

FINAL MINUTES

Board Meeting of the Geological Society of Minnesota, May 13, 2021

- A. **Opening and Welcome:** The meeting will be held by Zoom videoconference at 7:00 p.m.
1. Minutes for the February 2021 Board meeting were previously approved by email and posted to the GSM website. FYI: Board members have 10 days to review the preliminary minutes after the Secretary sends them out. Please do so by the date set by the Secretary.
 2. Review and agree on the agenda for May 13, 2021.
 - i. The Agenda was agreed upon.
 3. Future Board Meetings:
 - i. Aug 12, 2021
 - ii. Nov 11, 2021 – Tentatively scheduled as a Zoom meeting.
 4. Board Status – Info only
 - i. Current Board membership.

1. Pete Hesse	2021-2024
2. Nancy Jannik	2021-2024
3. Patrick Pfundstein	2020-2023
4. John Westgaard	2020-2023
5. Wolf Bielefeld	2019-2022
6. Roxy (Knuttila) Janezich	2019-2022
7. Frank Janezich	2019-2022
8. Joe Newberg	2018-2021
9. Dave Kelso	2018-2021
 - ii. Current Officers.
 1. President – Joe Newberg
 2. Vice President – Patrick Pfundstein
 3. Treasurer – Dave Kelso
 4. Secretary – Dave Kelso
 - iii. Board membership for 2021.
 1. First term for Pete and Nancy end December 31, 2022. FYI: Board members serve for one two-year term and are eligible for reelection to one more term.
 2. Nancy, Peter, Patrick, and John are eligible for reelection to one more term.
 3. Due to term limits, Joe and Dave K are leaving the Board on December 31, 2021 opening two seats and three officer positions.
 5. Board members present: Joe Newberg, Dave Kelso, Frank Janezich, Roxy Janezich, Wolf Bielefeld, Patrick Pfundstein, Pete Hesse.
 6. Non-Board members present: Randy S., Alan S., Dave W., Steve E.
- B. **Agenda Items for review and/or consideration by the Board:**
1. Treasurer updates – Dave K/Deborah
 - i. Financial reports were submitted to the distribution list prior to the Board Meeting and have been uploaded to the website. Financial reports do not need Board approval.
 - ii. RBC Wealth Management investment statements have been incorporated into the “Cash Balances” financial report.
 1. Dave will modify the Cash Balances section of the financial report to better represent our asset totals.

- iii. Joe Newberg and Patrick Pfundstein have been added to the TCF bank account which authorizes them to sign checks. Dave W, Dave K and Steve E will remain on the account.
 - 1. Dave K distributed blank checks to Joe and Patrick.
 - iv. GSM review of finances.
 - 1. Deborah reported (by email) that the bank statements and checkbook register have been reviewed and found to be in order.
- 2. GSM Website – Alan
 - i. Joanie Furlong is the backup webmaster when Alan is unavailable.
 - ii. Work on documentation for website management is ongoing.
 - iii. Dave W agreed to continue updating the website for announcements, field trips etc.
 - 1. At the February Board Meeting, The Board agreed that Dave W would assume the title “Liaison Officer”.
 - iv. A list of GSM Presidents has been added to the website.
 - v. Discussed whether a list of Rock Hammer recipients should be added to the website. This will be discussed at the August Board meeting.
- 3. Lectures and Labs – Steve E/Dave W
 - i. Dave W reported on lecture attendance. Please see “GSM Lecture Attendance” attached to these minutes.
 - 1. Attendance with lectures via Zoom appears to be working well.
 - ii. All fall lectures will be via online Zoom webinars.
 - 1. Steve E would like to schedule a few lectures via Zoom in the future assuming we will be back to “live” lectures next year.
 - 2. Please see “1st Draft 2021-2022” attached to these minutes. Please note that this is not the final lecture list.
 - iii. The fall banquet may not occur. However, this will be re-assessed this summer. Steve will talk to Greg Brick (scheduled lecturer for the fall banquet) to determine whether he would like to do a remote talk or bump to next year.
 - 1. Dave W reported that the U Garden is somewhat open and would be willing to accommodate the fall banquet.
 - iv. Discuss whether we should copy the Zoom lectures to DVD for preservation in our Video Library.
 - 1. The Board felt that copying Zoom lectures to DVD, for preservation in the video library, would not be practical however, downloading them for archiving should be done. To be discussed at the August Board meeting.
 - v. Pre-meeting social time within the same Zoom event.
 - 1. For various reasons it was determined that this would not be practical therefore, the Monday Zoom Social meetings will continue. Dave W will continue to host these meetings.
 - vi. Patrick has been posting the recorded Zoom lectures on our GSM You Tube channel.
 - 1. Patrick is currently the admin of the You Tube page and Randy is a co-manager.
 - 2. Please see “GSM YouTube report 5.12.21” attached to these minutes.
 - vii. Dave K continues to copy recorded “live” lectures to DVD for preservation in our Video Library.
 - 1. Dave K will continue copying “live” lectures for archiving. These lectures will not be on DVD nor will they be part of our video library. Now that we have a YouTube channel it is more practical to use it as our main distribution

