

Geological Society of Minnesota Board Meeting Minutes Nov 14, 2024  
Prepared by Stephen Willging  
Approved via email: 12/5/2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm on Thursday 11/14/2024 by Dave W.  
Location: U Garden Restaurant

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>Board Members Absent</u>	<u>Non-Board attendees</u>
David Wilhelm	Deborah Naffziger	Alan Smith
Stephen Willging		Kay Smith
Dave Kelso	<u>Incoming Board Member</u>	Steve Erickson (late arrival)
Dick Bottenberg	Dan Japuntich	Mary Helen Inskeep (late arrival)
Kate Clover		
Roger Benepe		
Lowell Hill		
Pete Hesse		

Note: **Board motions and votes are bold, underlined and highlighted in yellow.** **Action items are bold and underlined.** Please complete your assigned action items by next meeting or date specified.

Agenda Topics:

**1. Annual meeting**

The Annual GSM meeting was held on Sept 16; 74 persons attended, with a surprising 12 new attendees. Dick Bottenberg, Kate Clover, and Stephen Willging are each completing one 2-year term on the Board and are eligible for second terms. All three expressed interest in continuing as Board members. Dan Japuntich expressed interest in rejoining the Board in 2025, taking Pete Hesse's spot, who is leaving since he has served four consecutive years. At the Annual Meeting on Sept 16, all four of these members were elected to the Board by acclamation. All terms start January 1, 2025.

**2. Election of Board officers for 2025.**

Note: that all current Board members have votes, plus the incoming Board member (Dan). All officer terms start January 1, 2025.

The current Board officers all agreed to continue their roles for 2025.

David Wilhelm – President

Deborah Naffziger – Vice President (communicated via a phone call)

Dave Kelso – Treasurer

Stephen Willging – Secretary

No additional nominations were received from the floor. **Pete Hesse made the motion that the officer slate be accepted. Lowell Hill seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously yes. None opposed. The motion passed.**

### 3. Treasurer's report – Dave Kelso

See Treasurer's Report in **Appendix A.**

**In Sept., the Board held a vote by email on a motion requested by Dave K. to approve the Treasurer to beginning moving the GSM's investment account from RBCWM to Merrill Lynch. See Appendix B. David W. reported the vote was unanimously approved.**

Movement of GSM investment funds to Merrill Lynch – Dave K

Stephen W. and Dave K. signed the paperwork necessary to open the Merrill Lynch account.

Dave K. is waiting for Merrill Lynch to initiate the transfer of fund from RBCWM.

Dave K. is currently working on Federal and State tax exempt paperwork. After the investment account moves to Merrill Lynch, will look into changing the checking account to a bank with non-profit accounts. Possibly US Bank. Huntington Bank does not have accounts specifically for non-profits. That is why the current checking account is a business account and subject to transaction fees when the balance gets low.

### 4. Membership – Joanie Furlong

No information as Joanie was not present at the meeting. Note: Joanie, Dave W, and Stephen W. have mailbox keys. Stephen checks the mailbox 2 or 3 times a week.

**Roger B. made a motion to authorize Joanie F. to distribute the membership directories. Kate C. seconded the motion. The vote was: all in favor, non-opposed. The motion passed.**

**Kate C. will work with Joanie Furlong to publish a list of new members and total membership in the next Newsletter.**

### 5. Lectures & Labs – Steve Erickson

David W. provided a summary of lecture attendance:

Summary to date for Fall 2024: 5 lectures, 276 total attendance, 55 average attendance, 19 identified new attendees

Steve E. reported Deborah N. will do a lecture on Ohio geology for the last lecture of the Fall series. The Winter/Spring series is set except for the first January lecture. Steve E. is looking for a talk possibly on crystallography and the March Zoom lecture still needs to be confirmed.

In January, Keller Hall on the U of MN campus will be locking at 5p. Steve E. is looking into the options that would allow GSM members/public access to Keller Hall for the lectures.

