

HGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: January 14th, 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)

Glenn Lowenstein (Treasurer)

Angela Hammond (Treasurer Elect)

Ted Godo (Editor) Joined Late

Catherine Cox Strong (D2)

Sharma Dronamraju (D4)

Patty Walker (President Elect)

Catie Donohue (Vice President) Joined Late

Sophie Broun (Secretary)

Lucia Torrado (Editor Elect)

Lauren Seidman Robinson (D3)

Penny Patterson – Meeting started at 6:18 pm with Quorum of 9 Board Members present.

First Order of Business Discussion & Approval of the Minutes: There were no proposed changes to the draft of the November minutes. No other board members had any proposed changes.

Motion:

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

The Final Minutes for December 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

December 2024

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

Executive Summary:

- HGS Total Equity increased (\$60,394) from November to \$1,067,175 due to interest/growth of the Schwab accounts.
- All budgeted events are within projected targets.

Equity:

Total Equity in HGS portfolio:

	Nov. 2024	Dec. 2024	Net Change (\$)
Chase Checking	\$133,614	\$130,143	<\$3,471>
Chase Savings	\$345.00	\$345	-
Schwab One	\$876,293 (\$69,005-cash); \$807,288- investments)	\$936,687 (\$78,267 – cash); \$858,420 – investments)	\$60,394
Total Bank Accounts (Checking, Savings, Money Market)	\$1,010,252	1,067,175	

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 3.5 months of expenses.

Revenue and Expenses:

Operating revenues and expenses in December 2024 are as follows:

Majority Revenue = \$7,115 in Registrations; \$19,815 in Sponsorships; \$2,598 in Short courses – Total Revenue = \$30,983. Most revenue from Continuing Education, Holiday Party, General Dinner, Clay Shoot, and HGS-GSH in declining order.

Majority Expenses = \$9,948 social events; \$5,727 Conferences; \$6,341 payroll; \$2,003 gifts – Total Expenses = \$33,977. Most expenses from Student Expo Committee, Clay Shoot, Holiday Party.

Motion: Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with corrections discussed. Patty Walker 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 5 new Active applicants. There were no applicants for Student, Associate or Emeritus membership. The board members reviewed the list of new 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
Mike	Schultz	Active	Mike Schultz SKA Consulting, L.P.	BS Mining Engineering, Colorado School of Mines
Alison	Macleod	Active	BGE, Inc.	MSc Hydrogeology, University College London BSc Geology and Applied Geology, University of Glasgow
Adam	Haecker	Active	Milestone Carbon	BS Geology, Texas A&M
Alice	Dorsey	Active	Ikon Science	BSc Geophysics, University of Oklahoma
Steven	Mitchell	Active	Southwestern Energy	BS Geology, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

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 – Decision made to cancel the trip. This was sent to the board and approved via vote by email on January 10th 2025.

Peter Vail – Penny Patterson contacted Jack Neal to write an obituary for Peter Vail. Penny Patterson will contact Catie in the event Jack was unable to write the obituary however this was not necessary inasmuch as Jack Neal will write the obituary.

SPE Hiring Event – Request to participate in a professionals hiring event in May 2025.

President Elect – Patty Walker

Request for virtual meeting attendance options – Member expressed interest in attending the talks virtually rather than just in person (at Norris Center). Discussion on how audio has been challenging in the past. We are working towards a virtual option. There will be an attendance fee for virtual.

Website - Progressing.

Mentorship Program - Waiting to hear back from NeoGeo committee. Discussion that Mentorship is for all levels of career (not just early). Next steps will be email to be sent to committee to get program kicked off.

Editor - Ted Godo

Bulletin is in good shape. The cover and feature article are both complete. If any additional pieces are needed, they need to be sent for inclusion soon. Participation was down a little last issue – likely due to the December holidays.

Vice Presidents Report – Catie Donohue

Good attendance at the general dinner HGS Legends Night James Painter. Upcoming is Scholarship night February 10th 2025 with Chevron sponsoring. March 10th 2025 is Kevin Bohacs, April 14th is UT Alumni night with Dr Young and May 12th 2025 we have canceled reservation at Norris Center in favor of having something more casual. Topic not confirmed but likely theme history of petroleum geology.

Lunch program will restart next week at Murphy with stratigraphy focus. We are looking for locations for lunches in the future. Will be offering remote access if we meet minimum in person limit.

Directors Reports:

Judy Schulenberg (Not Present)

Catherine Strong

Science and Engineering Fair of Houston February 15th in Rosenberg where HGS will be supporting 3 summer interns. Request made for judges which will go out in Bulletin. HGS supporting 3 students to attend DHI short course. 17 University of Houston Students who were sponsored to attend the GSH / HGS Seminar for Hydrocarbon Explorationists. Upcoming docent training at Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Lauren Robinson

Neo Geo and Student Expo teams are going well no action needed.

Social Media – advertising on all platforms. Will advertise big events also on the AAPG Social Media platforms.

Sharma Dronamraju

No updates.

Presidents Report:

Office Report

Made a profit on the GSH-HGS seminar.

Paul has finished cleaning office and is now ready for conferences.

Old Business

New Business

Next Meeting Date – February 11th Tuesday at 6:15pm

Motion

Motion to adjourn the meeting Sharma Dronamaraju and seconded by Catherine Strong.

All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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