mechanism. Live lectures, that have been recorded, will be preserved on a portable hard drive.

4. Membership – Joanie
 - i. A report received after the Board Meeting indicated we have 184 members, a considerable increase. This parallels the increase in lecture attendance in the Feb-April time frame.
 - ii. The printed membership directories have been mailed.
5. Newsletter – Kate/Mark
 - i. Kate Clover, Mark Ryan, Harvey Thorleifson (MGS), and Rich Lively (MGS) continue as Newsletter editors.
 - ii. Our policy is to post a Newsletter to the website when the next Newsletter is released.
 - iii. The latest edition of the newsletter has been submitted.
6. State Fair – Patrick
 - i. Patrick is the State Fair Committee Chair.
 - ii. The State Fair appears to be a “go” for this year. Our space in the education building has been reserved and we will move forward from here.
 - iii. All the State Fair supplies and resources have been moved to our storage space. Pat currently has the key to the locked space and Dave K has the second key.
 - iv. Please see “State Fair Report 5.12.21” attached to these minutes.
7. Admin – Joe N
 - i. Dave W turned his PO Box key over to Joe N. Joe is now checking the PO Box along with other key holders Dave K and Joanie F.
 - ii. Our storage space rate has increased from \$84 to \$95/mo. Dave K to discuss.
 1. \$26 of the \$95 is for insurance. Dave K recommended that we drop the insurance as it is only for protection of our property in the event of floods, building damages etc. Our storage space is on the 3rd floor.
 2. **M/S/P (Patrick/Wolf) to drop the insurance.**
8. Conferences and Resources – Dave W
 - i. Live geology conferences have been cancelled indefinitely due to Covid-19. Dave W, as the Liaison Officer, will continue to inform the GSM membership of online conferences and resources as they become available.
 1. Dave W has written an article for the newsletter outlining how we have been coping with things during these Covid times.
 2. Nothing new to report.
9. Field Trips – Dave W
 - i. Field Trip planning is currently on hold but will be re-assessed this fall.
 1. Randy has a few ideas for some local field trips and will continue discussing these with the field trip committee.
 2. The field trip committee currently consists of Dave W, Joe N, and Nancy J.
10. Zoom Social Gatherings – Randy/Dave W
 - i. Randy continued to host Zoom Social Gatherings on Monday nights for interested GSM members through the end of April. Dave W will host for the next few months(?). Dave W will continue notifying members of these gatherings.
 1. Dave W will continue hosting the Zoom Social Gatherings on Monday nights and will notify members of these gatherings.
11. Video Library – Dave W
 - i. No rental activity due to suspension of in-person lectures.