**6. Video/Zoom recordings and posting to YouTube – Dick Bottenberg, Patrick Pfundstein**

See Dick's report in **Appendix D**. A flow list has been developed for video processing. **Lowell H./Dick B. will talk to Patrick P. to let him know what the process is and to determine if he needs to be involved in the process.**

**7. Rock Hammer Awards**

A committee consisting of Theresa Tweet, Dick Bottenberg, and Roger Benepe proposed that GSM award three Estwing rock hammers this year, to Becky Galkiewicz, Mary Helen Inskip, and Dan Japuntich. Dave Wilhelm awarded two (Becky, Dan) at the 2024 Annual Meeting. Mary Helen's hammer was awarded by Dave on Oct 28, at the first in-person meeting she attended. Dave has submitted a report on their merits for the Nov 2024 Newsletter.

**Dave W. will send out a list of the hammer award recipients.**

**8. Holiday Party – if & where?**

David W. is looking for ideas for the GSM Holiday Party. **David W. will send out an email for possible locations.** During discussions it was suggested moving the party to January. Possibly Sat. Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup>.

**9. State Fair and other venues to promote GSM – Patrick P.**

See Patrick P. report in **Appendix C**.

Other venues in which the GSM participated was Dinofest at the Science Museum of Minnesota and the Minnesota Mineral Clubs annual meeting at the State Fair grounds.

**10. GSM markers**

See Dick B. report in **Appendix D**.

Becky Galkiewicz has resigned as chair. Dick B. has agreed to take leadership, Patrick Steury has expressed interest to help. (Becky will assist with transition; David W has handed her materials to Dick.) Dan Japuntich has joined the team. They will meet on Sunday Nov 17<sup>th</sup> and visit 3 Twin City markers. **The team will develop a "Go Forward" plan over the next 6 months.**

**11. Minnehaha Marker – Patrick P.**

See Patrick P. Report in **Appendix C**.

**Kate C. and Patrick P. will look into who has the ball on this project.**

**12. Video Library – David W.**

David W. reported there were no new purchases for the library in the last quarter. There were 8 rentals in last quarter and there is \$36 in cash on hand.

**13. Field trips – Dave W**

There were 2 field trips last quarter.

- a. Stephen W. & Roger B. led fossil field trip to Rockford, Iowa Sept 7. A total of 16 attended. Stephen W. has written a report for the Nov. Newsletter.
- b. Dave W. organized tour of St. Anthony Falls Lab Sept 18 - report in Nov. Newsletter

There is one field trip in the planning stage. Randy S. & Joanie F. are planning a week+ long field trip to New Mexico May/June 2025.

**Let David W. know if you an idea for future trips.**

**14. Creating video walking tours for the GSM YouTube channel – Kate Clover, Patrick P.**

Nothing happened yet. Steve E. suggested a “Morton Gneiss” example video. Any other similar rock topics?

Mary Helen suggested “Impact Cratering” demonstration video. Lowell H. will help with generating video shorts.

**15. GSM Website – Alan Smith**

Alan thanked Dick B. for identifying issues with the new website. A major issue was the speed at which the site came up. It problem was identified to be a “sleep” issue which should be fixed. **Alan will send an email with the link and request for the Board to test out the new website by the end of November.** First priority should go to “does the website work” and the second priority would be potential improvements.

Alan Smith asked whether a web page should be added to the new website to enable T-shirt purchases. It was decided that T-shirt sales should not be added to the website as T-shirt sales is not a ongoing activity.

