

## Board of Director Minutes

### Minutes of The National Speleological Society – Cave Diving Section March 10, 2002 – Gainesville, Florida

The Board of Directors meeting as follows:

Mr. Ormeroid – Chairman	Present
Mr. Poucher – Vice Chairman	Present
Mr. Jones – Treasurer	Present
Mr. Hill – Secretary	Present
Mr. Bowen - Leadership	Present
Mr. Murphy – Director at Large	Present
Mr. Willis - Training Chairman	Telephonic Standby
Mr. Ryan - Administrative Manager	Present

Mr. Ormeroid opened the meeting with a motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting a second was made by Mr. Jones, with unanimous approval for the minutes voted. Mr. Ormeroid and Mr. Hill discussed that the approved minutes will be posted to the web site and that past Minutes will be placed in archive.

Mr. Jones gave the treasurers report and reported that the balance sheet for the organization is correct and reported a cash on hand balance of \$51,246.50. Mr. Jones reviewed the bank transfers sheet with the Board.

Discussion was held about projected project expense and other costs to the section. It appears that past budget discussion and planning has allowed the section to allow certain expenditures in the coming months. Some of these expenses may add to about \$8,000 for printing costs for training materials, the manual and ballots for the general election. The Board discussed the use of the Exley fund and the Gomez fund to enhance CDS services to the membership.

Mr. Hill, the Secretary introduced the Board to William Rotella who has announced his intention to be a candidate for the coming election by filing a platform statement by the February 28, 2002 deadline. The Secretary also informed the Board that Mr. Rotella has not been a member of the CDS for a one-year period prior to nomination as required by Article II Section E, 2. of the by-laws and therefore is ineligible to run for office. Mr. Rotella told the Board that he sought to run for Treasurer, as he is a certified public accountant. After discussion with the Board he offered his accounting services to the section requesting only reimbursement for actual costs. Mr. Rotella's assistance will be phased in after being assigned projects with input from the Treasurer and Administrative Manager and the current accountant. A formal motion to accept Mr. Rotella's offer of service made by Mr. Hill and seconded by Mr. Ormeroid. A board vote to accept his services as section accountant will be delayed until after the tax year and discussions with the current accountant and his decision regarding continuation of his services to the CDS.

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Mr. Poucher brings new business to the Board about the possibility of Sheck Exley's maps being copied and scanned. Mr. Jones motions that Mr. Poucher research the dissemination, copyright and release of the maps. Motion seconded by Mr. Murphy with a unanimous vote. Mr. Bowen's motion about the use of the maps will await his presentation and is tabled until that time.

Mr. Poucher discussed Eagles Nest and the status of discussions with the DEP. The DEP has requested the physical dimension of the cave, depth and other information readily available by CDS divers. The DEP may ask us to monitor salt water intrusion. The meeting may also be attended by a DEP representative, Jeff Peterson, a non-member and avid cave diver. It is likely that any agreement to dive Eagle's Nest will meet the following criteria; full cave, Abe Davis, Tri-mix, DAN master insurance (or equivalents.)

Mr. Poucher told the Board that he was informed by the DEP that the diving manual used by the state is intended for use by state employees and certain volunteers. Mr. Hill observed that the DEP manual is roughly equivalent to the NOAA scientific diving manual, which makes certain safety diver requirements a prerequisite for diving operations. Mr. Poucher states that after his discussion with DEP officials he is of the opinion it will not affect CDS diving on state projects with CDS participation.

Mr. Ormeroid reports the following:

The Peter Gomez fund is on the BOG agenda. He expects approval for release of the funds for CDS use.

The membership list is now updated monthly and messages can be emailed to the membership.

Donations for advertising will be researched.

The CDS web sight has been extremely active. The forum has been extremely active also and helpful to the cave diving community

Mr. Jones brought a matter to the attention of the Board where a member instructor had contacted him about an issue and was referred to the Training Committee.

Arrangements will be made for gate installation at Cow and Cathedral and releases will be forwarded to the property manager and others for use by the membership.

Madison Blue discussions have expanded and efforts will continue to get it reopened. Mr. Hill reports that the diving release for Madison County has been prepared and submitted for review.

The Board of Directors discussed Instructor sponsorship in closed session.

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Mr. Hill made motions the following:

Motion that the NSS-CDS Public Service award to be presented annually to a public official for his or her contribution to the mission of the CDS. This award shall be presented in the officials' venue and before their peers and presented by a CDS member. Seconded by Mr. Murphy and voted unanimous approval.

Motion that establishes the Henry Nicholson Award for 500 safe cave dives. The Training Director will review this award in the same manner as the Abe Davis award. Seconded by Mr. Murphy and voted unanimous approval.

That the election may appear to be moot as there are three incumbents filing for the three vacant Board positions. Articles within the by-laws allow the Chairman to call a special election by the Board to satisfy his obligations under the by-laws. A special election would fulfill the requirement of the election and eliminate the need for a special printing of a ballot with postage to the general membership. This will save the section the \$800.00 budgeted for the election and the money can be re-moved from the election line item and allocated toward CDS diving projects. Seconded by Mr. Ormeroid with later telephonic vote. Mr. Jones, Poucher and Murphy abstain.

Mr. Ormeroid and the Board remind all the members that this is their organization and their participation in Board matters and elections is crucial to the growth and progress of the organization. Having no other business before it the Board of Directors meeting is closed.

Minutes submitted by Ken Hill.