

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

Saturday, June 12, 2010

2:00 – 4:30 PM EST

**ATTENDANCE**

*President* Jeff Benoit, *President-Elect* Lisa Schiavinato, *Treasurer* Jeff Smith, *Immediate Past President* Kristen Fletcher, *Secretary* Chris Ellis, *Directors:* Betsi Beem, Rick Devoe, Patrick Lawrence, Jim O’Connell, Susan White; *Executive Director* Judy Tucker; *Conference Manager* John Cooksey; *Past President* Moe Lynch.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION:

Proposing a change to Articles to be consistent with the bylaws. This vote will take place at the 2010 Annual Meeting. Jeff Benoit will serve as proxy vote, by request, for those not present.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT:

Need to be signed by TCS Board Members. This serves as good governance practice for the TCS annual audit. The document does not indicate there is a conflict present, more to document a process if one is or becomes present.

TCS23:

To be held in Miami, Florida in 2012. Currently no hotel identified, but this information is public knowledge. It is anticipated the conference will take place during the May/June time frame. Location will be announced at the end of the Wednesday Luncheon.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chris Ellis makes motion to approve April, 2010 Minutes, Jim O’Connell seconds motion.  
MOTION PASSED.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Description of most recent financial document (through May 2010). Income is mainly driven by conference income, all of which came in during Quarter 2. Net income is \$72,687. Budget does not include conference net (add \$70K). There is currently ~\$94K in checking. PayPal line is tied to membership transactions.

**TCS 22 Highlights and Board Duties & Involvement (Jeff B.)**

Need to take this as an opportunity to engage TCS participants, members and non-members. Encourage new membership. Want to make this experience a good one so they want to return to TCS23.

### **Conference Statistics (John Cooksey)**

Distribution of handout (attached). Current total registration: 268. Only 3 registrations short compared to TCS 21, but likely will have ~30 TCS registrations on site. Should be ahead of previous conference registration. Question as to why certain items are mentioned more than once. Answer: refers to numbers before and after the early deadline date. This is positive based on current economy and state budgets. Of these registrants, 62 people paid dues (51 professional, 11 students). In the past 6 months nearly all membership activity was tied to TCS22 (conference registration process). These are very similar numbers with TCS 21 regarding 1-day vs. full conference registration. There is currently one registration cancellation and one tour cancellation. Green infrastructure workshop cancelled due to low registration (3 people). There are presently 108 first-time registrants. There is an increase in students from TCS21 to TCS22. One of the rationales for having conference in Wilmington is a high concentration of student chapters within driving distance. East Carolina University and Duke University have been very active in conference planning activities. There was a significant reduction in complementary registrations at TCS 22.

(Judy and others) The current bottom line is \$81K (net). Major categories: 1) sponsorship (\$111,250), 2) registration (\$91,000), major expenses (\$121K). Added filming session and added a reception at the NC Aquarium. Acknowledgement of sponsors contributing to TCS 22. There was an effort to tie sponsorships to specific plenaries as a strategy. Some sponsors (Duke Energy, Progress Energy, NC Aquarium, UNC-Wilmington) were regional. May be attributed to last year's planning meeting in Wilmington. Working to establish a formal registration with CERF. Provided free booth space for a guaranteed TCS display at the annual CERF meeting. Taylor & Francis is now in 3<sup>rd</sup> year of sponsoring the TCS conference. Would like to see more long-term relationships. IMMSG is also becoming a long-term sponsor. Would like to expand to other federal contracting companies (i.e. The Baldwin Group) for sponsorship.

### **Annual Meeting**

(Kristen) Sponsor buddies: Request to introduce sponsors to board members, work to continue partnerships in conference off-year, and work to find out what we can do to enhance their experience at TCS. A number of TCS Board members were assigned to specific sponsors.

(Lisa)Paul Ticco is heading student awards and is seeking judges. Currently nine students that are in need of judgment.

