

**43rd Annual North-Central Section Meeting  
Minutes of the Management Board Meeting  
April 2, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. on 2 April, 2009 at Northern Illinois University in Rockford, Illinois.

1. Fifteen people were present and introduced themselves. They were Gene Perry (outgoing North-Central Chair), Melissa Lenczewski (outgoing North-Central Vice Chair), Paul Doss (former North-Central Chair), Kevin Evans (Management Board Member), Eric Venteris (invited guest who has agreed to run for the position of Management Board Member for 2010-2013), John Szabo (North-Central Section Travel Grant Coordinator, and a past North-Central Chair and Vice Chair), Bob Shuster (invited guest who has agreed to run for the position of Management Board Member for 2009-2012), Nancy Williams (a co-ordinator of the upcoming Missouri meeting), Jack Hess (GSA executive director), Jean Bahr (GSA vice president), Dave Stephenson (GSA Foundation), Dick Berg (North-Central Section Geology & Public Policy representative), Ben Datillo (North-Central Section of the Paleontological Society representative), Bob Diffendal (former executive secretary of the North-Central Section), and Joe Hannibal (present North-Central Section executive secretary).
2. The agenda was adopted.
3. Minutes of the Management Board Meeting at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the North-Central Section on 24 April 2008 were approved.
4. Reports were made by the secretary. Joe Hannibal distributed financial reports that showed that the Section had a total of \$ 131,525 in its operating account at the end of February 2009 (including about \$30,585 deferred meeting revenue). He noted that this was due in great part to the fiscal prudence of the organizers of the Evansville meeting and the fiscal success of other recent meetings. The North-Central Section endowment was also discussed. Funds in the endowment as of Nov. 30, 2008 were \$ 46,814; as of Dec. 31, 2008 were \$ 33,294; and as of January 1, 2009 were \$55,700. About \$1,700 will be taken from the endowment this year and used for student grants. Highlights of the Annual Report of the Section to the GSA Council were discussed.
5. Gene Perry reported on preliminary statistics and fiscal outlook for the 2008 meeting in Rockford. Registration was 549 the previous evening. (Note: the final registration was 608 (not counting student assistants). Gene also noted that the attendance was affected by a problematical abstract deadline which fell during the holiday season.
6. Affiliates and former secretary Bob Diffendal were acknowledged.
7. The Ad Hoc Committee on technical sessions was briefly discussed and it was noted that there would be a campus representatives/technical-sessions meeting the next day.

8. The consent agenda, after modification, was adopted. In it: Up to \$ 2,000 was allocated for student paper awards for the 2010 annual section meeting. Up to a total of \$6,000 of Section funds (not counting GSA Foundation matching funds) was approved for student travel to the spring North-Central Section and Annual GSA fall meetings. And a maximum of \$2,100 was allocated for Undergraduate Student Grants. This is a total of \$10,100. Also, up to \$20,000 was allocated as a donation to the North-Central Section endowment fund, if funds were available and if the outlook for the stock market improves. Bob Shuster was approved as the 2009-2012 Member-at-Large of the Management Board and Erik Venteris was approved as the 2010-2013 Member-at-Large of the Management Board. A second four-year term as secretary (2009-2013) was approved for Joe Hannibal. [Note: These decisions were also voted on and approved by the membership of the Section at the Business meeting of the Section on the evening of 2 April, 2009.]
9. Dick Berg gave a Geology & Public Policy Report. Dick noted that the public policy reports of the Geology & Public Policy Committee have become very important. Dick reminded us that we need to have two nominees for his replacement.
10. Reminders were given to future meeting planners about the General Trade Agreement between the North-Central Section and GSA.
  - a. The agreement provides two comp registrations for GSA officials, two exhibit booths for the GSA Bookstore, three nights lodging for the bookstore person, and four nights lodging for GSA officials.
  - b. It was noted that if GSA Headquarters is the registration agent for your meeting (and this is highly recommended) attention be paid to the contract regarding your need to reserve a room for the GSA staff member who does on-site registration.
11. Other business:
  - a. It was noted that the Section Secretary needs meeting statistics from Eugene Perry and GSA headquarters as soon as possible after the meeting and that these should include a balance sheet and the list of student paper awards.
  - b. It was noted that reports on the meeting and its components should be compiled by the local committee as soon as possible and that they should be patterned after the reports produced for the Akron 2006 meeting. The reports should include as much information as possible as to how things were done, for instance how the amount of food to order on opening night was determined.
  - c. Poster boards were discussed. The plan was to keep the boards (which are being used at the Rockford meeting) at Northern Illinois University until they could be transported to Missouri. It was suggested that they might be shipped, as their weight is relatively low.
  - d. Planning was discussed. It was noted that it should not be assumed that people will come to a meeting simply because a meeting is being held. The technical program chairs and others need to contact and confirm participation of as many professionals and students as possible well before the meeting. It is also critical to get organizers named for a good number of technical sessions and invited symposia well before the meeting, so that they can recruit suitable speakers. It was noted that the Section has a document with suggestions on organizing sessions.

- e. Archives for Section records were discussed. Jack Hess noted that records could be sent to GSA Headquarters. Bob Diffendal suggested that a professional archivist go through the records first to see if any material could be discarded before sending material to GSA Headquarters.
  - f. Nancy Williams and Kevin Evans discussed aspects of the upcoming 2010 joint North-Central/South-Central meeting to be held in Branson, Missouri. They described the location, the time for the meeting (Sunday noon through Tuesday noon), possible boat and trains trips that may be arranged in conjunction with the conference, and field trips. They also noted that a color notice of the meeting would appear on each of the Rockford conference computers before, between, and after each talk (they were set as a desktop computer image).
  - g. The Secretary noted that the North-Central Chair for the 2011 joint Northeastern/North-Central Section meeting in Pittsburgh is Daniel Holm of Kent State University. He also noted that two (Pittsburgh and Northern Ohio) geological societies will be involved with the meeting.
  - h. It was noted that the approved 2012 meeting place would be Dayton and that the Chair of that meeting, Chuck Ciampaglio, would be at the next day's meeting.
  - i. Future meeting sites were discussed. Jean Bahr noted that the University of Wisconsin may be willing to organize the 2015 meeting. The desirability of having a meeting in Michigan in 2013 or 2014 was noted.
  - j. Ben Datillo discussed North-Central Paleontological Society organization and activities.
12. Jack Hess and Jean Bahr discussed GSA matters and concerns, including the publication of the first issue of the new journal *Lithosphere* (Hess) and discussions of GSA divisions and sections at the leadership meeting held in early March in the Denver area (Bahr).
13. Dave Stephenson of the GSA Foundation noted that there have been some significant donations to the foundation this year, noting that the foundation would match Section student travel grants in the usual amounts this coming year.
14. A change in GSA headquarters rules for field trips was discussed. These rules would require that information on field trips be submitted expeditiously.
15. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Draft minutes compiled April 2009, revised Oct. 2009  
Joe Hannibal  
Executive Secretary, North-Central Section  
Geological Society of America