12. GSM Marker Survey project – Becky
 - i. No updates.
13. Minnehaha marker replacement status – Kate/Patrick/Dick
 - i. As stated at the last Board Meeting – it appears that the project will be completed by the end of this year.
14. GSM Scholarships and grants – Dave W
 - i. Nothing to report.
 - ii. Discussed whether this item should be part of the Treasurers responsibilities if the Board were to authorize a scholarship and/or grant.
15. GSM Rock Hammer awards – Theresa
 - i. Recommend we discuss this at the August Board meeting.
 - ii. Next rock hammer awards will be considered later this year.
 - iii. Joe agreed to get a list of past recipients for possible recognition on the GSM website.
16. Ask GSM activity – Theresa
 - i. No updates.
 - ii. We currently use the “Ask GSM” for requesting access to Zoom lectures.
17. GSM Student Outreach – Joel Renner
 - i. No updates.
 - ii. Dave K reported that the money from Tom Schoenecker for outreach are reserved for this purpose once student outreach visits resume.
18. GSM Operations Guide – Patrick
 - i. Patrick is in the process of soliciting updates and/or comments from Board members, chairpersons, and other members.
 1. Some Board members and chairpersons have submitted edits and changes to the guide. **M/S/P (Patrick/DaveK) to accept those changes.**
 2. Updating will continue as edits, changes, and comments are submitted.
 3. Please see “VPReportGSMgde05 5.13.21” attached to these minutes.
19. Geological material contributions – Dave W
 - i. Dave W will continue storing rock box materials in his garage indefinitely.
 1. Patrick stated that there is room in our storage space for these if necessary.
 - ii. Inventory for donated material will continue.
20. New topics – TBD
 - i. Nancy J expressed interest in getting involved with field trips when they resume.
 1. Nancy J has been added to this committee.
21. Goals
 - i. Install new big-picture marker at Minnehaha Falls during 2021.
 - ii. Develop a plan and prioritize marker installation/repair for Minnesota’s geological markers based on the recent marker survey.
 1. Need an update from Becky where this is at.
 - iii. Continue developing a GSM marker database and survey the markers in 2021.
 - iv. Develop video recording crew and optimize the equipment and processes; have first video recording of a lecture available to members in 2022. Note: for online lectures, recording is done via Zoom and videos made available through Zoom for those presenters who consent.
 - v. Begin posting Zoom lectures to YouTube (Spring ’21) Patrick/Randy
 1. This has been completed.
 - vi. Others goals we should add.

1. Discussed some ideas on how to tap into other groups for presenters, YouTube channel sharing and how to make contacts with other groups (this may be part of the liaison's duties).
22. Adjournment – **M/S/P (Pete/Wolf) to adjourn.**

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. GSM Lecture Attendance
- B. 1st Draft 2021-2022
- C. GSM You Tube Report 5.12.21
- D. State Fair Report 5.12.21
- E. VPRReportGSMgde05 5.13.21

Attachment A
GSM Lecture Attendance
Submitted by Dave W

GSM Lecture Attendance

2020-2021

Note: During 2020-21, lectures are held by Zoom webinar. The attendance count is the number of devices that have joined. Since some devices have more than one person watching, the actual attendance is larger than the recorded number. Starting 2020-10-05, we are having devices with more than one person report how many are watching from each. It seems there are about 15-17% more people than devices. The number of persons is in parentheses below.

Summary for all 2020/2021: 14 lectures, 1164 total attendance, 83 average attendance, 108 (9%) non-members registered

Summary for winter/spring 2021: 7 lectures, 681 total attendance, 97 average attendance, 91 (13%) non-members registered

2021-04-26 67 (77) How Modern Geochronology is Transforming Our Understanding of Geological Rates: An Example from Alaska (*6 non-members registered*)

2021-04-12 77 (86) Geo3M: Mountains, Melting, and Metamorphism (*8 non-members registered*)

2021-03-29 102 (119) Lake Superior Agate Origins, Classification and Prospecting (*about 25 non-members registered, including members of [State Microscopical Society of Illinois](#) and [Georgia Mineral Society](#)*)

2021-03-15 96 (108) Craton to Coast: National Park Paleontology from the Grand Canyon to the Channel Islands (*over 12 non-members registered, including members of [State Microscopical Society of Illinois \(SMSI\)](#) (at least 5) and [Georgia Microscopical Society](#)*)

2021-03-01 82 (93) Investigation and cleanup of the former Ford Plant in St. Paul (*10 non-members registered, including a co-worker of the presenter*)

