

Board of Director Minutes

Minutes of The National Speleological Society – Cave Diving Section 27 May 2001 - Lake City, Florida

The Board of Directors is as follows:

Mr. Ormeroid – Chairman	Elected with a total of 290 of 336 ballots received.
Mr. Poucher – Vice Chairman	Currently serving member
Mr. Jones – Treasurer	Currently serving member
Mr. Hill – Secretary –	Elected with a total of 241 of 336 Ballots received
Mr. Bowen - Leadership	Elected with a total of 208 of 336 ballots received
Mr. Murphy – Director at Large	Elected with a total of 203 of 336 ballots received *
Mr. Willis - Training Chairman	Elected with a total of 36 of 56 ballots received.

Mr. Murphy will serve the board for one year fulfilling the term of Mr. Watson

Mr. Jones gave the treasurers report and reported that the balance sheet for the organization is correct and that as of 30 April 2001, the assets of the CDS total \$195,729.50 with a cash on hand balance of \$65,412.59. Revenue for the past year is attributed to increased on-line sales. Mr. Ormeroid requested that a mid-year inventory be conducted.

Mr. Ormeroid reports that Wayne Marshall restitution payment program is two months in arrears. Procedure requires the CDS to notify the local court authorities should he miss three restitution payments.

The Cow Springs Balloon payment is due in February 2002 and the CDS has the ability to meet that payment. The current financial market uncertainty will requires the CDS to monitor its investments and make appropriate investment shifts if necessary.

Discussion of future use of the Exley Award and the Gomez Fund will involve discussion of the specific use of these funds with the appropriate parties. The Gomez Fund was made to the NSS and the CDS will administer it. Mr. Poucher suggested that an actual budget be prepared for the coming year.

Mr. Jones discussed the CDS use of the “Quick Books” software to maintain the sections finances. He advised that the check writing procedure requires streamlining as the delays built in it have had some adverse affect on our vendors.

Mr. Ryan welcomed the newly elected members and described the role of the Administrator and his responsibilities for C-Card processing, orders, membership, information request. Also discussed was the BOD manual, CDS fundraising, new products, member’s questions and grants.

Mr. Ormeroid suggested a planning session for the Board to consider the following:

1. Defining or redefining the Section mission statement.

Board of Director Minutes

2. Land management issues
3. Budget planning

This session will be conducted during the weekend of July 14th 15th at a location to be determined.

Mr. Ryan departed the meeting to return the rental truck.

Mr. Ormeroid advised the section that T.J. is doing an outstanding job as Webmaster and deserves recognition in UWS from the Board. Further, that the website needs to be updated and particular attention should be given to projects such as Beacon Woods, revising some of the older sections, the current news and publication of the current by-laws. Mr. Hill will contact Mr. Watson for his working copy of the by-laws.

Mr. Ormeroid discussed land management:

Cow Springs:

1. The property was posted with no trespassing signs
2. The logs intended to reduce erosion into the spring were moved by persons unknown and restored.
3. A neighbor reported that persons from Jacksonville and Perry were camping at the location. He further reported that the “campers” discussed retaliation against those closing off the property to them and recommended not leaving you vehicle unattended while diving.
4. Downstream Cow may be used by CDS Instructors for training
5. Bill Rennaker is the property manager for Cow Springs
6. Mr. Hill and Mr. Ormeroid will continue discussion with the neighboring landowner.

Cathedral

1. The property is clean and that natural vegetation is taking over
2. Future use for CDS functions was discussed. i.e. cookouts, socials, BOD meetings
3. The water should be tested and studied to determine the affect of lower water levels and the surrounding environment.
4. The system is not divable at present but there is indication it connects to Lime Springs
5. Bill Rennaker is the property manager for Cathedral
6. Requirements to dive Cathedral are as follows:
 - a. Abe Davis recipient
 - b. Familiarity with deep diving.
 - c. Familiarity with decompression procedures
 - d. First dive to be made with someone who has dove it before
 - e. First DPV dive permissible only after three swimming dives and when accompanied by someone familiar with DPV operation within the system.

Electronic Communication: Regarding electronic communications the Board agrees that Board Members shall acknowledge receipts of questions from the membership in a timely manner. Policy issues and questions to members of the board shall be forwarded to the

Board of Director Minutes

Chairman for discussion among the Board members to ensure organizational continuity and accurate and timely response to the membership.

Training issues are to be forwarded to the training chairman.

Mr. Willis discussed the new student workbook. Strategies to reduce cost and make the book a “living document.” The front and rear covers of the book will be printed in bulk to reduce cost. This procedure will allow the text and content will to be updated easily and inexpensively between the spiral bound covers. It will retail in the \$35.00 to \$39.95 range and will contain all required student/instructor materials along with a cd-rom.

Instructor-Interns will be charged a \$20.00 fee for the CD, manual and power point presentation.

An Affiliate Program will be explored. Affiliates will be provided the following:

- 10” –12” Sticker bearing the CDS logo
- Small CDS banner or flag.
- Additional discount to provide incentive to stock merchandise
- Affiliate fees to be in the area of \$100 - \$150 annually
- Affiliates to be listed on our web site and in uws.

Associate Membership in the NSS was discussed. CDS members may enroll in the NSS at a reduced rate and become Associate Members. The fee is expected to be \$12.00 annually and in return the member will not have NSS voting privileges nor receive the NSS monthly newsletter. The program will not affect CDS membership or CDS voting rights. Full details will be highlighted in a coming issue of UWS. Instructors and Board members will be required to be full voting members of the NSS.

Mr. Willis is studying the creation of an electronic database that will list all divers that have successfully completed CDS training. It will expedite the replacement of lost certificate of training cards.

The Board of Directors agrees with Mr. Willis that it is within the authority of the Training Chairman to create a training representative position in Mexico.

The Board of Directors recognizes the authority of the Training Chairman to appoint and recognize Training Representatives in countries outside of the United States. These Representatives will have among their responsibilities, conducting NSS-CDS Instructor Institutes with approval from the Training Chairman. Additionally the Board of Directors agree that a formal letter will be sent to the training representative and staff that assisted in the past institute conducted in Akumal, Mexico in April 2001, reaffirming the Board of Directors decision and action.

Having no other issues brought to the Boards attention the meeting was closed.
Minutes submitted by Ken Hill.