

TCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONFERENCE CALL

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Attendance

President Jeff Benoit, President-Elect Lisa Schiavinato, Past President Kristen Fletcher, Treasurer Jeff Smith; Directors: Betsi Beem, Rick Burroughs, Tali Engoltz, Angela Gustavson, Tom Murray, Christine Patrick, Susan White; and Executive Director Judy Tucker. (Helene Scalliet was on vacation, and Rick DeVoe had a business conflict.)

President's Report

President Jeff Benoit identified three priority areas for action over the next two years: 1) Committees, 2) Chapters, and 3) Development. Committee chairs and members will be appointed and tasked with drawing up their plans of action.

A TCS member and Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines, Jesse Kranyak, requested an announcement be sent to members about donating educational material to the Partido State University School of Fisheries Management. The Board supported the effort. Benoit will gather more details and prepare the announcement.

TCS will be a contributor level sponsor of CSO's Coastal and Ocean Celebration. See below under Report of E-votes.

The TCS Board manual will be distributed to the Board for review after the last comments on the draft have been incorporated.

Approval of Minutes from December 16, 2008 Meeting

VOTE: The minutes from the December conference call were approved with all in favor, none opposed.

Report of E-Votes

The Board of Directors voted to approve the Hilton Wilmington Riverside hotel as the location for TCS 22 conference on June 13 – 16, 2010.

The Executive Committee voted to be a \$250 contributor of the Coastal and Ocean Celebration hosted by Coastal States Organization on February 24, 2009. Fletcher abstained from the vote. The TCS name and logo will be included on signs and publicity, and TCS may set out membership material.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Forms

The Board Conflict of Interest Policy states that "the TCS Board will annually disclose or update to the TCS president on a form provided by TCS their interests that could give rise to conflicts of interest." A new draft form was distributed to the Board, reviewed during the meeting, and accepted.

ACTION: Board members to respond to each question with either "N/A" (not applicable), or "none," or with information, and sign and return the form to the TCS Office by 2/28/09.

Financial Report

The two-year budget cycle was explained as a first year operational loss, with a second year influx of income from the conference. The 2008 year-end financial statements were reported. The year began with assets of \$28, 803 and ended with \$102, 609. All income items exceeded budget. Expense items

exceeding budget were due mostly to timing of payment and board approved activities. TCS is in sound financial condition for the non-conference year.

Expenditures must be approved by the TCS President prior to expending. Committees were reminded to plan accordingly for their activities.

The Board discussed and agreed to keep the existing investment vehicle in the uncertain economy.

VOTE: The Board voted to accept the financial report.

The bank account and the investment account require that the Board pass resolutions identifying who is authorized to take action on those accounts. Because the officers changed, new resolutions must be passed.

VOTE: The board voted to adopt the resolutions as presented.

Update on Bylaws Vote

The vote on the proposed changes to the TCS Bylaws was not concluded due to an insufficient number of votes: 107 received versus the 189 required under the majority of the membership required in the TCS Bylaws. A proposal making it easier to pass bylaws changes was received, and there may be other needed changes to streamline the bylaws, prompting the question of whether to close the current vote, make the added changes, and open another vote.

The proposal submitted for voting on changes to the bylaws would move from a majority of the membership to a majority of a quorum at the Annual Meeting, which is defined as 5% of the membership. If the membership was 300, 5% would be 15 members; if 400, 20 members. Attendance at Annual Meetings at a TCS conference is about 50, and about 30 at a CZ conference. To make sure that changes are not too easy to make, and that the membership is aware of proposed changes, the changes would be emailed to the entire membership 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, and proxy votes could be made.

VOTE: The Board voted to close the current vote on the proposed changes to the bylaws.

ACTION: Benoit, DeVoe, Engoltz, White to review bylaws for additional changes and to develop a strategy for getting the required votes to pass them.

Sponsored Event in Taylor & Francis Agreement

TCS signed the initial a two-year agreement until the end of 2010, which includes a \$5000 sponsorship from T&F for an event or project in 2009 which will be designed by both TCS and *Coastal Management Journal (CMJ)* to meet mutual goals. One possible event might be a workshop in conjunction with the Board retreat in North Carolina (site of TCS 22) about a coastal issue to help shape a plenary discussion at TCS 22, or a reception for potential attendees and sponsors. There would not be sufficient time to organize a workshop on leadership in time to assist with collection of papers for a special issue of *CMJ*. Another idea would be to hold an event or reception at CZ 09 where TCS and *CMJ* editors would be present. No next steps were identified.

Board Retreat

The purpose of a Board retreat would be to develop a plan of action for the two-year budget cycle. Committees would come into the retreat with a proposed scope of work for what they hope to accomplish. Integration of all TCS activities would be coordinated.

After debating whether to separate the retreat from an event in NC to promote TCS 22, the Board decided to hold the two events next to each other. The promotional event might be a workshop around an issue

which could be developed into a plenary at TCS 22 and which would draw attendance from local and state government, NC universities, and private industry. It could be preceded by a breakfast or followed by an evening reception for potential sponsors.

ACTION: Benoit to send Board a proposed format, date, time and agenda for a retreat to be held in Wilmington, NC in May or June 2009.

CMJ Special Issue

The proposed special issue of *Coastal Management Journal*, “Dimensions of Leadership in Coastal Management,” targeted for publication in early 2010 will follow the *CMJ* guidelines for guest editors and the timeline developed by TCS leads Betsi Beem and Paul Ticco. The primary responsibility will lay with those two as guest editors, not with TCS, so no contract nor MOU is required for TCS resources or financial support. Authors will be sought from the TCS membership and TCS 21 presenters. TCS will be recognized as the organization behind the issue in the introduction and conclusion, acknowledging and analyzing the leadership role that TCS has.

VOTE: The Board voted to endorse the efforts of Beem and Ticco to develop this special issue of *CMJ*. Betsi Beem abstained from this vote.

TCS 22

Patrick Lawrence, University of Toledo, OH, Department of Geology, has agreed to be the Program Chair. Next steps are to update the timeline and roles and responsibilities for the planning committee.

Committee/Working Group Reports

Membership – Distributed 2008 year end report with points for future discussion by committee and board. Letter drafted for use in retention of student members after graduation.

ACTION: Committee to give Board a recommendation for handling students joining in the fall semester, just before being asked to pay dues for the following full year.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M. E.T.