

**National Speleological Society, Inc.
Minutes of the 263rd Regular Meeting
of the Board of Governors**

**Corydon, IN
July 6 & 10, 2026
9AM CST**

MONDAY July 10, 2026

COD, Josh Schultz, called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM Local Time, July 6, 2026.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Executive Director

Annette Engel - PRESENT

Directors

Sarah Arpin - PRESENT

Mike Backe - PRESENT

Zach Englebert - PRESENT

Miki Kalber - PRESENT

Mike Mansur - PRESENT

Rebecca McNabb - PRESENT

Dennis Melko - PRESENT

Anna Pearce - PRESENT

Jim Minie - PRESENT

Derek Bristol - PRESENT

Julian Benson - PRESENT

Matthew Kok - PRESENT

Josh Schultz - PRESENT

2. Minutes to Approve –

2.1.05.27.2026 Special Meeting Minutes

Backe – seconds

Schultz calls voice vote

Voice Vote:

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

3. Comments from the Membership

- **Doug Saroka** - NSF provided NSS with check for \$20,997.15 from the NSF Endowment Fund

4. Division Head & Board Reports

- 4.1.** Chair of the Board (Josh Schultz): welcome to new directors
- 4.2.** Executive Director (Annette Engel): The annual report is on the website; working on hiring marketing manager that is paid by post; still looking for communications chair
- 4.3.** Financial Review Committee (Rebecca McNabb): Audit progress, bylaws updates, work toward committee manual
- 4.4.** Nominating Committee (Anna Pearce): Report on prior year elections and updates to process
- 4.5.** Strategic Planning Committee (Miki Kalber): Resuming meetings this summer
- 4.6.** Bylaws Committee (Carol Tideman): Created handbook and continuing to review motions to provide feedback
- 4.7.** Financial Division (Kristine Ebrey): Audit update, expansion of Ramp use
- 4.8.** Membership Division (Carol Tideman): Updates on convention; Rich Geisler – new convention coordinator
- 4.9.** Conservation & Science Division (Emily Davis): Explained need for more IT manpower/support and communication/social media outreach; invasive plant remediation at HQ
- 4.10.** Education Division (Tim White): New logo created; Instructor website updated for development; adding more instructors and trainings for VTC; NCRC piloted new curriculum; updates to training facility design to allow for more classrooms
- 4.11.** Communications Division (Unfilled): NONE
- 4.12.** Facilities Division (Maureen Handler): Updates to HQ – archive workroom, Cave Ave structure successfully demolished – engraved bricks saved

5. Comments from the Membership

- **Alex Reed** - 2028 Convention Presentation

6. Unfinished Business

NONE

7. Recess 10:08 AM – 10:25 AM

8. New Business

8.1. Schultz moves to adopt the NCRC Financial processes SOG.

Pearce: seconds

Schultz: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

8.2. Schultz moves to adopt the VTC financial policy.

Mansur: seconds

Schultz: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

8.3. Schultz moves to distribute \$100,000 from the Beach Fund into the NCRC National Restricted fund.

Pearce: seconds

Schultz: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

8.4. Schultz moves to distribute \$100,000 from the Beach Fund into the VTC Restricted Fund.

Pearce: seconds

Schultz: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

8.5. McNabb moves for the revision of the fund contracts held by the National Speleological Foundation.

Pearce: seconds

Schultz: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

8.6. McNabb moves: The Human Resources Program Support Budget Eligibility and Criteria will be as follows:

A board member must have served for at least 6 months to qualify for use of these

funds.

Funds will be divided evenly among sitting board members during each fiscal year.

Board members must present their desired training, program, educational materials, etc. to the chair of the board at least 30 calendar days prior to need for funds.

The chair of the board must approve or deny any request and communicate this to the Secretary/Treasurer for appropriate fund disbursement.

Kalber: seconds

Bristol: motions to amend:

>>A board member must have served for at least 6 months to qualify for use of these funds.<<

Funds will be divided evenly among sitting board members during each fiscal year. **<<Unused funds may be transferred amongst directors upon agreement.>>**

Board members must present their desired training, program, educational materials, etc. to the chair of the board at least 30 calendar days prior to need for funds.

