AAGS General Membership Meeting Minutes for 20 July 2015

1. Meeting started at 1504 EDT
   a. Ronnie Taylor appointed Dave Doyle as the Director 1st year to sit on Board in place of Matt Wellslager. Noted that there were four officers present and sufficient members present to meet quorum requirements.

2. Roll Call
   a. AAGS Board
      i. President: Ronnie Taylor [present]
      ii. President-elect: Tom Meyer [not present]
      iii. Immediate past president: Michael Dennis[present]
      iv. Vice-president (Director 3rd year): Tom Moore [not present]
      v. Director (2nd year): Chuck Ghilani [present]
      vi. Director (1st year): Matt Wellslager [not present]
      vii. Secretary: Daniel Roman [present]
      viii. Treasurer: Dan Martin [not present]
      ix. Reporter/editor: Steve Briggs [not present]
      x. Dave Doyle, AAGS/NSPS Liaison, delegate to NSPS Foundation [present]
   b. Other AAGS Members present:
      i. Earl Burkholder
      ii. John Hamiton
      iii. Larry Hothem
      iv. Barbara Littell
      v. Glen Schaefer
      vi. Dave Zilkoski

3. Agenda reviewed (President)
      i. Change 4.d to 4.e in Agenda (Joe Dracup Lifetime Achievement Award)
      ii. Add financial update as 4.d

4. President Taylor discussed some of the things that have taken place since the last General Membership Meeting
      i. Ronnie gave an update on letters regarding the Supreme Court decision. He noted that we are awaiting response to the letter.
      ii. Dave noted that the BOEM/Supreme Court decision also listed WGS84 and NAD 83 as equivalent.
   b. AAGS Affiliations, Articles of Affiliation between the Alaska Section and AAGS.
i. Ronnie Taylor briefed this and noted that only minor requirements have resulted, such as listing each other’s logos on websites. Additionally, agreement was made regarding appropriate use of each groups’ people as speakers.

ii. Look to increase future associations as well beyond just this one.

iii. He also noted an aim to expand submissions to SaLIS.

c. NGS/NSPS/AAGS Quarterly Briefings.

i. Ronnie Taylor noted that expanded ties with NGS were desired. Ronnie met up with NSPS leadership at their annual meeting, and he ensured that AAGS joined into the quarterly meetings between NSPS and NGS.

ii. He noted that this is a helpful forum for keeping AAGS speakers up to date. These are open to general members. The next quarterly meeting will be held Friday, 11 September 2015 from 1300-1400.

d. Financial information

i. Dan Martin is out, Ronnie Taylor briefed this topic. He passed on from Dan Martin that AAGS is holding its own. There is a need to increase membership though, but for now AAGS will stay stable.

ii. Ronnie Taylor also mentioned that there will be a discussion later in this meeting regarding a $42,000 CD that wasn’t earning much money (on order of $15 per year). He noted that the Board voted to have those funds re-invested into something that has better returns. This will be discussed at the next Board meeting (Immediately following this general meeting). Dave Zilkoski asked about those funds noting that they seemed zeroed out. Ronnie Taylor and Dan Roman noted that those funds had rolled out of the CD and were sitting separately. Ronnie Taylor and Dave Zilkoski then noted which were operating funds and which were separate funds.

e. Joe Dracup Lifetime Achievement Award.

i. Held off announcing this until the end to allow for more members to join.

ii. Came back to this at 1603 – Ronnie announced the winner as James Riley. He was not on the phone. The plaque is being sent via mail.

5. Geodetic Education and Certification (Michael Dennis)

a. Michael Dennis noted that we had been working on this since 1993 and that we want to have a body of knowledge regarding this. Chuck Ghilani divided the body of knowledge into ten topic areas and divided these amongst the 11 committee members. Michael then relayed the topic areas (next page).

b. A meeting will be held in August. Leads must explain the rationale for each to justify the importance of each area. After that, a poll for users will be developed to be out by late Summer. This will be advertised in various professional magazines. One important part of the questionnaire is to focus on other groups beyond just surveyors (e.g., GIS). These others are using geodetic applications at increasing levels of accuracy.

