

AGS Board Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2009

1. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 11:41 am.

Members in attendance include:

In Anchorage:

Pete Barker
Ken Helmold
Dave Shafer
Rick Levinson
Laura Silliphant
Al Hunter
Tom Homza
Tom Morahan
Sue Karl (late arrival)

In Fairbanks (via phone):

Jim Clough
Bob Gillis

2. **Approve minutes:** There was a short discussion on how to modify the minutes from December's meeting including fixes to typos. Laura Silliphant calls for motion to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Motion seconded by Al Hunter. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Treasurer's report:** Currently in red by \$423.55 (as of January 14) but this is just a temporary cash flow problem. AGS checking account has over \$7,000 in it. Incoming dues should eliminate the deficit. AGS luncheon break even or make a small profit. We need to check that people ordering lunches are current AGS members in good standing. ConocoPhillips has stopped paying for employees lunches because members can attend for free. We need to make an announcement at the next luncheon about renewing membership.

A summary report of AGS finances follows -

Income of \$1,542.28 was deposited in the AGS bank account by Al Hunter.

Expenses as of 11/12/08 total \$1,929.82

Net Income as of 11/12/08 total -\$387.54

Total balance as of 11/12/08 is \$56,807.08

Details of AGS Cash Flow & Balance Sheet:

4. **2008-2009 Budget:** Current AGS members-to-student ratio is 95:1. We need to make sure that membership dues plus advertising revenues exceeds the newsletter printing costs. Long discussion ensued of having two prices for members based on receiving a paper versus an electronic newsletter. Jim Clough would like to see a new fee structure by March. Dave Shafer volunteered to check into printing costs. Dave will also look into an alternate printing shop.

Possible price structure for next year: \$15 for electronic newsletter and \$20 for a paper copied sent via USPS. Newsletters should be posted on the AGS website one month after issue. Jim Clough will ask Diane Shellenbaum to coordinate with the AGS webmaster to post the newsletters on the website.

Tom Morahan motioned to approve the 2008-2009 budget; motion seconded by Laura Silliphant. Motion passed unanimously.

There was a short discussion of whether to send a check to the IRS to initiate a change in AGS's tax status. It was suggested to send all correspondence to the IRS via certified mail and request a Return Receipt. Laura Silliphant offered a motion to send the check as soon as possible; motion seconded by Tom Morahan. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **AGS luncheons and Conferences:** Tina Neal will talk Thursday, January 15 on Alaska volcanoes. Twenty-two members have signed up for a hot lunch; twelve members will bring their own lunch. Next month is AAPG's distinguished speaker. Columbia Glacier talk by USGS could be good for this May or some time next year. Rocky Reifentstahl and Paul Decker could give a presentation this May on the petroleum potential of the Alaska Peninsula. Third Thursday of each month is the regular schedule for AGS luncheons held at the BP Energy Center. Room is reserved one year in advance. Tom Morahan will talk the AAPG speaker to dinner at AGS expense (Tom pays for his dinner).

The remaining AGS luncheons include:
Feb 19 – Gerald Dickens; Climate and carbon cycles
Mar. 19 – open (possible speaker from Norway)
Apr. 22 – Steve Jones; Liberty Field development
May 21 – open

The 2009 Technology Conference in Fairbanks is currently scheduled for April 24 at the UAF Geology building. Pat Druckenmiller of UAF will chair the conference. No theme has currently been selected.

6. **Changes to By-Laws:** The by-laws need to be changed to allow for changes in the IRS tax status. Greg Wilson and Mickey Weeks have agreed to be on the by-laws committee. The AGS president can select the committee chairman and the chairman will seek volunteers to serve on the committee. Tom Morahan will also be on the committee for historical perspective. A long discussion ensued on possible changes to the society in

the future. Pete Barker discussed the merits of having a less formal structure rather than formal written procedures. Board has boarder powers than those specifically set out in the bylaws.

As an affiliate to AAPG the board members are covered against liability. AGS field trip, however, are not covered for liability. Field trip wavers are not worth anything so it is nearly impossible for AGS to run field trips. Sue Karl wants to have the new bylaws ready for the May meeting. The 2009 bylaws will be sent out in the April newsletter for approval by the membership. The old bylaws are on the AGS website in a PDF file. Laura Silliphant suggested creating a “how-to” document for each board position to document the responsibilities of each officer. Laura will help put this document together.

7. Posting Scholarships on AGS Website update: Rick Wilson is putting together a spreadsheet of the various scholarships detailing the particulars of each. Rick Wilson is the sixth member of the scholarship committee.

8. Nominating Committee for AAPG Representative: Dave Hite is currently the AGS representative to AAPG, but his term will soon expire. Jim Clough can appoint a committee to find a new representative. Alternatively the board can reappoint Dave Hite for another term. Ken Helmold calls for motion to nominate Dave Hite as the AAPG representative. Motion seconded by Pete Barker. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Alaska geology “honor roll”: Discussion postponed until the February meeting.

10. Next Meeting: The next AGS board meeting will be on Tuesday, February, 17.

11. Motion to Adjourn: Laura Silliphant calls for motion to adjourn the January meeting. Motion seconded by Rick Levinson. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:19 pm.