The chair of the board must approve or deny any request and communicate this to the Secretary/Treasurer for appropriate fund disbursement.”

Benson: seconds

Schultz: calls voice vote on amendment

Voice Vote:

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

Schultz: calls voice vote on motion

Voice Vote:

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

Consent Agenda

8.7. McNabb moves to add \$500 to the Board Expenses - Travel Budget line item of the 2026/2027 fiscal budget.

8.8. McNabb moves to update 15-017 Negotiable Funds 03-16-96, 03-23-74, 07-08-50

Checks, drafts, post office money orders, postal notes, or other negotiable instruments coming into the hands of anyone else must be promptly transmitted to the <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>Executive Director<< << or their designee.>> The NSS federal ID number will be used on the account. Checks themselves may be imprinted any way the <<D>> >>d<<ivision desires.

8.9. McNabb moves to update 15-020 Bonding 08-07-98, 08-05-96, 03-16-96, 08-18-72, 07-08-50

The <<Secretary/Treasurer>> >>Executive Director<< is responsible for bonding Society employees and members, including NSS National Convention Treasurers, who have access to significant Society funds on a regular basis.

8.10. McNabb moves to update 15-428 Securities 06-29-84

The <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>Executive Director<< is authorized to establish securities accounts with brokerage firms and to sell securities donated to the Society and its various funds. The Board of Governors >>hereby<< <<must>> pass>>es<< >>such formal resolutions<< << a motion>> >>as may be required<< <<for new fund accounts>>>>to accomplish these actions.<<

8.11. McNabb moves to update 15-494 Federal Tax Identification Number 08-03-92

Any NSS division, activity, or individual that uses the NS<<S>> >>A<<'s federal tax identification number must comply with all procedures outlined in Section 15 of the NSS Board of Governors Manual.

8.12. McNabb moves to update 15-495 Tax ID Reporting Requirements 08-03-92

NSS Divisions, Committees, and Commissions that use the NSS federal tax identification number shall >>periodically<< report their income and expense activity <<monthly>> to the NSS <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>Executive Director at intervals to be established by the Executive Director<<.

8.13. McNabb moves to update 15-509 Review of NSS Checking Accounts 07-01-24:8.1, 03-17-18:17, 08-05-96, 03-16-96, 04-17-93

The <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>Executive Director<< must work with the Financial Review Committee to ensure the Internal Financial reviewers are provided access to properly review bank accounts monthly. The <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>Executive Director<<-must arrange to have bank account statements sent to the committee and those with direct responsibility for managing or reviewing the account.

8.14. McNabb moves to update 15-573 Signature Authority 07-27-07:34, 06-28-02, 03-16-96

The <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>Executive Director<< may open and close bank and other financial institutions/accounts on behalf of the National Speleological Society Inc., consistent with the Acts of the Board and the budget approved by the Board of Governors, as necessary to manage NSS funds appropriately.

The Board of Governors hereby passes such formal resolutions as may be necessary to establish these accounts on behalf of the National Speleological Society with signature authority granted to the Executive Director, the Secretary-Treasurer, and agents designated by the Executive Director.

8.15. McNabb moves to update 15-575 Money Market Account 08-05-96

>>15-575 Money Market Account 08-05-96

The Executive Director is authorized to establish an NSS money market fund for the purpose of managing excess cash funds on a short-term basis.<<

8.16. McNabb moves to update 15-617 Capital Purchases 08-07-98

NSS capital items that cost more than <<\$1500>> >>\$500.00<< may be procured only with Board approval. >>The Executive Director may approve the procurement of capital budget items that cost less than \$500.00.<< In an emergency the Chair of the Board may authorize an NSS division or commission to procure a capital budget item up to \$10,000.00.

8.17. McNabb moves to update 15-676 Liability Insurance 07-08-05, 10 05-02, 06-30-00

The Society shall maintain general liability insurance with a minimum coverage of <<two>> >>one<< million dollars. The general liability policy will include coverage for the annual convention.

8.18. McNabb moves to update 15-759 <<Errors and Omissions (E&O)>> >>Directors and Officers<< Insurance 07-08-05

The Society must maintain Directors' and employees>>'<< Insurance with a minimum coverage of one million dollars. Such insurance shall cover any act or omission or alleged act or omission arising from their status as an NSS director, employee, >>or<< division chair, <<or person who is authorized to act on behalf of the NSS,>> provided their actions were not taken in bad faith or dishonestly.