2021-02-15 90 (105) The Dawn of the Dinosaurs: The Unlikely (& Very Lucky) Triumph of Dinosaurs (*15 non-members registered; one attendee was a first-grader*)

- 2021-02-01 85 (93) Glaciation and the Great Lakes, an epoch in the making (15 non-members registered)
- Summary for fall 2020: 7 lectures, 483 total attendance, 69 average attendance, 27 (6%) non-members registered**
- 2020-12-14 66 (72) The Glacial History of Iowa (5 non-members registered)
- 2020-11-30 64 (77) Mesozoic Vertebrates of Antarctica (6 non-members registered)
- 2020-11-16 54 (64) Minnesota's Geologist: The Life of Newton Horace Winchell (4 non-members registered)
- 2020-11-02 57 (63) Geological and Tectonic Evolution of the Transantarctic Mountains, from Ancient Craton to Recent Enigma (4 non-members registered; 2 found us on the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering website)
- 2020-10-19 49 (58) Neotectonic Fault Reactivation and Landscape Rejuvenation on Norway's Post-glacial Margin (0 non-members registered)
- 2020-10-05 60 (69) Minerals are the Future (3 non-members registered)
- 2020-09-21 71 (~80) How Ancient Iron-Rich Rocks Tell the Story of Minnesota's Oceans (5 non-members registered)

Attachment B
1st Draft 2021-2022
Submitted by Steve E

Fall Banquet 2021

September 20 Caves of Minnesota, Greg Brick (location unknown, hopefully U Garden)

October 4 Larry Pierce, Missouri Geological Survey, "Earthquake Science and impacts of a Major Earthquake on the New Madrid Seismic Zone"

October 18 Lon Abbott, Teaching Professor, U of Colorado, "A Brief Geologic History of Colorado"

November 1 Dr. Kenneth B. Taylor, PG, State Geologist, North Carolina Geological Survey, tentative title "Geology of North Carolina"

November 15 Dr. Ben M. Frieman, Laurentian University, Sudbury Ontario, Mineral Exploration Research Centre "A billion years of early Earth history: Perspectives from Minnesota's nearest neighbor, Ontario"

November 29 Mark D. Fahrenbach, Environmental Scientist III, SDGS "A brief overview of Black Hills geology."

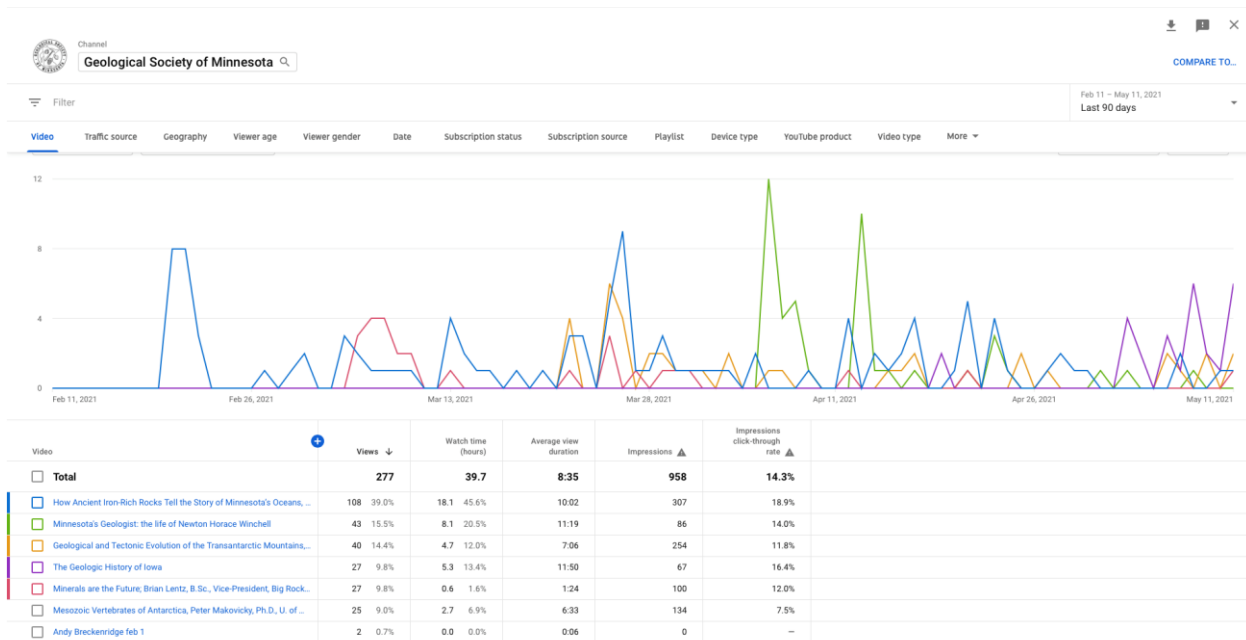
December 13 Sheila Alfson and Dr. William Orr, "Assembling Oregon"

