

Final Approved Minutes

Board Meeting of the Geological Society of Minnesota, November 11, 2021

- A. **Opening and Welcome:** The meeting was held by Zoom videoconference at 7:00 p.m.
1. Minutes for the Aug 19, 2021, Board meeting were previously approved by email and posted to the GSM website. FYI: Board members have 10 days to review and/or approve the preliminary minutes after the Secretary sends them out. Please do so by the date set by the Secretary.
 2. Review and agree on the agenda for Nov 11, 2021.
 - i. The agenda was agreed to.
 3. Future Board Meetings:
 - i. Date tentatively set for Feb 10, 2022 (second Thursday)
 4. Board Status – Info only
 - i. Current Board membership.

1. Roger Benepe (effective Jan 1, 2022)	2022-2025
2. Deborah Naffziger (effective Jan 1, 2022)	2022-2025
3. Pete Hesse	2021-2024
4. Nancy Jannik	2021-2024
5. Patrick Pfundstein	2020-2023
6. John Westgaard	2020-2023
7. Wolf Bielefeld	2019-2022
8. Roxy (Knuttila) Janezich	2019-2022
9. Frank Janezich	2019-2022
10. Joe Newberg*	2018-2021
11. Dave Kelso*	2018-2021
 - ii. Current Officers.
 1. President – Joe Newberg*
 2. Vice President – Patrick Pfundstein
 3. Treasurer – Dave Kelso*
 4. Secretary – Dave Kelso*
 - iii. Board membership for 2022.
 1. First term for Roger and Deborah end December 31, 2023. FYI: Board members serve for one two-year term and are eligible for reelection to one more term.
 2. First term for Pete and Nancy end December 31, 2022.
 3. Roger, Deborah, Nancy, Peter, are eligible for reelection to one more term.
 4. Due to term limits, Patrick and John are leaving the Board on December 31, 2023.
 5. *Due to term limits, Joe and Dave K are leaving the Board on December 31, 2021. Their seats will be taken by Roger and Deborah.
5. Board members present: Pete H., Nancy J., Patrick P., John W, Wolf B., Roxy J., Frank J., Joe N., Dave K.
6. Non-Board members present: Roger B. (Bd member elect), Deborah N. (Bd member elect), Alan S., Randy S., Dave W., Steve E.

B. **Agenda Items for review and/or consideration by the Board:**

1. Annual Meeting

- i. The Annual Meeting/Banquet was not held due to Covid concerns. However, the election of Board members was conducted via email by the membership. Votes were compiled by Joe N and Dave K. A quorum was met and 57 votes were cast for the candidates.
 1. Deborah Naffziger and Roger Benepe were elected to a two-year term (their first).
 2. Patrick Pfundstein and John Westgaard were elected to their second two-year term.

2. Election of Officers.

- i. The Board needs to elect Officers for calendar year 2022. Proposed candidates are listed below and have accepted their nominations:
- ii. President - Roger Benepe
- iii. Vice President - Patrick Pfundstein
- iv. Treasurer - Nancy Jannik
- v. Secretary – None (Secretary duties will be shared among Board members)
 1. **M/S/P (Wolf B/Dave K) to accept the nominations and elect Roger Benepe as President, Patrick Pfundstein as Vice President and Nancy Jannik as Treasurer.**
 2. The vote was 11 yes and zero no.
 3. Officer terms are for one year.

3. Treasurer updates – Dave K/Deborah

- i. Financial reports were submitted to the distribution list prior to the Board Meeting and have been uploaded to the website. Financial reports do not need Board approval.
 1. Dave K presented a brief overview of the finances. There were no comments or concerns. Please see “Financial Report for Nov 11 Bd” attached to these minutes.
- ii. GSM review of finances.
 1. Financial reports were not reviewed (bank statements vs checkbook register) due to the changeover from TCF Bank to Huntington Bank.
- iii. Dave Kelso will be leaving the Board at the end of the year therefore, transitioning off both the Secretary and Treasurer positions. Dave K will outline transitional items that need to be completed as part of the transition.