8.19. McNabb moves to update 15-776 Financial Report 07-01-24:8.2, 08-07-06:6

The NSS <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>>Executive Director<<-will include a financial report that includes the latest financial information, budget to actual comparison, and the values of all NSS and NSF held funds as part of their report for Board of Governors meetings and as quarterly reports to the Financial Review Committee.

8.20. McNabb moves to update 15-838 Fund Calculations for Grants and Distributions 04-17-10:26

NSS and NSF controlled funds, used for grants and distribution budget line items, are calculated based on the closing balance on December 31st of the previous year. >>Fund grant and distribution calculations are rounded down to the nearest \$10 increment.<<

8.21. McNabb moves to update 15-885 Rental Income of NSS Facilities 03-15-14:26

Rental income, attributed employee cost, and expenses of NSS facilities must be accounted for and maintained separately from other financial activities. Income shall be used for surpluses may be transferred to operations or funds as determined by the <<Facilities Division Chair>> >>Executive Director<< with approval of the Board of Governors.

8.22. McNabb moves to update 16-040 Budget Restrictions 06-30-00, 04-02-54

The <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>>Executive Director<< is instructed to refuse payment of any amounts over the budget. The only exception may be in those instances where refusal to pay an invoice from an outside supplier would negatively impact the <<National Speleological Society>>>>NSS Inc.<< credit rating. In such instances <<,>> the <<Secretary/Treasurer>>>>Executive Director<< shall inform the Board who incurred the obligation on behalf of the <<National Speleological Society,>> >>NSS Inc.<< so the Board can decide if further actions are necessary..

8.23. McNabb moves to update 16-083 Budget Period 11-02-96, 08-03-92, 06 29-84, 06-23-75, 11-22-58

Expenses are budgeted for one <<fiscal>> year only unless specifically exempted. No division may carry an unused balance into the following year. Money budgeted for publication of the NSS News, >>and<< Journal of Cave and Karst Studies >>, and American Caving Accidents<< shall be <<escrowed>> >>encumbered<< until the publications for which the money was budgeted are published.

8.24. McNabb moves to update 16-115 Budget Process 08-07-98, 02-20-88, 02-25-84, 08-18-72, 02-23-63

The budget for the next fiscal year must be approved by the Board at its spring meeting. The proposed budget must be submitted to the Board<<, >> including projected income and expenses for the following fiscal year, proposed transfers from the operating budget to restricted funds, proposed capital budget, and a cash flow analysis.

8.25. McNabb moves to update 16-349 Interest Income 03-16-96, 06-23-78

>>16-349 Interest Income 03-16-96, 06-23-78

The Executive Director is instructed to allocate investment income to the contributed NSS Restricted Fund that earned the income for funds with balances greater than \$100.<<

8.26. McNabb moves to update 16-635 Travel Report 07-12-99

The Executive Director develops a Travel Report showing the amounts, funding source, and general purpose for the use of the travel funds. This will be a policy level report and no member names are to be included in the report. >>This yearly report

shall be included with the normal reports that go to the Board for the yearly budget meeting.<<

**8.27. McNabb moves to update 16-797 Research Advisor <<Department>>
>>Committee<< Budget 03-15-08:15**

Each year the annual budget shall allocate the full 5.5% of the Ralph W. Stone Research Fund, as specified in Board Act 19-138, for the grants administered by the Research Advisory <<Department>> >>Committee<< (RA<<D>>>>C<<).

8.28. McNabb moves to update 17-567 NSF Russell H. Gurnee Memorial Library Fund 03-18-95

>>17-567 NSF Russell H. Gurnee Memorial Library Fund 03-18-95

Donations received by the NSS in memory of Russell H. Gurnee will be transferred to the NSF Russell H. Gurnee Memorial Library Fund.<<

8.29. McNabb moves to update 18-137 Life Membership Fund 07-27-07:32, 03-23-02, 03 16-96, 11-14-64

The purpose of the >>Life Membership<< fund is to serve as a source of income to the Society sufficient to provide life members with the services normally furnished to regular members. All payments for or toward life or family-life membership shall be placed in the Life Membership Fund. >>From dues paid by sustaining or family-sustaining members, this includes only the actual excess of dues over regular or family dues, and not the 10 percent bonus credited to the life-membership account. The fund is managed as a temporarily restricted quasi- endowment fund. <<Annually, the Foundation returns to the Society all net income from the Life Membership Fund up to 100% of the current regular membership rate plus related surcharges for each living life member, not to exceed 5.5% of the Fund's total value.

