



## Rio Grande Chapter

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

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<http://www.asprs-rmr.org/chapters/riogrande/>

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### Minutes: ASPRS – Rio Grande Chapter Board Meeting (Oct 8, 2011 2:00pm)

Attendees: Joe Zebrowski, Michaela Buenemann, Nathan Kempf, Jake Darlington, Leandro Gonzalez, Alma Pacheco, Xian Dong

- I. The meeting was called to order at 2:33 pm
- II. The agenda was approved (Buenemann/Kempf)
- III. September meeting minutes were approved (Buenemann/Kempf)
- IV. Treasurer's report. Joe read the report, prepared by Brian Knehans (attached). Joe will follow up with Brian regarding establishing the bank account. Joe and Brian will be signatories. Brian will also renew the Chapter post office box. Brian and the Chapter secretary will have keys.
- V. Old business. Joe reviewed open items from the last meeting minutes.
  - a. Joe remarked that he had not made further progress on the scholarship. The description is complete and a draft letter for soliciting contributions was circulated. Next steps will be discussed under new business.
  - b. Michaela is still working on the lapsed membership project with the Rocky Mountain Region. Jake and Joe will each be provided with a list of ten lapsed members to contact.
  - c. Joe has left e-mail and voice mail messages with Robert Dzur, who was a write in candidate for the secretary position and was elected to this position.
- VI. New business
  - a. Joe offered some remarks regarding his new position as Chapter President. He noted we are members of ASPRS and serve on the board with the intention of supporting our profession and for the opportunity for fellowship with other geospatial professionals. None of us are on the board because we have too little to do in our day jobs. We should engage in projects that will bolster our profession, see those projects through to completion, but avoid making this work stressful. There should be a sense of reward and we should all enjoy what we do, take pride in our accomplishments, and have fun in the process.
  - b. The group had a brief discussion of plans for the coming year.
    - i. Michaela recommend that we seek way to energize participation by

board members and revalidate those members' interest in serving on the board. Joe commented that any lack of activity by board members may be attributed to the fact that they may not have been asked to do anything. We should engage our board members in meaningful work while recognizing that some member's availability to participate may vary throughout the year. Michaela also suggested that the Chapter By-Laws be amended to define minimum board meeting participation requirements for board members. Joe will review the By-Laws and see how they could be amended.

- ii. Similarly, the group thought we should do more to recruit member participation in activities. That led to a discussion of a desire to also recruit more professionals into ASPRS. It was suggested that some sort of recruitment incentive could be provided, with members who successfully recruit a new member being awarded an ASPRS shirt or other item.
- iii. The scholarship project needs to get back on track. Joe noted that we need to now fund this scholarship. He will send out a letter to Chapter membership soliciting contribution. That will go out by Nov 15. He will also develop a letter that will be sent to corporations and other NM entities engaged in geospatial products and services. That letter will go out before Christmas. Joe proposed that members may want to approach their firms to solicit contributions. It was noted that many firms may be feeling financially strapped right now. It may be awkward for some employees to solicit contributions right now. Joe will develop a version of the funds solicitation letter for employees to use, should they wish to approach their employers anyway.
- iv. Related to the letter Joe will send to firms, Leandro and other expressed interest having a directory of potential employers. Nathan noted that we already have a directory on line, though it needs to be updated. Leandro offered to assist with updating the directory. Jake offered to review the directory. We still need to have someone take lead on this project.
- v. Joe suggested the Chapter could sponsor technical tours to various NM geospatial entities. This might be a way to further support our chapter professional development mission, better engage our membership, and provide better awareness of ASPRS to organizations engaged in geospatial products and services. There was some concern that people may not have time to participate in these tours. Joe commented that we should give it a try and noted that board members should not feel obligated to participate in these. Joe recommended trying for four tours a year, while hoping that at least two will actually occur. Joe will take

lead on this project.

- c. The schedule for regular chapter meetings was discussed. Joe commented that the current noon on the first Friday of the month worked well. Leandro commented that he cannot make that time, but could make an earlier time or a different day. Joe stated that Fridays were his best day, but an earlier time may be feasible. Jake and Nathan indicated that they may be able to make an earlier time. Joe will contact the rest of the board via a Doodle poll to determine which time works best for Board members.
- VII. The next Board meeting will be on Friday, November 4. The time will be determined based on Joe's survey of Board members.
- VIII. Next meetings:
- a. November 4 (time TBD)
- IX. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.