4. GSM Website – Alan

- i. Joanie Furlong is the backup webmaster when Alan is unavailable.
- ii. Work on documentation for website management is ongoing.
- iii. Dave W will continue updating the website for announcements, field trips etc.
- iv. Alan S and Patrick P have been looking into options for membership dues collection through an automated system such as PayPal accessible via our website. This is in the “discovery” stage and will and will continue.
- v. Board to discuss listing Rock Hammer award recipients on the website. There was some concern about privacy issues. This will be discussed at a later date.
 1. Dave K pointed out that in the past Theresa has submitted candidates to the Board for consideration of the award. No action was taken.

5. Lectures and Labs – Steve E/Dave W

- i. Lectures continue via Zoom. Patrick/Dave W/Randy should provide some attendance numbers.
 1. Please see “GSM Lecture Attendance” attached to these minutes.

- ii. All winter lectures will be via online Zoom webinars; the schedule is online. Conditions, though, are still fluid; the U now mandates vaccination and masking for staff/students, and that may be tough for us to regulate and enforce. If those standards are still in place come spring, a full remote schedule is likely.
 - 1. Steve E gave an update on upcoming lectures indicating that four lecture slots have yet to be filled.
 - 2. A Lab at Macalister has been scheduled for Feb 19, 2020. More details will be forthcoming.
 - iii. Patrick has been posting the recorded Zoom lectures on our GSM You Tube channel.
 - 1. Patrick is currently the admin of the You Tube page and Randy is a co-manager.
 - a. Please see “YouTube Channel Report” attached to these minutes.
 - iv. Dave K continues to copy recorded “live” lectures to MP4 files to be uploaded to our YouTube channel. This will be completed by the end of the year.
- 6. Membership – Joanie
 - i. Membership Chair Joanie Furlong reports that our current active membership is at 142. There are currently 55 memberships that are up for renewal.
 - ii. Committee will assess the possibility of adding membership payment through the website. This should be updated.
- 7. Newsletter – Kate/Mark
 - i. Kate Clover, Mark Ryan, Harvey Thorleifson (MGS), and Rich Lively (MGS) continue as Newsletter editors.
 - ii. Our latest Newsletter is November 2021 and will be published shortly.
 - iii. Our policy is to post a Newsletter to the website when the next Newsletter is released.
- 8. State Fair – Patrick
 - i. See “State Fair/MN Minerals Club Report” attached to these minutes.
- 9. Conferences and Resources – Dave W
 - i. Live geology conferences have been cancelled indefinitely due to Covid-19. Dave W, as the Liaison Officer, will continue to inform the GSM membership of online conferences and resources as they become available.
 - ii. See Patrick’s comments on our participation at the MN Mineral Club meeting this past September see “State Fair/MN Minerals Club Report” attached to these minutes.
- 10. Field Trips – Dave W/Joe N/Nancy J
 - i. Field Trip planning is currently on hold but will be re-assessed this winter.
 - ii. The new “speaker system” may be used for field trips. Currently in Kate’s possession.
- 11. Zoom Social Gatherings – Randy/Dave W
 - i. Dave W continues to host Zoom Social Gatherings on non-lecture Monday nights for interested GSM members through the winter months. Dave W will continue notifying members of these gatherings.
- 12. Video Library – Dave W
 - i. No rental activity due to suspension of in-person lectures.
 - ii. One new member has joined the video library.
- 13. GSM Marker Survey project – Becky
 - i. Becky submitted: I have created a new poster with two current maps: one of the State of Minnesota and the other a close-up of the Metro area. All of the marker locations are shown on the poster. The map is intended for use at the State Fair booth, in conjunction with brochures for handing out to State Fair attendees. The brochures have the web-site address for the

Geological Marker Home Page. The updated map shows visitors how to visit several markers in close proximity to each other. I'll bring the poster to the next Board meeting at the Survey office (or the spring banquet). Rebecca Galkiewicz, Geological Marker Committee