8.30. McNabb moves to update 18-148 James G. Mitchell Fund 03-23-02, 11-18-72, 06-15-65

>>18-148 James G. Mitchell Fund 03-23-02, 11-18-72, 06-15-65

The purpose of the James G. Mitchell fund is to provide income to the Society to be used as a cash award known as the James G. Mitchell Award. The James G. Mitchell Award was established in 1965 to be given for the best scientific paper presented at any of the sessions of the annual convention by a member (or members) of the Society 25 years old or younger who has applied or been recommended for the Award. Selection is made by the Awards Team. The Fund was established by donors. The fund is managed as a temporarily restricted quasi-endowment fund. Annually the NSS withdrawals 5.5% of the Fund 's total value for this purpose.<<

8.31. McNabb moves to update 18-289 Loans to Conservation Task Forces 11-16-74

>>18-289 Loans to Conservation Task Forces 11-16-74

The Executive Director upon recommendation of the Conservation Committee, may make interest-free loans to Conservation Task Forces (CTFs) to facilitate the carrying out of their purposes and goals. The money for the loans shall be taken from the Save-the-Caves Fund, and shall be repaid by the CTF to that fund. In the event that a CTF is unable, within a reasonable time, to repay the loan through fundraising, donations, or other means, the Board of Governors, upon recommendation of the Conservation Committee, may, at its option, declare the loan canceled. Although loans are to be considered as interest-free, CTFs are encouraged to donate money to the Save-the-Caves Fund above and beyond the principle.<<

8.32. McNabb moves to update 18-367 Save-the-Caves Fund 03-17-07:20, 03-23-02, 04-07-01, 03-27-99, 06-23-97, 11-21-81, 11-17-79

The >>Save-the-Caves<< fund shall be used to support the general conservation goals of the Society. >>This fund was established by donors.<< >>Money may be expended by Board action on the recommendation of the Conservation Department and Executive Director. In addition, the Executive Director may authorize the expenditure of up to 5.5% of the beginning value of the Save-the-Caves Fund in any fiscal year for the reprinting of NSS brochures, which promote the conservation goals of the Society.<< <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.33. McNabb moves to update 18-411 Vandalism Deterrence Reward Fund 03-23-02, 10 29-83, 07-01-83

>>18-411 Vandalism Deterrence Reward Fund 03-23-02, 10 29-83, 07-01-83

The purpose of the Vandalism Deterrence Reward fund is to pay any rewards which may be required to be paid as a result of the Society's standing offer of a \$250 to \$1000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons guilty of violating cave protection laws. It was established by donors and may be periodically augmented through transfers of unrestricted funds. The funds may be spent by the Conservation Division Head.<<

8.34. McNabb moves to update 18-501 Fund for Litigation to Protect Caves 03-23-02, 03-18-00, 11-07-92

>>18-501 Fund for Litigation to Protect Caves 03-23-02, 03-18-00, 11-07-92

The purpose of the fund for Litigation to Protect Caves is to pay for litigation necessary to protect caves and their natural contents, initiated by the Society or by cooperating individuals. The fund is composed of donations and accrued income. The Board of Governors may authorize expenditure of part or all of this fund for expenses of litigation necessary to further one or more purposes of the Society stated in Article II of its Constitution, provided that no expenditure from this fund is contrary to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law as determined by the Legal Counsel In addition, the Executive Director may authorize expenditures of small sums from this fund as seed money for special funds established for defense of owners of wild caves made party to adverse legal action because of their ownership of caves. These funds shall not exceed \$5,000.00 at any one time. The fund shall be reimbursed from such

special funds to the greatest degree possible. The Executive Director shall review any proposed use of this fund prior to presentation to the Board and report alternative ways of accomplishing the goal intended to be accomplished by legal action with the intent that legal action shall be the last resort and a large balance be maintained in this fund to support any such legal action which may be found necessary. Principal and investment income of this fund shall not be used to defray expenses of litigation in which the Society is a defendant.<<

