



Rio Grande Chapter

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

PO Box 20914

Albuquerque, NM 87154

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

Minutes: ASPRS – Rio Grande Chapter Meeting (Dec 9, 2011 10:00am)

Attendees: Joe Zebrowski, Michaela Buenemann, Nathan Kempf, Jake Darlington, Leandro Gonzalez, Mike Vessel, Dennis Szarka, Clyde Hubbard, Rob Dzur

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 10 am
2. **Roll call** was conducted and with Clyde Hubbard and Rob Dzur joining the meeting in progress after roll call.
3. **Quorum** was established and the meeting proceeded.
4. J. Zebrowski moved to approve the **agenda** which was seconded and approved.
5. **October minutes** were likewise approved by motion (J. Zebrowski) with second from J. Darlington.
6. **Treasurer's report.** Brian reported that he had found a reasonable bank: Sandia Federal Credit Union. Brian indicated that neither a minimum balance nor any fees were required to open an account. Brian did report, however, that anyone with access to the account would need to be physically present at the time of the account opening which Joe and Brian anticipate would happen over the next two weeks. Funds reported to be deposited included (\$1,091 and \$373) with no changes since the last treasurer's report. Brian reported four (4) pending student reimbursements to go out. Michaela noted that another reimbursement was needed and Joe, Brian and Michaela would work together to review and track down a record for that particular reimbursement. The next reimbursement from ASPRS National is expected to be received sometime in the summer.
7. Joe pulled the **membership** roster for the membership report which lists 61 members for the Rio Grande Chapter. Joe asked about a mailing list potential from this list and asked if anyone had known about any accuracy issues with these data from ASPRS National.
8. **Rocky Mountain Chapter Report.** Michaela discussed membership outreach and other activities of the Region including the annual dinner scheduled for 21 January. The new website was reported to be much improved as was the new newsletter. Michaela asked that anyone with newsletter contributions can send them to Kristi Edwards or she would also be glad to forward to Kristi. The Rocky Mountain scholarship will also be evaluated over the next month or so. Joe asked that meeting participants consider what features might be contributed to the newsletter

9. Old Business.

- a. Discussion of the **Mailbox** revealed that the previous payment was in January 11.
- b. **Scholarship.** Joe will provide an update as he has been working on this topic with several others. He expects to send a general solicitation to members and then look at those who hire geospatial professionals in particular with a goal to fund \$1,500 in an annual scholarship to students (this amount Joe noted is comparable to other ASPRS scholarship efforts). Joe will send a draft of solicitation letter for comment.
- c. **Lapsed Membership Survey** – Joe reported that he had attempted to contact 10 people on the list. Most of the people on the list appeared to be students and once they got jobs they left the organization. The effort appeared to uncover many dead-ends. One person's feedback via voicemail, was that they no longer maintained membership since they were not working in Remote Sensing, they did not feel that the membership was of benefit. Michaela asked for some notes about who has been contacted. Joe and Michaela will continue discussion off-line regarding the survey and Joe mentioned particular concern about members that dropped after 21 or 28 years. Clyde reported that in 2008/09, with the recession, that a National had a program which paid for memberships in need or for those who were unemployed.
- d. **Technical Tours** – Joe reported the idea to conduct two to four technical tours over the year scheduling a visit related to remote sensing and photogrammetry with RGIS a potential first visit candidate. Joe mentioned that he had asked RGIS to provide a possible date in JAN/FEB as well as a time and number of people. Joe suggested Friday's potentially before lunch with a number of up to 15 people as a good potential target. If anyone has feedback on technical tour scheduling, please submit to Joe along with any suggesting about how to structure these sorts of events.
- e. **By-Laws** modification. Discussion over past months has covered board member participation in meetings. Joe recapped the Art. 4 of the current By-Laws regarding this topic noting that if a board member misses 4 consecutive meetings, they should consider dropping off the board. Joe mentioned in his personal opinion that this seemed reasonable and it was concluded that we should continue to monitor the situation and take these ideas, but possibly but this topic on the back burner for now.
- f. **Resource directory.** Leandro put out a call out to refine the draft resource directory list somewhat to get this list refined by type of organization (e.g. Government, etc.) and will likely send out to the board in the next couple of days his latest draft. Leandro also reported that he felt the list is pretty solid and stronger than the past list. Still, some links are outdated and need to be cleaned up. Joe contributed that this tool can be seen as a useful, good chapter networking tool. Also discussed was the fact that a couple of companies appeared not to have a physical / corporate presence in NM. Facebook was also mentioned in similar light as a positive tool for the chapter.

- g. **Recruiting** – This topic was introduced with no further discussion other than to keep the item alive for the next meeting.
10. New Business
- a. Joe opened new business with a discussion of the **loss of two board members:** Sunny / Andrea. Joe noted that given the other membership make-up, technically only one vacancy exists. Since Mike Vessel had expressed an interest in serving on the board, Joe moved to fill one vacancy. On separate motion, Joe nominated Mike to fill the vacancy. Michaela seconded both motions and the board approved, thereby welcoming Mike to the board. No further discussion was held on board membership. Nate asked that Mike provide him contact info to update the membership information on the website. Further discussion centered on the fact that Rocky Mountain Region had inserted our chapter's page into their site. Joe suggested Nathan look into format issues on the web.
11. Conferences
- a. **SWUG** - Report from Dennis Szarka was provided noting that this was a successful event with conference participation of approximately 400 in attendance at the conference held in Mesa, AZ. Some observations at the conference expressed concerns about ESRI taking it over from the SWUG board and Dennis noted that there will be a meeting at EDAC to discuss committee members to start up the process for hosting the next SWUG in NM with the goal being to maintain an open approach to the participation at the SWUG. Many committee members will come from NMGIC and it was assumed that this topic might certainly be discussed at an upcoming GAC meeting.
 - b. **ASPRS** – Joe brought up the ASPRS National conference to be held March 19-23, 2012 in Sacramento and asked for any comments on the national conference.
 - c. **Other** – Dennis reported the NM Association of Counties was an upcoming event to which Joe requested that Dennis send out some more information.
12. **Next meeting** date. For January meeting possibilities were discussed for Friday – the 6th or the 13th and Joe mentioned that he would send out another survey.
13. Motion to **adjourn** per dial tone concluded the meeting at 11am.