c. Working on this with other groups, especially NSPS. Nothing formal yet. Just a report from Dave Doyle that the BOD from NSPS are very interested and desire closer collaboration. They want AAGS to take the technical lead on this. Still only limited interactions.
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<tr>
<th>Num</th>
<th>Body of knowledge topic area</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>Co-lead</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Map Projections</td>
<td>Michael Dennis</td>
<td>Charles Ghilani</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Motions of the Earth</td>
<td>Tom Moore</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Physical Geodesy</td>
<td>Thomas Meyer</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Ellipsoidal Reference Systems and Geometrical Geodesy</td>
<td>Michael Dennis</td>
<td>Thomas Meyer</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Geodetic Observation Procedures and Practices</td>
<td>Ronnie Taylor</td>
<td>Steve Briggs</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Geodetic, Astronomic, and Celestial Coordinate Systems</td>
<td>John Hamilton</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Reference Frames and Transformations</td>
<td>Dan Martin</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Global Navigation Satellite Systems</td>
<td>Jan Van Sickle</td>
<td>Matt Wellslager</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Statistics and Least Squares</td>
<td>Charles Ghilani</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Standards, Specifications, and Guidelines</td>
<td>Karen Meckel</td>
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d. ASPRS and ASCE Geomatics are also interested. ASCE Geomatics is now a part of an institute and will have more control over their funds. They are also re-writing their geo-engineering manual which dates from the 1980’s. Several AAGS members are participating in this process. This book could become a part of the reference material used in this certification process.

e. Definitely have momentum and gaining broader acceptance.

f. Ronnie also noted that Dave Doyle and Steve Briggs presented in Florida to the Florida GNSS Users Group. Dave noted that they were very interested and that there was a desire to increase educational requirements.

g. Ronnie also presented at the ASPRS meeting during their meeting

h. Michael Dennis also noted that he would be presenting during the ESRI meeting to a broad group of interest.

i. Michael and Dave Zilkoski then discussed the level of detail required (what is the target level for education). Dave Zilkoski noted it is a good idea to get this out to the general membership to offer a people a chance to participate. Michael Dennis said he would see if they could have some type of telecom discussing these topics. It would be open to a broader audience that just AAGS – include NSPS and others.

6. **SaLIS Update (Tom Meyers and Chuck Ghilani)**
a. Chuck Ghilani noted that SaLIS was three years behind. We caught up but opted to skip 2013 to do this. He currently does not have anything ready for the November issue. It’s a function of the quality and number of papers.

b. He would need to send off anything for printing by mid-September and would need to review for five weeks before that. He is in dire straits. Would need to have them about right now.

c. He noted that academics are focused on whether publications are cited. If there is too much of a charge for papers, then they will not be used as much. Reduces utility and potentially decreases the impact factor.

d. Ronnie Taylor noted that SaLIS is owned only by GLIS and AAGS. An Executive Committee (ExCom) runs this currently. Bills come to AAGS and then GLIS reimburses AAGS. Ronnie suggests that AAGS and GLIS authorize the SaLIS ExCom to generate their own letterhead and deal directly with any agreements/responses. Currently everything must come back to the Presidents from both groups to be signed. Having the ExCom authorized to sign SaLIS related actions would facilitate responses, although billing would remain the same. Both Presidents are members of the Ex Comm. Ronnie asked if it seemed OK. Michael Dennis concurred. Ronnie noted he would talk with Colleen Johnson this week to see if that could proceed.

e. Dave Zilkoski asked if there were alternatives to current publication techniques. It is costly to have it vetted by editors and then streamlined for publication. It was noted that it is very expensive.

f. The over $13 thousand funds is left intact to ensure sufficient operating funds per Ronnie Taylor.

g. Discussion continued between Chuck Ghilani and Michael Dennis to see what could be done to reinvigorate the SaLIS. Chuck noted that SaLIS is publishing technical papers but a minimal number are passing the review process. SaLIS also lists upcoming conferences and other material to fill up the journal.

7. Next General Membership meeting
   a. TBD, but likely this time next year. Look for a notice.

8. The Good of the Order (Dan Roman)
   a. For the Good of the Order the AAGS Board gives the President and Treasurer the authority to carry out the day to day activities of the AAGS until the next Board Meeting.

9. Adjourn
   a. Dave Doyle motioned to adjourn
   b. Chuck Ghilani seconded
   c. Unanimous vote for adjournment
   d. 1605 adjournment and then straight into Board of Directors meeting.