

**South Dakota Section of AIPG**  
**Annual Meeting March 23, 2022**  
**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was virtual via Zoom and presided over by the current Section President Linda Watts. The meeting started at 11:57 (CDT). Melissa Fahy acted as the meeting facilitator.

**Meeting attendees are as follows:**

1. Linda Watts (Section President); GeoTek Engineering and Testing Services, Inc.
2. Gary Haag (Secretary-Treasurer); Retired
3. Tim Cowman (Section President Elect 2022); South Dakota Geological Survey
4. Joanne Noyes; South Dakota Geological Survey
5. Sarah Chadima; South Dakota Geological Survey
6. Tom Marshall; South Dakota Geological Survey
7. Ben Fischer; GeoTek Engineering and Testing Services, Inc.
8. Eric Schoolmester; GeoTek Engineering and Testing Services, Inc.
9. Jay Gilbertson; East Dakota Water Development District
10. Tom Durkin; South Dakota School of Mines & Technology
11. Foster Sawyer; Professor Emeritus, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology  
Teacher/Researcher Oglala Lakota College

**Items Discussed**

1. Approval of the meeting agenda.

Motion made by Tim Cowman to approve agenda; second by Sarah Chadima. Motion passed.

2. Secretary's Annual Report (Gary Haag).

A copy of the 2021 annual meeting notes were sent to Linda Watts on 03/22/2022. Linda then forwarded the minutes via e-mail to the section members. The section members did not have questions/comments about the 2021 minutes.

3. Treasurer's Report (Gary Haag).

A. Account balances as of 03/23/2022:

i. Checking: \$3,519.60

ii. Savings: \$5,086.19

Total: \$8,605.79

B. Included in above total:

i. 2021 Section dues received: \$340.00

ii. Savings account interest: \$3.00

C. Expenses: The Section had no expenses in 2021.

Motion by Jay Gilbertson to approve Treasurer's Report and 2021 meeting minutes; second by Tom Durkin. Motion passed.

#### 4. Old Business

Student membership update. There was a discussion about which South Dakota schools were eligible to have a student chapter. USD replaced its geology/earth science degree with one for sustainability (not geology oriented/only some 100-200 level geology courses). The only school with a geology major is the SD School of Mines & Technology; making it the only eligible school? How do we engage geology students and increase student membership? Tom Durkin and Foster Sawyer mentioned there were various geology related clubs at School of Mines (possible way to engage students).

Scholarship idea-status revisited. Tom Durkin posed the question; “Do we want to do it?” Will the scholarship be limited to the School of Mines? Joanne Noyes mentioned that Black Hills State University has core geology courses and a degree in environmental and physical science. Foster Sawyer mentioned that Oglala Lakota College has an earth science degree. Foster also suggested that we cast a wider net concerning which institutions would be eligible for the scholarship. This decision could be left up to the members of the scholarship committee.

Other Scholarship Items Discussed:

- Scholarship amount will be \$500.00.
- 1-page stand alone application form (Sarah Chadima is working on the draft).
- Additional items to be included with the application include a cover letter, resume and transcript (unofficial). Tom Durkin discussed FRPA rules which concerns keeping such items as transcripts confidential. This is an issue that can be discussed by the scholarship committee?
- Tim Cowman will chair the scholarship committee and be the point of contact for scholarship applications.
- Scholarship award will be sent directly to the student to use as he or she sees fit.

**Note:** In 2016/2017 Sarah Chadima drafted two documents (see attached) that discussed the scholarship. One is a summary of all the input from the membership. The other was to clarify the “intent” of the scholarships by the membership.

Motion by Jay Gilbertson to approve the awarding of an annual SD-AIPG scholarship in the amount of \$500.00; **second by?** Motion passed.

#### 5. New Business

58<sup>th</sup> Annual National AIPG Conference-Marquette, Michigan, August 6-9, 2022. The question was asked if anyone planned to attend the meeting. The consensus was that due to the distance/cost it was unlikely any South Dakota section members would be attending in person. Foster Sawyer volunteered to attend the meeting virtually.

Consideration of a summer/fall fieldtrip this year. We agreed that a centrally located fieldtrip would be a good place to start. Joanne Noyes suggested the fieldtrip be paleontology related. Dr. Darrin Pagnac from the School of Mines is conducting a marine reptile fossil dig in the Cretaceous Niobrara and Pierre formations near Chamberlain, South Dakota. This dig could be a possible location for our fieldtrip. Foster Sawyer recommended we encourage students to participate in the fieldtrip and suggested the trip be scheduled after the semester starts. As part of the trip Tom Durkin suggested we rent a pontoon boat (***I did some follow-up on Tom’s suggestion. The Arrowwood Resort in Oacoma rents pontoon boats. Their large pontoon boat***

***holds 13 people and has hourly rental rates ranging from \$120.00 to \$260.00 or an all-day rate of \$350.00.*** Joanne Noyes and Foster Sawyer volunteered to organize the trip. (We did not determine the amount of Section funds we would provide for the fieldtrip if any.)

2022 J.P. Gries Geologist of the Year Award. No nominations were received and we agreed there would be no award this year. We will resume the award in 2023 when we can meet in person.

At this point Section President Linda Watts turned over the meeting to Tim Cowman our new Section President. Tim will serve as Section President for a period of two years. The first item of business for Tim was to accept nominations to fill the president elect position. Gary Haag nominated Foster Sawyer for the president elect position. No other nominations were made. Foster graciously agreed to be the president elect.

Sarah Chadima made a motion to approve the new slate of officers (see below). **Seconded by?** The motion was passed.

SD Section Officers through March 2024	
Name	Office
<a href="#">Tim Cowman</a>	President
<a href="#">J. Foster Sawyer</a>	President-Elect
<a href="#">Gary Haag</a>	Secretary/Treasurer
<a href="#">Linda Watts</a>	Past President
<a href="#">Tom Durkin</a>	Section Screening Chairman and Website Editor

Tom Durkin updated the section website with the new slate of officers in the afternoon of March 23, 2022. Section website is located at: <http://sdspacegrant.sdsmt.edu/sdaipg.htm>

Other Business. Tim Cowman mentioned the 2022 South Dakota Legislature approved the funding for a new drill rig. The new drill rig will arrive in 2023 and will replace a rig that was purchased in 1984. Tim also announced that geologist Mark Fahrenbach will be retiring on June 8, 2022. We wish Mark many happy years of retirement!!

Motion to adjourn made by Foster Sawyer. Second by Sarah Chadima. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 pm (CDT).

Respectfully submitted by:

*Gary H. Haag*

Secretary-Treasurer  
South Dakota Section of AIPG

Attachments: March 23, 2022 Annual Meeting Agenda  
Summary of Proposed SD-AIPG Scholarship (3/6/2017)  
Group Intent for the SD-AIPG Scholarship (5/13/2016)