

**TCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

Friday, April 23, 2010  
3:30 – 5:00 PM EST (12:30-1:00 PST; 2:30-3:00 CST)  
(Saturday, April 24, 2010, 5:30 UTC)

**ATTENDANCE**

*President* Jeff Benoit, *President-Elect* Lisa Schiavinato, *Treasurer* Jeff Smith, *Immediate Past President* Kristen Fletcher, *Directors*: Betsi Beem, Rick DeVoe, Patrick Lawrence, Christine Patrick, Jim O'Connell; *Ex-Officio Director*: Tali MacArthur; *Communications Committee member* Laurie Jodice; *Executive Director*: Judy Tucker.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

APPROVAL OF 2010 – 2011 BUDGET:

**MOTION PASSED** in an electronic vote reported 2/2/10 to adopt the 2010-2011 budget.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONTRACT:

An annual contract was put in place for 2010. Upon review by the TCS President, it will be automatically renewed.

COASTAL RESOURCE RECOVERY FUNDRAISER:

Begun in 2006 as a fundraiser for awards to restoration projects in areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, it will be reactivated to support projects in the host state of the TCS conference. Initial plans were to share with NCCF proceeds from a concert of coastal music during TCS 22. The concert was cancelled, but fundraising will be continued through the TCS 22 registration check off and via the TCS web site post-conference. Submissions of proposed projects in NC are being collected and will be reviewed in September by a committee of TCS members and NC representatives.

TCS HISTORY PROJECT:

The TCS Bulletin issues have been scanned in a searchable format, indexed and put on the TCS web site thanks to past Board member and TCS Executive Director, Tom Bigford, with support from the NOAA NMFS Office of Habitat Conservation, and Laurie Jodice, past TCS board member and member of the Communications Committee. Coincidentally, the first TCS president, Maurice "Herb" Schwartz, contacted the TCS Office to inquire about the current direction of TCS. Tom followed up with a call to Herb. He noted there was a lack of TCS recorded history. Early documents, including Board minutes, had been lost in shipment from a Past President to Tom as Executive Director. Because the majority of TCS Past Presidents are located on the East Coast and could attend TCS 22, the idea of a recorded history of TCS through its Past Presidents was born. Tom will serve as head of a planning committee of Benoit, Ticco and Tucker, and as moderator of a session to be videotaped on Sunday, June 13, from 9 AM to Noon. The session will include comments by the Past Presidents present, messages sent

by others and discussion about issues at the time and how TCS responded. The Board is invited to observe the session.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**MOTION PASSED** to adopt the minutes from the December 17, 2009 meeting as written.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

As of 3/31/10, TCS has net assets of \$54,775, with a restricted account for CFFR of \$1,439, for a net position of \$51,034. This is a better position than recent first quarters of a conference year when funds approach the lowest point in the two-year cycle as illustrated by the 3/31/10 net income of -\$5,180. There is sufficient cash flow to pay the conference bills. Dues income is expected to increase with conference registration to take advantage of the discounted fee for members. Due to successful Development Committee efforts to get conference sponsors, the conference budget is projected to net \$76,000, over the \$70,000 in the TCS budget.

**MOTION PASSED** to accept the financial statements as presented.

## **TCS 22 CONFERENCE UPDATE**

### PROGRAM:

All plenary speakers have been confirmed and the concurrent session schedule is full.

### REGISTRATION:

Open for three weeks, 45 people have registered. A press release and reminder announcements will be sent next week.

**ACTION: Board members** to forward announcements to colleagues and post the conference on listservs.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: The additional fee for a room with a river view can be avoided by registering through the conference coordinator.

**ACTION: Board members** to contact John Cooksey ASAP at [Worldaqua@aol.com](mailto:Worldaqua@aol.com).

### AV EQUIPMENT LOAN:

Loans of ten sets of LCD projector and laptop are needed to reduce the AV expense. Three sets have been donated by Schiavinato (NC Sea Grant), NCCF, and Fletcher (Coastal States Organization). The equipment will be locked up overnight and there is insurance coverage.