14. Minnehaha marker replacement status –
 - i. Please see “Minnehaha Panel Report” attached to these minutes.
15. GSM Scholarships and grants – Dave W
 - i. Nothing to report.
16. GSM Rock Hammer awards – Theresa
 - i. No action on choosing new recipients.
 - ii. In the past, Theresa has submitted nominations for consideration.
17. Ask GSM activity – Theresa
 - i. Dave W reported that most inquiries have been requests for lecture participation.
 - ii. No further updates.
18. GSM Student Outreach – Joel
 - i. No updates.
 - ii. Dave K reported that the money from Tom Schoenecker for outreach is reserved for this purpose once student outreach visits resume.
19. GSM Operations Guide – Patrick
 - i. Patrick will update with State Fair information.
 - ii. Wolf B asked that the outgoing officers update their respective sections in the Guide before they leave office.
 - iii. Patrick will make available copies of the Guide for those that request it and will consider the best mechanism to accomplish this as the Guide is approximately 8 GB in size.
20. Geological material contributions – Dave W
 - i. Dave W will continue storing rock box materials in his garage indefinitely.
 - ii. Dave Wilhelm did an inventory of Judy Hamilton donated materials including two binders of field trip information (1989-2003), two binders of newsletters ('84-'13), a binder of State Fair information '97-'11, and GSM Directories '90 to '13.
21. New topics – TBD
 - i. The Steffners will not be hosting the annual “holiday party” this year.
 - ii. Patrick volunteered to be “secretary” at the Feb 10, 2022 Board meeting.
22. Goals
 - i. Install new big-picture marker at Minnehaha Falls during 2022.
 - ii. Develop a plan and prioritize marker installation/repair for Minnesota's geological markers based on the recent marker survey.
 - iii. Continue developing a GSM marker database and survey the markers in 2022.
 - iv. Develop video recording crew and optimize the equipment and processes; have first video recording of a lecture available to members in 2022. Note: for online lectures, recording is done via Zoom and videos made available through Zoom for those presenters who consent.
 - v. Begin posting Zoom lectures to YouTube (Spring '21) Patrick/Randy (Done)
 - vi. Develop a system to explore methods to incorporate online dues payments via the website by August 2022.
23. Adjournment:
 - i. **M/S/P Pete/John to adjourn.**

C. Attachments:

- A. YouTube Channel Report
- B. Financial Report for Nov 11 Bd
- C. GSM Lecture Attendance
- D. State Fair/MN Minerals Club Report
- E. Minnehaha Panel Report

Attachment A
YouTube Channel Report
Submitted by Patrick P

YouTube Channel Report
Board Meeting November 11, 2021

So I kind of fell off the wagon the past couple months on YouTube. (Or technically, I was checking our page once in a while, but missed new uploads in the Studio portion.)

Right now, there are four lectures I can tweak and make public. They are:

The April 12 lecture on Geo3M: Mts, Melting, Metamorphism

The April 26 lecture on the Age of the Earth

The October 4th New Madrid lecture.

The October 18th Colorado lecture.

My plan, subject to discussion would be to tweak the April lectures and put them out to the public right away. By Friday night.

This year's lectures could go live at any time as well, though we could possibly post them on the "off Mondays" in the current lecture schedule or use them to fill in the gap for the holidays.

The channel itself currently has 72 subscribers; 10 have joined in the last 28 days.

The all-time Views champ for online lectures is the talk on Geology of Iowa (more than 3 times the views at 784 as the runner up, Iron Rich Rocks (221).

However, Glaciation and the Great Lakes has the longest percentage of lecture viewed (23.7%) with Iron Rich Rocks and Iowa running at 16%.

We have enough content up now that it is probably a good idea to produce a cover video (seen when you go to the channel page as opposed to specific lectures), and start working up playlists.

Patrick

Attachment B
Financial Report for Nov 11 Bd
Submitted by Dave K

GSM Financial Report for the Nov. 11, 2021, Board meeting

(Submitted by Dave Kelso)

This Financial Report represents items completed for the end of our fiscal year 2021 (ended Aug 31, 2021) and current calendar year.