Attachment C
GSM You Tube Report 5.12.21

Submitted by Patrick P
GSM YouTube Channel as of May 12, 2021

The GSM YouTube channel was launched on February 19th with the premiere of Dr Brengman's "How Iron-Rich Rocks Tell the Story of Minnesota's Oceans". Since then a new lecture has been uploaded every other week (on the 'off' Monday in our seminar schedule), and there are currently 6 on public display with another three yet to go public.

Looking at the attached analytic graphs shows we are off to a modest start, but we have 34 subscribers and 277 various video views (most short). But we have many more "impressions", and the fact a small but regular impression is made just through YouTube searches (green lines on the second graph) shows the potential for GSM to connect with people from a wider range than our live programming alone).



Attachment D
State Fair Report
Submitted by Patrick P

State Fair Report May 12, 2021

The Minnesota State Fair looks to be a go!

The Fair followed up their April message that all communication would be electronic this year, by completing a software upgrade, and launching a new online exhibitor/vendor portal this week. I've confirmed GSM's attendance, and set up my access to the portal May 10th. The portal goes fully live on **Friday the 13th (!!!!!)** of May, at which point we can begin full interaction.

As you can see from this screen picture, one of our first “interactions” will be to pay the booth fee of \$1065. I’ll chat at the meeting with Dave Kelso about that; I have a checkbook, but maybe we want to use the card for this (in order to keep that ‘all electronic’ thing going).

I’ll contact the GSM Insurer as Dan laid out in the GSM Guide (section 2.7) for a certificate of insurance, then transmit that to the Fair.

This also means it is time to start recruiting for the booth. I’d still like to wait for the weekend as that will give me a chance to if some of the grayed out areas in the portal are live as well. I’m still not sure about some specifics that could affect staffing (is there a limit on staff per square foot?, are they altering/reducing building hours?).

My first pass would probably be to send the first email to the committee and board meeting email list (board, and those who pay extended attention, so they can get picks in first. If nothing changes, I wouldn’t change Dan’s system (9-1, 1-5, 5-9; 2 per slot).

My first email would also confirm the State Fair committee members are all still interested.

After the weekend (if the email is fine, or corrected if not), I’ll make a pitch to the wider group, and ask for any possible help with setup/tear-down. Then keep working it.

Patrick Pfundstein
GSM VP/State Fair Comm. Chair

Attachment E
VPReportGSMgdeo05 5.13.21
Submitted by Patrick P

Vice President’s 2021 Report on the GSM Guide

In order to fulfill my duty as GSM VP to keep the GSM Guide up-to-date, I sent requests to those responsible for the various sections of that guide asking for either confirmation the guide was accurate, or for revisions if those were needed. What follows is a section-by-section report on the Guide’s status (sections I reviewed personally will have my initials in parentheses; other folks will be given by name).

None of the changes seemed radical, so I am attaching a revised copy of the GSM Guide (ver 11.1) with these changes incorporated. (Unapproved changes can be removed easily enough.)

Section feedback hasn’t been returned for some key sections, so we should add the Guide to the August agenda.