8.35. McNabb moves to update 18-524 NSS A/V Library Restricted Fund 03-27-99, 11-07-98, 08-60-93

The purpose of the >>NSS A/V Library Restricted<< fund is to provide funds for NSS A/V Library programs, equipment, or equipment maintenance. These funds may be spent by the A/V Library Chairman, subject to Executive Director approval. All funds (fees in excess of postage cost) raised through the A/V Library rental program will go to this restricted fund. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.36. McNabb moves to update 18-525 NSS Library/Museum Restricted Fund 03-17-18:13, 03-15-03:19, 03-23-02, 10-20-01, 07-27-01, 11-07-98, 08-06-93

The purpose of the >>NSS Library/Museum Restricted<< fund is to provide funds for NSS Library or Museum<<to>> acqui<<re>> >>sition of<< speleologically significant publications and memorabilia to be housed in the NSS Library and/or Museum and >>the<< preservation of cave and karst-related publications and memorabilia, cataloging, storage, protection, library/museum services to users, and Internet access. All expenditures are subject to the Executive Director's approval. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.37. McNabb moves to update 18-598 Convention Surplus Designated Fund 12-04-21:25, 06-19-17:34, 03-23-02, 11-04-00, 03-21-98, 06-23-97

>>18-598 Convention Surplus Designated Fund 12-04-21:25, 06-19-17:34, 03-23-02, 11-04-00, 03-21-98, 06-23-97

The NSS Convention Surplus Designated fund is established to provide funds to cover NSS convention deficits. Each year the full, unrestricted convention surplus for that year must be transferred to the Convention Surplus Fund.<<

8.38. McNabb moves to update 18-604 NSS News Restricted Fund 03-23-02, 11-08-97

The >>NSS News Restricted<< fund is established for the purpose of augmenting the publication budget of the NSS News. At the end of the fiscal year any unexpended NSS News advertising income shall be transferred to this fund. This fund may be spent by the NSS News editor, subject to approval of the Executive Director. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.39. McNabb moves to update 18-605 Journal Restricted Fund 03-23-02, 11-08-97

The >>Journal Restricted<< fund is established for the purpose of augmenting the publication budget of the Journal of Cave and Karst Studies. At the end of the fiscal year any unexpended Journal advertising income and page charges >>shall<< <<will>> I be transferred to this fund. This fund may be spent by the Journal editor, subject to approval of the Executive Director. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.40. McNabb moves to update 18-629 Cave Education Restricted Fund 10-05-02, 03-23-02, 03-27-99

The >>NSS Cave Education Restricted<< fund is established to promote cave and karst education programs and resources. >>The Fund was established by donors. <<>>Utilization requires Board of Governors approval.<<

The Executive Director may fund grant proposals from this restricted fund promoting cave and karst education programs for primary and secondary students<<, >> >>from this restricted fund<< provided the grant funding amount is listed in the Annual Budget approved by the Board of Governors. Additionally, the Executive Director may fund the publication of The Guide to Responsible Caving, provided the funding amount is listed in the Annual Budget approved by the Board of Governors. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.41. McNabb moves to update 18-639 Cave Restoration Fund 03-23-02, 10-23-99

The purpose of the >>Cave Restoration<< fund is to support the repair of human-caused damage, both malicious and inadvertent. The Conservation Division, subject to the Executive Director's approval, may spend these funds. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.42. McNabb moves to update 18-640 Membership Committee Fund 03-23-02, 10-23-99

>>18-640 Membership Committee Fund 03-23-02, 10-23-99

The purpose of the Membership Committee Fund is to promote the work of the Membership Committee. The Fund was established by donors. The NSS Membership Committee chairman, subject to Chair of the Board's approval, may spend these funds.<<

8.43. McNabb moves to update 18-641 National Cave Rescue Commission Funds 03-15-08:37, 03-23-02, 06-30-00, 10-23-99

>>18-641 National Cave Rescue Commission Funds 03-15-08:37, 03-23-02, 06-30-00, 10-23-99

The purpose of the National Cave Rescue Commission funds is to support the National Cave Rescue Commission. These are unrestricted funds Board of Governors designated funds.

