of Texas, San antonio
First name	Last name	Membership	AAPG #	Employer/Professor	Degree, Major, University, Exp. Graduation
Gerard	Teunissen	Student			

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.

Presidents Night: Set for Tuesday, June 24th at Perry's Steakhouse Memorial City.

Loop institute: HGS donated \$2000 to Loop Institute for underprivileged children to have a STEM camp. To be included in Bulletin.

Budget vs Actual: Merchant fees have been high. The incoming board should consider a new processing system to minimize these fees or factor these costs into tickets.

New Board was announced.

Patty Walker – President Elect

Website & committees progressing.

Editor - Ted Godo

Feature article and two technical articles complete. Waiting on family approval for remembrance piece for Denise Stone. Pieces will be included on upcoming SIPES & URTeC conferences. Discussion around featuring members new to industry.

Vice Presidents Report – Catie Donohue

Absent. Patty Walker commented that the Spanish Flowers dinner was well received. Next lunch meeting will be held May 22nd.

Directors Reports:

Judy Schulenberg

Continuing Ed Committee: no updates.

Educational Outreach volunteers found 20 maps during HGS office move & these were donated to University Houston Library special collections.

Catherine Strong

University of Houston had student research day, went well. Area teams performed well in the AAPG Imperial Barrell Award. Texas A&M won 1st place and U of H team won 2nd place in North America.

Active participation with tours and school groups at Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Science and Engineering Fair congratulations letters have all been mailed out and positive responses received.

Lauren Robinson

NeoGeos are going well. Next Happy Hour is May 22nd and will continue each month over the summer. Student Expo committee is appreciative of budget approval from last month.

Social Media are actively advertising upcoming events including two short courses this month, May luncheon at Chevron and Happy Hour.

Sharma Dronamraju

Absent.

Presidents Report:

Office Report

Old Business

New Business

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

Motion:

Motion to adjourn the meeting Patty Walker and seconded by Catherine Strong.

All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

At 7:36 pm, the HGS Executive Board entered a closed session. At 8:01pm, the HGS Executive Board exited a closed session and resumed the normally scheduled board meeting. A decision was made to hire Kevin Croskrey with eMUNICATIONS, Inc. to re-design the HGS Website.