1. The “books” (income/expense reports) have been closed for the fiscal year 2021 and re-established for fiscal year 2022. Fiscal year 2021 reports have been posted to the website.
2. Fiscal year 2021 summary
 - a. Income \$3,945
 - b. Expenses \$3,504
 - c. Cash on hand \$16,114
 - d. Invest bal \$5865
3. Current items
 - a. Checkbook register has been balanced and reconciled through October 31, 2021
 - b. Due to TCF bank changing to Huntington Bank our account numbers, both checking and savings, have changed. New checks bearing the Huntington information have been ordered and distributed to those members authorized to be signatories. In addition, new endorsement stamps have been ordered and are available for those that would like one.
 - c. The GSM debit/bank card from TCF has been replaced with a Huntington Bank Card.
 - d. ExtraSpace storage rent is currently billed directly to our TCF bank account. Dave K is in the process of changing it to our Huntington account.
 - e. Federal form 990 (annual declaration of income received etc.) has been filed with the IRS.
 - i. Because we are a non-profit with contributions under \$50,000/yr. we file a form 990-N which is done electronically and corresponds with our fiscal year.
 - f. The Minnesota “annual renewal” has been submitted to the Secretary of State.
 - i. This “annual renewal” is what re-certifies that we, the GSM, is indeed a tax-exempt non-profit organization and is completed electronically by the end of the calendar year.
 - g. Treasurer transition
 - i. Board members may serve up to two 2-yr. terms and officers are elected from the Board membership. I will have completed my second 2-yr. term on the Board and therefore, will be leaving the officer position of treasurer effective Dec. 31, 2021. I will put together an outline of what needs to happen and who needs to do what to facilitate a smooth transition from the old to the new.

Attachment C
GSM Lecture Attendance
Submitted by Dave W

GSM Lecture Attendance

2021-2022

Note: During fall 2021, lectures are held by Zoom webinar. The attendance count is the number of devices that have joined. Since some devices have more than one person watching, the actual attendance is larger than the

recorded number. We are having devices with more than one person report how many are watching from each. It seems there are about 15-17% more people than devices. The number of persons is in parentheses below.

Summary for Fall 2021 to date: 4 lectures, 300 total attendance, 75 average attendance, 29 (10%) non-members registered

2021-11-01 48 (56) A Geology of North Carolina (*5 non-members registered*)

2021-10-18 58 (70) A Brief Geologic History of Colorado (*4 non-members registered*)

2021-10-04 67 (73) Earthquake Science and Impacts of a Major Earthquake on the New Madrid Seismic Zone (*12 non-members registered*)

2021-09-20 84 (101) Geology of Minnehaha Falls Park (*7 non-members registered*)

2020-2021

Note: During 2020-21, lectures are held by Zoom webinar. The attendance count is the number of devices that have joined. Since some devices have more than one person watching, the actual attendance is larger than the recorded number. Starting 2020-10-05, we are having devices with more than one person report how many are watching from each. It seems there are about 15-17% more people than devices. The number of persons is in parentheses below.

Summary for all 2020/2021: 14 lectures, 1164 total attendance, 83 average attendance, 108 (9%) non-members registered

Summary for winter/spring 2021: 7 lectures, 681 total attendance, 97 average attendance, 91 (13%) non-members registered

2021-04-26 67 (77) How Modern Geochronology is Transforming Our Understanding of Geological Rates: An Example from Alaska (*6 non-members registered*)

2021-04-12 77 (86) Geo3M: Mountains, Melting, and Metamorphism (*8 non-members registered*)

2021-03-29 102 (119) Lake Superior Agate Origins, Classification and Prospecting (*about 25 non-members registered, including members of State Microscopical Society of Illinois and Georgia Mineral Society*)

2021-03-15 96 (108) Craton to Coast: National Park Paleontology from the Grand Canyon to the Channel Islands (*over 12 non-members registered, including members of State Microscopical Society of Illinois (SMSI) (at least 5) and Georgia Microscopical Society*)

2021-03-01 82 (93) Investigation and cleanup of the former Ford Plant in St. Paul (*10 non-members registered, including a co-worker of the presenter*)

2021-02-15 90 (105) The Dawn of the Dinosaurs: The Unlikely (& Very Lucky) Triumph of Dinosaurs (*15 non-members registered; one attendee was a first-grader*)

2021-02-01 85 (93) Glaciation and the Great Lakes, an epoch in the making (*15 non-members registered*)

Summary for fall 2020: 7 lectures, 483 total attendance, 69 average attendance, 27 (6%) non-members registered

2020-12-14 66 (72) The Glacial History of Iowa (*5 non-members registered*)

2020-11-30 64 (77) Mesozoic Vertebrates of Antarctica (*6 non-members registered*)