The National Coordinator of the National Cave Rescue Commission, subject to Executive Director approval, may spend these funds. Subsidiary funds may be established to support the NCRC regions and seminars and they may be spent by each region's NCRC Regional Coordinator and Seminar chairmen subject to Executive Director approval.<<

8.44. McNabb moves to update 18-642 Fine Arts Salon Fund 03-23-02, 07-27-01, 11-04-00, 10-23-99

>>18-642 Fine Arts Salon Fund 03-23-02, 07-27-01, 11-04-00, 10-23-99

The purpose of the Fine Arts Salon Fund is to support the NSS Fine Arts Salon. The Salon Committee chairman, subject to Executive Director approval, may spend these funds.<<

8.45. McNabb moves to update 18-655 Landowner Assistance Restricted Fund 03-20-04;19, 03-18-00

The >>Landowner Assistance<< fund is established >>and will be composed of donations and accrued income. T<< <<t>>o preserve access to caves and favorable caver-landowner relations, the Board of Governors may authorize expenditures from this fund for assistance to landowners who sustain damage or distress incidental to the caving activities of any person. >>The Spring Hill Restricted Fund is closed. The balance is transferred to the Landowner Assistance Restricted Fund. <<<<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.46. McNabb moves to update 18-686 NSS Reserve Fund 03-23-19:23, 10-21-17:40, 06-19-17:28, 11-04-00

The >>NSS Reserve<< fund is established to smooth the normal variation in annual fiscal year NSS Operations surpluses and deficits. At the end of each NSS fiscal year surplus from normal operations in that fiscal year will be deposited in the NSS Reserve Funds<<, the funds>> can be transferred from the NSS Reserve Fund to the NSS Operations to cover any NSS Operations deficit or cash flow needed in a fiscal year. The << Secretary/Treasurer>> >>Executive Director<< shall notify the Board of any transfers. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.47. McNabb moves to update 18-687 Junior Speleological Society Restricted Fund 03-23-02, 11-04-00

>>18-687 Junior Speleological Society Restricted Fund 03-23-02, 11-04-00

The purpose of the Junior Speleological Society restricted fund is to support NSS youth educational and recreational activities, including youth activities at the NSS conventions. The Fund was established by donors. These funds may be spent by the

chairman of the Junior Speleological Society team subject to Executive Director approval.<<

8.48. McNabb moves to update 18-688 Mammoth Cave Restoration Project Restricted Fund 11-04-00

>>18-688 Mammoth Cave Restoration Project Restricted Fund 11-04-00

The purpose of the Mammoth Cave Restoration restricted fund is to support the activities of the Mammoth Cave Restoration Project in accordance with the Cooperative Agreement between Mammoth Cave National Park and the National Speleological society. These funds may be spent by the Mammoth Cave Restoration Project manager subject to the approval of the Executive Director.<<

8.49. McNabb moves to update 18-712 Cave Acquisition Fund 03-25-06:22a, 03-23-02

>>18-712 Cave Acquisition Fund 03-25-06:22a, 03-23-02

The purpose of the Cave Acquisition fund is the purchase or lease of caves or to obtain easements on cave properties. This fund may also be used to pay transfer costs (e.g. lawyer's fees, title searches, land surveys, and closing costs) for caves acquired in any manner by the Society. This fund may also be used to make loans or grants to NSS Internal Organizations, conservancies, or Institutional Members wishing to acquire cave properties. The Fund was established by donors. Money may be spent from this fund with the approval of the Board of Governors or transferred from this fund to the Nature Preserve Fund as deemed necessary by the Executive Director.<<

8.50. McNabb moves to update 18-713 Nature Preserve Fund 03-19-22:18, 10-29-16:14, 15, 03-25-06:22b, 03-23-02

>>18-713 Nature Preserve Fund 03-19-22:18, 10-29-16:14, 15, 03-25-06:22b, 03-23-02

The Nature Preserve fund must serve only as a source of funding for the NSS Nature Preserves. The fund, which was established by donations, must account for the management and maintenance of all NSS Preserves, although donations designated for a particular Preserve must be recorded as such.