**ACTION: Board members** to volunteer to loan equipment or find other donors.

### DEVELOPMENT:

Conference lead sponsors are NOAA and EPA, with DOI as a close third. A number of smaller sponsors bring the confirmed level of sponsorship to \$111,250. Board members are asked to make sure sponsors have a positive experience and will want to continue the sponsor relationship

at future conferences. Board members can introduce sponsors to TCS members who can benefit from their programs and probe for initiatives which we can do with them in non-conference years. The following Board members volunteered to be Board Liaisons:

Benoit – lead sponsors

Schiavinato – all sponsors

Fletcher – lead sponsors

Tucker – all sponsors

Smith – IMSG

DeVoe – Sea Grant programs

Lawrence – CMJ and Taylor and Francis

MacArthur – Duke Energy and Progress Energy (even if no exhibit)

O’Connell – National Sea Grant Law Library

**ACTION: Board member** needed to volunteer to be Board Liaison to Ocean Observing Systems joint sponsorship (NERACOOS, MACOORA, SECOORA, NFRA, and ACT).

#### STUDENT TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS:

A total of \$6,000 was distributed among 20 students, the highest number of students supported since the scholarship program began.

#### STUDENT AWARDS:

Paul Ticco will chair the process.

**ACTION: Board members** to volunteer as judges by contacting him at [Paul.Ticco@noaa.gov](mailto:Paul.Ticco@noaa.gov).

### **TCS 23 LOCATION**

A call for proposals was sent out to the membership. Three proposals were received, all from Board members: Chicago, Miami and New Orleans. The task force has met to review them and will send a recommendation outlining their decision-making process to the Board next week. Following a phone-in meeting for questions and answers, the Board will vote electronically on the recommendation. The President, President-Elect and Past President will make a final decision on the location in time for an announcement at TCS 22.

### **COASTAL MANAGEMENT JOURNAL SPECIAL ISSUE**

The theme of the special issue will continue from the theme of the TCS 22 closing plenary which will explore the issues involved in translating scientific knowledge and perspectives into effective coastal management policies and practices. A call for papers has been drafted by the co-chairs Larry Cahoon and Chris Dumas, both of UNCW, approved by the TCS and CMJ liaisons, and will be emailed to TCS members and TCS 22 registrants. The deadline for receipt of papers is September 15, 2010. Papers will then be double blind peer reviewed and authors will be rejected or accepted with changes and given specific instructions and a deadline for revisions. Further steps include review by the CMJ editor liaison and Taylor and Francis. The issue will be published in 2011.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:

The committee was praised for redesigning the main TCS web site, taking the initiative to redesign the TCS 22 web site, and indexing the scanned issues of past *TCS Bulletins*. The committee proposed the use of social networking tools including, Facebook, Twitter and Google Calendar. Laurie Jodice presented some of the uses for each tool which included communicating TCS information, pointing to TCS information on its web sites, communicating interesting information during a TCS conference, and engaging members in discussions about ocean and coastal management including government reports.

Discussion included the following considerations:

1. whether the tools should be for members use/access only or for open access,
2. who will monitor and maintain each of the tools,
3. whether the Board wishes to pilot their use in regard to TCS 22 communications,
4. whether to communicate only TCS information or that of other organizations which might be a duplicative effort,
5. how to add value to information for members by compiling the information and presenting it in a useful way,
6. whether and how members could post information themselves,
7. liability for misinformation, slander, spread of viruses,
8. most useful format for finding information published several weeks before,
9. additional communications vehicles to cover those who are not able to access Facebook at work or are less familiar with current social networking tools.

In light of the resources required to install, maintain and monitor such communications tools, the Board was urged to develop a written plan with a purpose, definition of target audiences, and implementation steps so that the results of communications strategies could be measured. The tool which generated the greatest interest was Facebook because it allowed the broadest range of various uses and was the most familiar of the tools.

**ACTION:** **Benoit** will set up a board call in a few weeks to continue the discussion of whether to pilot some or all of the tools using the conference information. **Jodice** will issue a revised recommendation addressing some of the considerations discussed, and set up something for the board to test drive.

### CHAPTERS COMMITTEE:

TCS chapters at Duke University, East Carolina University, University of Rhode Island, and University of Washington were required to submit a set of criteria for renewal of their agreement of affiliation with TCS. The reports were reviewed by a review team including the TCS President, Treasurer, Executive Director and the Chapters Committee, which recommended renewal of affiliation.

Motion made and seconded to renew the affiliation of TCS chapters at Duke University, East Carolina University, University of Rhode Island, and University of Washington.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

New chapters at Stanford University and University of Delaware will be sent letters of affiliation. All chapters will be recognized at TCS 22.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

The committee will develop a plan of action for conference activities.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

The committee has guided the development of the TCS Leadership Development workshop at TCS22.

**NEXT MEETING**

The Board will meet on Saturday, June 12 from 2:00 – 4:30 PM. While a speaker phone can be provided, Board members are highly encouraged to attend in person.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.