**16. Aiming for a younger and more diverse membership, Meet Up group – Mary Helen Inskeep**

Mary Helen reported the Meet Up site is up. There are 13 people on the site. One new lecture attendee said they learned about the lecture through the Meet Up site. Mary Helen has set up templates for lectures (both in person and Zoom). **David W. is to copy Mary Helen on lecture descriptions for the Meet Up site.** A template for the labs is under construction. Check it out by going to gotomeetup.com and search for Geological Society of Minnesota. **Mary Helen will send out detailed instructions for Meet Up access.**

**17. GSM T-shirts & caps**

Joe Newberg’s report: We had a total of 12 people order hats, shirts, and vests. We took in a total of \$699 from the sales and paid \$580 to Big Frog for the items. Nine members have picked up their items. **Joe will contact the remaining three in an attempt to arrange delivery.**

**18. Donations:**

- a. “Minnesota Fossils and Fossiliferous Rocks” from Sally Sloan, widow of author Robert Sloan. Although we voted to distribute these (with a disclaimer sticker) for a \$10 donation at the Annual Meeting, this did not occur.

The distribution did not occur because the disclaimer sticker was not prepared. **Steve E. will work with Tony Rundle on the wording.** Distribution targeted for the Spring Banquet.

Stephen W. sent a donation acknowledgement letter dated August 24, 2024 to Sally Sloan after approval by David W. and Deborah N. Stephen W. asked if there was a central place

to store the document for the GSM records. There is currently no centralized depository for donation letters for GSM. It was suggested one should be developed on the website next year. To be discussed further at future meetings.

b. Various rocks, minerals, and other items from the Steffners

The Steffner donation is mainly in the GSM storage unit with the exception of a couple of items that David W. has at his home. **David W. and Dave K. will review the materials to determine the nature of the donation.** It was suggested that the donation may be distributed to interested GSM members at the Spring banquet.

**19. Give to the Max Day**

Teresa Tweet has once more set this up. Dave W has given permission to use his contact info (as President). Teresa reports we typically get a few small donations.

**20. Selling MN Weatherguide calendars as a fundraiser**

Carrie Jennings suggested this. David W. will contact Carrie Jennings and send out an email to membership. We will go for option #1.

**21. Any other items?**

No additional items.

**22. Date & location of next Board meeting.**

The next Board meeting is tentatively set for 6:30p on Thursday Feb. 20, 2025 at U Garden.

**Dave K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Pete. H. seconded it. The vote was: All in favor, none opposed. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.**

## **Appendix A**

Treasurer's Report  
GSM Board Meeting  
Nov 14, 2024

1. Checkbook balanced for the months of Aug, Sep, and Oct, 2024.
  - a. Note: A service fee of \$20 was assessed for the month of July due to our Checking account balance dipping below \$10,000.
2. Income, deposits, for the three months = \$4,767.75.
  - a. Note: \$699.00 was deposited to cover the cost of GSM T-Shirts, caps, vests. The actual income for the three months = \$4,068.75.
3. Expenses for the three months:
  - a. Banquet facility rent = \$150.00.
  - b. Banquet speaker expenses = \$26.00.
  - c. Extra Space Storage rent = \$471.91.
    - i. Billed directly to Huntington bank card.
  - d. Newsletter postage/printing = \$151.25.
  - e. Speaker honorarium = \$125.00.
  - f. Post Office box rental for one year = \$200.00.
  - g. Total expenses for the three months = \$986.85.
4. Checking account balance as of Oct 31, 2024, = 13,559.51.
5. Investment account balance (RBCWM as of Oct 31, 2024, = \$11,765.15.
  - a. The paperwork has been submitted to establish an investment account with Merrill Lynch. I believe the account has been set up and I am waiting for Tiffany (Merrill Lynch) to initiate the transfer from RBCWM to Merrill.
6. Financial spreadsheets, and this report, will be uploaded to the GSM website at the conclusion of the Board meeting.

Submitted by Dave Kelso  
GSM Treasurer

## **Appendix B:**

From: David Wilhelm  
Mon, Sep 9 at 11:32 AM

As I have gotten positive responses from all Board members (including me), this motion is approved. Thanks for your quick responses.

Dave K, you can start the process. Stephen, you can make note of this in the November minutes.

David W.