General:

change rev version to 11.1

Change date to May 2021

(PP) Section 1, General Administrative Policy, is essentially up to date. Revision is needed to 1.7.5 and 1.7.6 to either change “As of 2018” in both sections to either “As of 2021”, or even better, to strike the clauses from the front of the two sections so that they don’t need annual updates, and simply read:

1.7.5 The PO Box is at the Minneapolis University Ave. 55414 Branch.

1.7.6 The address is:

Geological Society of Minnesota

P.O. Box 141065

Minneapolis, MN 55414-6065

Section 2.1 President. Awaiting a report on this section.

(PP) Section 2.2 Vice President is essentially up to date. I did add this sentences after Maintain the GSM Guide: The Vice President should request the appropriate people review their sections of the Guide, and report back with any needed changes for approval at a board meeting. The May meeting is possibly optimal since in February the VP may just be settling into office, the summer isn’t a great time to reach people, and late in the year leaves little time in case some sections need extended work.

Section 2.3 Dave Kelso submitted a revised Treasurer text. To preserve the color of his edits (red), I exported those files to PDF, and will include them with this file. The text (all black) is in the revised Guide.

Section 2.4 Dave Kelso submitted a revised Secretary text. To preserve the color of his edits (red), I exported those files to PDF, and will include them with this file. The text (all black) is in the revised Guide.

Section 2.5 Membership Chair. Still awaiting report on this section.

Section 2.6 Newsletter. This is essentially up to date. Kate Clover requests the following addition be made: GSM News is published four times per year, in February, May, August and November. Deadline for article submission is **2-3 weeks prior** to the first of of the month before the publication dates. **For example: Early to mid April for the May issue.**

Not sure what popped that example to Kate’s mind! (Giggle)

(PP) Section 2.7 State Fair will likely need minor revision as the Fair shifts from physical mailings to electronic mail, attachments, and Docu-Sign formats, but I recommend waiting to finalize those revisions as the post-COVID timeline and forms play out. FYI, while COVID may have lead to the paperless system, a Fair rep has told me they plan to make those changes permanent. Again, though, these are likely minor revisions mostly involving forms; the bulk of the section as concerns duties is up-to-date. (UPDATES SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST BOARD MEETING)

(PP+) Section 2.8 I traded emails with Kate Clover and Theresa Tweet concerning other shows, etc. In one sense the information is more of a listing of past opportunities that may or may not come up again, and I don't know of a single person responsible. On the other hand, this is useful information to pass forward if we decide to pursue more outreach. So I am leaving the section as written with the following header paragraph (which is essentially the only "procedure" for the GSM procedure manual's section:

"GSM should remain open to pursue its mission at Other Shows (than the State Fair) and Exhibits where and when resources are available. The following listings concern shows/exhibits where GSM has been in the past, and may be able to go in the future. All procedures should be confirmed with the organizations involved at each participation. Folks who represented GSM at these events in the past may or may not be available to do so in the future."

Section 2.9 Program Committee Chair. Still awaiting report on this section.

Section 2.10 Field Trips. Still awaiting report on this section.

Section 2.11 Outreach. I don't have a report for this, but given the total absence of school since the Guide was last revised, and the likelihood there will be a narrow window to do something in this calendar year, I believe the section should stand as is.

Section 2.12 Alan reports the Web section is up to date.

Section 2.13 Video Library. No report yet, but as with Outreach, this section can stay as is until activity in the Library suggests changes.

Section 2.14 Video Recording (This section of the Guide is blank, but again, until live lectures return, the point is moot.)

Section 2.15 Geological Markers. No report yet, but this section is very general in tone, and likely needs no update.

Section 2.16 Ask GSM. No report back, but to my eye this section does not need revision.

Section 2.17 Facebook Page. No report back, but from what I know (having been an admin or contributor to other organization pages), this section does not require revision, except maybe to add who the admins are?

(PP) Section 2.18 GSM Archives. Section is up to date. (Confirmed all information with an online search at mnhs.org, 4.25.21)

(PP) Section 2.19 Public Service, Publicity, Fundraising. This brief section is up to date.

(PP) Section 3 GSM Documents. This section containing mission, goals, logo, articles of incorporation, bylaws, and Fed Tax ID number is all up to date.