**ACTION:** Rick DeVoe and Patrick Lawrence volunteered to assist.

Any last minute cancellations will be listed on signs at the meeting room entrances. Moderators should be encouraged to stretch conversation and try not to change order of discussions or shorten discussions. In total, we have lost 23 talks (cancellations) throughout the registration process. As of Monday, June 2, there were 20 participants that are scheduled to present but have not registered.

### **Past Presidents Roundtable**

In an effort to build an oral history on TCS there will be a gathering of 6-7 past presidents of TCS to discuss the state of TCS during their tenure. This will be video recorded and will include individual and group dialog. TCS has contracted for this to be filmed by a local organization.

Would like to take clips of this film and upload/share on the TCS website. Would like to have all presidents make individual comments before group discussion. The first TCS president is unable to attend but is still in contact with TCS and may be submitting written comments to be read (via Tom Bigford). Final products have only been discussed in general terms (re: video editing, housing, etc.). All comments and ideas for how the Board would like for this to be viewed and available is open for discussion. Comments should be directed to Judy.

Additionally, all TCS Bulletins have been scanned and posted on the TCS website. Past proceedings are also being put online, including TCS 22. Omni Press was designated to create the template and the Sea Grant Law Library is hosting the site. Great opportunity to save money and “green” the conference to have proceedings online.

**ADDITIONAL NOTE:**

TCS Breakfast will be held. All TCS members asked to attend (Tuesday at 7:30 in Cape Fear Ballroom.

**Coastal Resource Recovery Fundraiser (Judy):**

Would like to raise money and split across a number of projects. NC Coastal Federation has submitted a proposal, but in the meantime we have had the Deepwater Horizon event in the Gulf of Mexico. Donations to potential awardees are tax deductible. At this point, only \$120 has been raised. Participants will receive printed materials for this in the registration packets. This is the second time this initiative has been undertaken at a TCS conference. There was a suggestion for this to be consistent in awarding to the host conference state (or not?). Additionally, could this be tied to the website as a TCS outreach activity to make it broader than just the conference? Rick DeVoe suggests the CRRF be focused exclusively on the Gulf oil disaster until otherwise indicated. Jeff Benoit indicates that a small subcommittee should be developed to further develop this idea.

**First Time TCS Reception**

A number of new participants are coming to TCS 22, and a reception will be held to welcome them and encourage TCS membership. This will be at 5:15 on Sunday, June 13

**Engaging sponsors/participants**

At TCS 21, the membership committee worked to develop a strategy to engage sponsors and participants. The idea is to make people feel good about attending and motivated to participate in the future, both through conference attendance and membership (handout distributed by Jeff B.).

**Awards Ceremony:** Moe Lynch presented an award for service. Several awardees are unable to attend TCS 22.

**Communications Report**

Chris will help Laurie post Twitter feeds during conference. Need to encourage professional courtesy for Twitter users during conference.

Facebook – who to do content? Judy does not have the time to do this. Suggestion for this to encourage TCS Student chapters to head this effort. Duke Chapter currently has a Facebook page. Judy can offer suggestions for the types of information that should be included but not developing content. How will this differ from the website? Benefit may be to track students after they graduate, change jobs, etc. Suggestion to let students and others drive discussions and content and have TCS have minor engagement, such as mention of a Bulletin being posted on the TCS website. What are the benefits/advantages?

### **CMJ Special Issue Update**

Call for papers is out. It is ideal that this happened prior to the conference. Would like for Board members to approach relevant presenters on submitting to this. Papers can be case studies as opposed to be specifically data-driven. Some level of analysis is needed. Plenary specifically addresses the intersection between science and policy, so this would be a great place to mention this opportunity.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Membership**

(Judy) Much progress in membership acquisition and retention. 365 members as of 12/31/09.

#### **Education**

(DeVoe) Recent discussions has centered on leadership workshop to be delivered at TCS.

#### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 4:43 PM (EST)