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**From:** David Wilhelm

**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2024 7:45 PM

**Subject:** GSM Finances: E-mail motion to transfer accounts to Merrill Lynch - reply by Wed, Sept 11

GSM Board members,

Dave Kelso has made this motion: "authorize the Treasurer, Dave Kelso, to transfer the GSM investment account and funds from RBCWM to Merrill Lynch" and requested that we approved it by e-mail before the next Board meeting. See background below. [Please reply-all with your response by EOD Wednesday, Sept 11.](#) Should you have any questions or concerns, please reply-all with those also. Thank you.

Dave Wilhelm

GSM President

## **Appendix C:**

From: Patrick Pfundstein

Thu, Nov 14 at 2:53 PM

Dear GSMers

### **State Fair/MMC**

Be Affinity Designer Course Material alias tween a big order, some leftover stock from an outing by Dave Wilhelm at the Zoo, and some stock I printed at home from leftover paper, we started the Fair with brochure counts at 2700 Lecture, and 1700 Marker. The State Fair used about 1700 Lecture, and 900 Marker; MMC used another 400 Lecture and 300 Marker. That leaves us with about 500 Marker stock in storage (the unused Lectures have been recycled).

Sorry, this is so sketchy and incomplete (short nap turned long and I have to dash to work). I'll try to flesh this out and send it when I get home tonight!

### **Minnehaha Marker**

I don't really have much of an update here. We still need to agree with the Park Board on final design and text, and I'm not fully sure whose court the ball is currently. Maybe ours? Kate and I had a discussion about problems with the last MPB iteration, but with Fair and MMC, I'm not sure if we finalized those. If not we can get that done.

Big picture is we have time to get things sorted and bids made and manufacturing done well in advance of spring. (Though I've written a version of this the past 4 Novembers.)

Kate might be able to help with any questions, otherwise email them this way and I can answer in a final version of a November report.

### **YouTube**

All available Zoom lectures are posted (and have been since June). I'm not sure of the status of the latest Zoom talks (maybe they are not open to posting), but if those do become available I can post them during the winter break.

We have 1341 subscribers and have 2.8K views in the past 4 weeks, which is slightly down.

I haven't made progress other than a few outlines for shorter content. Hopefully this is a good winter project.

Patrick

## **Appendix D:**

From: Dick Bottenberg

### **GSM Board Marker Committee Report (Revision A) – 14 Nov 2024**

After leading the GSM Marker Committee for more than 10 years, Becky Galkiewicz has stepped down as the Chair. Becky was awarded the coveted GSM Hammer for her innovative approach to increase visibility of and interest in Minnesota's Geological features through visiting the GSM Geological markers. The marker committee now consists of Dan Japuntich, new GSM member Patrick Steury, Alan Smith (GSM Webmaster), Becky and Dick Bottenberg (Chair). The committee is currently reviewing marker status, history, potential forms of outreach and faster ways to make new geological site information available to the public. The new committee met on 17 November to survey 2 Twin Cities markers and plan to meet to after GSM seminars to discuss progress. Our current goal is to present a Marker go-forward plan at the Spring Board Meeting.

### **GSM Board Video Report – 14 Nov 2024**

Progress has been made in Video Recording.

Joe has developed an approach to integrate the lecture raw video into a "flow list". This "flow list" provides specific direction to the technician who processes the raw video into a video that is ready to be viewed online by the public. The following are added to the video using the flow list: topic introduction, speaker photo (if available from the speaker or

from the speaker's online info), speaker background, lecture presentation with video usage cues, Q and A, reference links associated with the presentation and closure directions.

The following flow lists are complete and provided to the technician: (1) Last year's banquet lecture, "Digging into the Stories of Sand" and (2) The recent lecture by Carrie Jennings on "Ground Water Governance in the Great Lakes States...". Flow listings for the recent lectures by Kat Canter and Harvy Thorleifson are in the queue. We expect "Sands" to be online in November and "Groundwater" to be online in December.