2020-11-16 54 (64) Minnesota's Geologist: The Life of Newton Horace Winchell (*4 non-members registered*)

2020-11-02 57 (63) Geological and Tectonic Evolution of the Transantarctic Mountains, from Ancient Craton to Recent Enigma (*4 non-members registered; 2 found us on the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering website*)

2020-10-19 49 (58) Neotectonic Fault Reactivation and Landscape Rejuvenation on Norway's Post-glacial Margin (*0 non-members registered*)

2020-10-05 60 (69) Minerals are the Future (*3 non-members registered*)

2020-09-21 71 (~80) How Ancient Iron-Rich Rocks Tell the Story of Minnesota's Oceans (*5 non-members registered*)

Attachment D
State Fair/MN Minerals Club Report
Submitted by Patrick P

State Fair/MN Minerals Club Report
Board Meeting November 11, 2021

No point in writing this out twice, so pasted in below is the GSM News article on the Fair and MMC shows.

The Big Update, though. We did get billed by the State Fair for the second half of our booth fee, and I paid it (this had been discussed as a possibility at the August meeting). That let me then reach out to the Fair folks about next year, and I have filled out and returned the formal "Count us in, next year" form. So we can definitely plan on returning to the Fair in 2022. And thanks to David Schaaf (see below) we should have a viable way for GSM members to sign up online. (Critical for getting slots filled given lectures remaining online.) Patrick

GSM News article

With a return to some form of normalcy in the Spring of 2021, the Minnesota State Fair (MSF) and the Minnesota Mineral Club (MMC) confirmed plans to revive their public programs, and GSM's board approved the Society's return to the Fair and to MMC's Rock, Gem and Mineral Show.

Unfortunately, as you know, the Covid delta variant broke loose in late July, and facing staffing shortages and concerns of members and the public, GSM and several other educational exhibitors withdrew from active participation in the 2021 Fair. The Fair was still held but with fewer vendors and exhibitors, and attendance was 61% of that in 2019. Despite withdrawal, GSM remains in good stead with the Fair. As State Fair Chair, I've already reached out to MSF for participation in the 2022 festival.

MMC's annual show adapted to the post-Covid conditions by moving the show forward a month to take advantage of more outdoor spaces, and the show shifted indoor exhibitors to the State Fair Dairy Building, a large building with high-ceilings and good ventilation. There was also good outdoor space nearby for vendors and food trucks (including Tom Thumb donuts which at least one GSM volunteer was thrilled about). The show was held without a hitch; and after two years, GSM was back in front of the public.

Our table had the usual numbered rock and fossil specimens, our Marker and Lecture brochures, a short selection of books, some state geology maps, and a draft of the Minnehaha Marker. But most of all, it had some great GSM volunteers behind that table, actively representing our organization to an interested public!

Conditions were great, and attendance was strong with 1553 attendees on Saturday, and another 1241 on Sunday for a show total of 2994. GSM had a prime location near the entrance, and we gave out nearly twice as many lecture and marker brochures as were distributed in 2019 (174 lecture brochures vs 100 in 2019, and 94 Marker maps against 50 in 2019).

I'd like to thank Program Chair Steve Erickson, and Members Alfred Knauth and David Schaaf for stepping up to staff the table, and an extra hat-tip to David for sharing his knowledge of online volunteer recruitment, which should pay big dividends for next year's State Fair. Thanks, as well to Ashley Bedard and the volunteers at MMC for putting on such a great show. Looking forward to 2022!

Minnehaha Panel Report

Board Meeting November 11, 2021

Short report.

I am back in email contact with Mary Lynn Pulscher at the Park Board concerning the panel. Our end is mostly done. (Mostly as in files may need tweaking for their designer.)

The Park Board needs to put the files in final places tweaked (fonts, sizes, spacing) to fit their brand standard. I'm hoping to send Mary Lynn a drive with the highest resolution files to a location of her choosing (not sure if she is back in the office yet) and have a meeting via Zoom to get a clear sense as to status and timing.

If manufacturing timing is close to the previous bid limitations, we probably want a final design two months in front of any chance to mount a finished product. That would mean early January for March, and February for April.

Patrick