HGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 10th, 2025, 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 (VP)
Glenn Lowenstein (Treasurer)	Sophie Broun (Secretary)
Patty Walker (President Elect)	Ted Godo (Editor)
Catherine Cox Strong (D2)	Sharma Dronamraju (D3)

Penny Patterson – Meeting started at 6:19 pm

with Quorum of 9 Board Members present.

Welcome the new board members. Caroline Watchman incoming VP was attending as a guest and was the only new incoming board member to attend.

Incoming Board Members taking office July 1st, 2025

Patty Walker (President)	Bryan Guzman (President Elect)
Caroline Watchman (Vice President)	Bryan Bottoms (Secretary)
Lucia Torrado (Editor)	Editor Elect (Sharma Dronamraju)
Angela Hammond (Treasurer)	Andrea Reynolds (Treasurer-Elect)
Catherine Cox Strong (Director)	Lauren S Robinson (Director)
Amanda Johnston (Director)	Bill DeMis (Director)

Motion:
Motion to Approve Agenda. Patty Walker so moved and Catherine Strong seconded. The Vote passed unanimously.

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 May 2025 Minutes. Catherine Strong so Moved and Catie Donohue Second the Motion. There was no other discussion, Vote passed Unanimously.

The Final Minutes for May 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

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

Executive Summary:

- HGS Total Equity increased ($18,223) from April 2025 due an increase in Schwab Money Market and investments.
- Budget - for the most part HGS has been trending positively on expenses and revenue throughout the fiscal year but in April and May, expenses were 5% to 9% more than budgeted. However, HGS collected more than 15 % to 20% of the budgeted revenue and is still in the Black.

Equity:

Total Equity in HGS portfolio:

	April 2025	May 2025	Net Change ($)
Chase Checking	$81,727	$82,397	$670
Chase Savings	$345	$345	-
Schwab One	$864,706 ($86,568.00 – cash; $778,138 – investments)	$882,259 ($88,867- cash;$793,392 – investments)	$17,553.00
Total Bank Accounts (Checking, Savings, Money Market, investments)	$946,778	$965,001	$18,223

Assuming an operating cost of $30,000/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 5 months of expenses.

Revenue and Expenses:

Operating revenues and expenses in May 2025 were as follows:

Majority Revenue - $6,750 from sponsors (Student Expo & Golf Tournament, General Dinner); $2,910 (Short courses), $2,100 (Donations); $2,025 (Meeting registrations), $2,240 (Membership Dues) . **Total Revenue =$15,891.**

Majority Expenses – Payroll - $6,341, Donations - $3,365, Legal & Prof - $2,814, Meeting - $2,136, Bulletin - $2,003, Social Events - $1,616, Website Maintenance - $1,073 **Total Expenses = $26,405.**

Net Revenue = <$10,515>

Comparison of May 2024 to May 2025

Overall increase in Net Revenue in 2025 from 2024 is $39,095. With both months being in the negative.

Total Revenue: Decreased $7,765 from 2024.

Biggest impacts: Sponsors and publication royalties were down from 2024.

Total Expenses: Decrease of $39,042 from 2024 compared to 2025.

Biggest Impacts: Donations expenses ($22,702) were significantly down; followed by the Grand Canyon outfitters down-payment ($14,500) not seen in 2025; meeting expenses were down $6,295 and office insurance decreased in 2025 by $3,050; Social event expenses decreased in 2025 by $2,370.

Motion: Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Sharma Dronamraju 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:

The final approved list is shown below with accepted candidates marked in green.

First name	Last name	Member ship	AAPG #	HGS sponsor	Employer	Degree, Major, University
Gustavo	Prato	Associate				Bs Petroleum Engineering, Integrated Reservoir Management, Central University of Venezuela

First name	Last name	Member ship	AAPG #	HGS sponsor	Employer	Degree, Major, University

First name	Last name	Member ship	AAPG #	HGS sponsor	Member since	Age
Lamar	Roemer	Emeritus			>10 years	
Michael	Farrell	Emeritus			>10 years	
Lamar	Roemer	Emeritus			>10 years	
Joe	Curiale	Emeritus			>10 years	
Barbara	Hill	Emeritus			>10 years	
Phil	Trumbly	Emeritus			>10 years	>65 years
Stephen	Jackson	Emeritus			>10 years	73 years
Paul	Thompson	Emeritus			>10 years	

First name	Last name	Member ship	AAPG #	HGS sponsor	Employer/Professor	Degree, Major, University, Exp. Graduation

Motion:

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

Website Development: Agreed to increase advertisement for gold website sponsors to 1 page. Discussion around future fundraising strategy, suggestion to future board to consider asking sponsors for larger amounts less frequently.

Motion:

Motion to approve the website sponsorship flyer was made by Patty Walker and Sharma Dronamraju seconded. There was no discussion. Vote passed unanimously.

Patty Walker – President Elect

Assisted with progressing website. Spanish Flowers social event was well received.

Editor - Ted Godo

Bulletin is complete and distributed. Lucia Torrado will now be stepping into the Editor role.

Vice Presidents Report – Catie Donohue

Transitioning with incoming VP Caroline Watchman. Positive feedback from Spanish Flowers social event was received, attendees enjoyed more casual format.

Environmental Engineering will have an idea gathering meeting to strategize for the year ahead.

Chevron lunch had some challenges. Important to understand attendees and their country of origin etc.

Directors Reports:

Judy Schulenberg

Absent

Catherine Strong

Science and Engineering Fair awards banquet was held on May 20th. Recognized achievements of students who competed at the fair. Some students went to the Texas fair and then Regeneron International competition in Ohio.

HMNS volunteers with summer camp and increased attendees over summer. Weiss energy hall has tours that companies with interns and new hires are taking advantage of for education.

University of Houston will have reception at AAPG Image in August.

Lauren Robinson

Absent

Sharma Dronamraju

No updates

Presidents Report:

Office Report

Working on accounts payable. Outstanding pledges have come in.

Secured free booth for URTECH and IMAGE.

Transferred accounting firm from PKF to Withum Smith Brown.

Presidents Night

Renewal of Memberships

Old Business

New Business

Penny Patterson thanked the outgoing board.

Next Meeting Date – To be scheduled by the new incoming President Patty Walker. Tentatively Tuesday July 8th 2025.

Motion:

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

All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

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