

## TCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, April 9, 2009  
3:00 – 4:00 PM EST  
(12:00-1:00 PST; 2:00-3:00 CST)

**Attendance:** President Jeff Benoit , President-Elect Lisa Schiavinato, Past President Kristen Fletcher, Treasurer Jeff Smith; Secretary Helene Scalliet, Directors: Betsi Beem, Angela Gustavson, Susan White, Rick DeVoe.

### Approval of February Minutes

**VOTE:** The minutes from the February 12th conference call were approved with all in favor, none opposed.

### Financial Report

- 1<sup>st</sup> Q financials
  - Net assets are \$94,460
  - We are still on budget.
  - We have expenses carried over from last year which skews the budget for 2009, but were planned for in the prior budget.

**ACTION:** Jeff Smith will send out more detailed budget to the BOD (04/10/09 update: **done**)

- TCS 21 Registration Issue
  - TCS is still being charged monthly for registration system used for the TCS21 conference. Conference organizer John Cooksey had entered in an agreement with the online conference registration system, but TCS never formally endorsed that agreement. Nevertheless, TCS is being charged directly for monthly fees, and there is a \$500 termination fee. After initial discussion, John Cooksey has agreed to cover the monthly fee for TCS while online registration is not being used. However, TCS believes that John Cooksey should also be responsible for the \$500 termination fee which it never agreed to. We will get copy of contract from John Cooksey, and have further discussions with John Cooksey. We like the online service and would like to use them again for TCS22, but the commitment that John Cooksey made on behalf of TCS was inappropriate.

**ACTION:** Jeff Benoit, Judy Tucker, Jeff Smith and Lisa Schiavinato will review the contract once they receive it from John Cooksey. They will then talk with him about options for the fees to be covered by him rather than TCS, and inform the BOD of these discussions.

### Future of CZ Conferences

CZ conferences are held every two years with NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC) as a prominent lead for planning the conference. Due to a number of legal issues and economic uncertainty, the CSC is seriously contemplating not having another CZ conference after CZ09. It is uncertain whether it would continue without the CSC support. If CZ is discontinued, the CSC

would be interested in endorsing another biennial conference as a replacement for CZ and they approached Jeff Benoit to ask if TCS would like to be that organization endorsed by the departing CZ organizers.

This might result in a higher attendance for TCS23, which would alter future choice of venues, etc... The Board was in favor of further discussion with CSC and among ourselves.

**ACTION:** Jeff Benoit will continue communicating with CSC and keep the board informed.

### **Discussion of Board Retreat & TCS 22 Event**

- Retreat planning

The retreat will be all day Sunday and half-day Monday, May 31 and June 1. After the wrap-up on Monday, there will be a luncheon as a TCS 22 marketing event to introduce TCS and TCS22 to the Wilmington/NC regional area potential partners. The BoD members should try to arrive on Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup> for field trip/activities – including a tour of the beaches on the topic of beach erosion with Spencer Rogers of NC Sea Grant and a tour of the NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher, a good opportunity to assess the aquarium as a potential reception site for TCS22. On Sunday night dinner will be hosted by TCS at local venue

**ACTION:** Jeff Benoit will send info about committee homework for the retreat in the next couple of weeks.

- TCS 22 Event

Lisa Schiavinato and Todd Miller are co-chairs for conference. They have worked together to identify a number of topics and speakers that we could invite to a luncheon to hear a brief panel discussion on a topic important to NC that can also transfer to other areas. Examples of topics include: beach erosion, water quality (TMDL issues), low impact development, etc... We have a draft invitation list for the luncheon, we are going to keep it at 50 invitees (excluding TCS BOD members, Todd Miller and his staff). Target guests are local planners, officials at the municipal level, academics, etc... We will have some TCS22 development material ready to share with the participants for the June 1<sup>st</sup> marketing event.

**ACTION:** Anyone interested on development should talk with Kristen Fletcher. TCS is focusing development efforts not only on conference sponsorship but also on long-term partnerships to bring TCS a more even flow of funds in the non-conference years.

### **Taylor and Francis Update**

Part of the 2008 agreement between TCS and Taylor & Francis is a donation by T&F of \$5000 for the off-year. TCS is recommending to Taylor & Francis that the money be used to hold a series of events the marketing event for TCS 22 luncheon in NC, on June 1 and then two brown bag events (likely one on the East Coast and one on the West Coast) focused on current, regional issues that could be folded into TCS 22. Rather than focus these efforts on creating papers for the *Coastal Management Journal*, it is recommended that TCS 22 be planned with an eye toward a plenary that would generate articles for the CMJ. a which would generate

*East Coast event:* brown bag at NOAA, co-lead would be Kristen Fletcher, with Susan White helping.

*West Coast event:* event aimed toward potential Puget Sound chapter, focusing on current issues.

### **Update on Bylaw Changes**

Over the last year, the TCS Board received and approved for member ratification several changes to the by-laws in four of its articles (V, VI, XIII, and XVI). The Board recommendations were mailed out to the membership for approval, but a quorum (as defined in the by-laws) was not reached and the by-laws recommendations were subsequently withdrawn by the Board.

To make it easier to get by-laws changed we might have to change the membership approval process; for instance, using the Annual Meeting as the opportunity to vote on bylaws changes. But in order to get that approved we still need the majority of the membership to vote.

**ACTION:** Rick DeVoe will get all changes to the by-laws together and provide the package to membership in mid-June in advance of CZ meeting, try to get as many electronic votes as we can in advance of the meeting, then use the TCS Annual Meeting at CZ to collect additional votes.

### **CMJ-TCS Special Issue Proposal Update**

Call for paper was publicized on April 1<sup>st</sup>. There is already one potential contributor from Bangladesh. Paul Ticco and Betsi Beem are both points of contact. Patrick Christie is comfortable with the timeline in the Call for Papers. There is interest by T&F in doing a few mini-issues of the journal that focus on specific issues. We should try and harness the energy and momentum that comes out of a conference to create those mini-issues.

**ACTION:** Pass on Call for Papers to friends and colleagues!

### **TCS 22 Update**

TCS22 is getting good response so far – a few people are already volunteering on helping with the committee. Students from ECU chapter are interested; we are also looking to connect with Duke and other chapters. We will formally start the planning process in June.

**ACTION:** Encourage anyone you know to join in on the conference planning process

**Adjourn**