The NSS Preserve Managers must submit an annual budget to the Preserves Committee Chair, which is reported to the Executive Director for consideration and development of their annual proposed budget, which is then presented to the NSS BOG for approval.

Any expenses related to the management of the NSS Preserves must be submitted to the NSS Preserves Committee for initial approval, who must forward the request to the Executive Director for final approval. Each fiscal year an amount up to 5.5% of the total fund value may be used for Preserve maintenance. For extraordinary preserves-related expenses, such as an acquisition or unbudgeted emergency expense, the National Speleological Fund (NSF) by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Governors of the

Society, must transfer to the Society any part of the Nature Preserve Fund that is needed.<<

8.51. McNabb moves to update 18-715 Lew Bicking Fund 07-20-09:17, 03-23-02

>>18-715 Lew Bicking Fund 07-20-09:17, 03-23-02

The Lew Bicking fund is to provide income to be used as the cash part of the Lew Bicking Award. The fund was established by donors. The fund is managed as a temporarily restricted quasi-endowment fund. Annually the NSS withdraws 5.5% of the fund's total value.<<

8.52. McNabb moves to update 18-716 Merle and Bill Stephenson 50th Anniversary Fund 03-23-02

>>18-716 Merle and Bill Stephenson 50th Anniversary Fund 03-23-02

The purpose of the Merle and Bill Stephenson 50th Anniversary fund shall be determined by a 2/3 vote of the NSS Board of Governors at its Annual Meeting in the year 2035. The Fund was established by donors. The principle of the Merle and Bill Stephenson 50th Anniversary Fund will be invested to maximize its return until 2035. All income will be reinvested in the Fund until that date.<<

8.53. McNabb moves to update 18-720 NSS Support Fund 03-23-02

>>18-720 NSS Support Fund 03-23-02

The NSS Support Fund is a fund of the National Speleological Foundation which was established in 1974 in compliance with the wishes of the original donor. The income earned by the fund may be given on an as-needed basis to the NSS for conservation purposes upon request of the NSS Executive Director or the Chairman of the Conservation Division. The principal is to remain intact and, hopefully, to be increased by future donations. The Board of Governors may, upon a 3/4 vote, request that the Foundation trustees use all or part of the principal of the NSS Support Fund for a special purpose of the Society.<<

8.54. McNabb moves to update 18-722 Periodical Special Features Fund 03-23-02

>>18-722 Periodical Special Features Fund 03-23-02

The purpose of the Periodical Special Features fund is to cover the cost of special features in any NSS periodical. After the net income of the Fund is sufficient to pay for the cost of special features in any NSS periodical, any additional net income may be used to supplement any NSS periodical's budget. The Fund was established by donors. The fund is managed as a temporarily restricted quasi-endowment fund. Each fiscal year an amount equal to 5.5% of the total fund value is transferred for this purpose.<<

8.55. McNabb moves to update 18-724 Peter M. Hauer Fund 03-23-02

>>18-724 Peter M. Hauer Fund 03-23-02

The purpose of the Peter M. Hauer Fund is to provide income to the Society to be used as a cash award known as the Peter M. Hauer Spelean History Award. The Peter M. Hauer Spelean History Award was established in 1979 to be given to an individual or group involved in an outstanding spelean history research project. The Fund was established by donors. The fund is managed as a temporarily restricted quasi-endowment fund. Annually the NSS withdraws 5.5% of the total fund's value.<<

8.56. McNabb moves to update 18-741 Website Restricted Fund 08-04-03

>>18-741 Website Restricted Fund 08-04-03

The Website Restricted Fund is established to pay expenses associated with the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the NSS Website. Income generated by the Website, not attributable to any other division, shall accrue directly to the Website account. At the end of the fiscal year, any unexpended Website income shall be transferred to this account. The chairman of the Information Technology Division, with the approval of the Executive Director, may spend these funds.<<

8.57. McNabb moves to update 18-747 *American Caving Accidents* Restricted Fund 03-20-04

The >>*American Caving Accidents Restricted*<< fund is established for the purpose of augmenting the publication budget of the American Caving Accidents. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>

8.58. McNabb moves to update 18-800 Bat Research and Protection Restricted Fund 03-17-18:12, 03-15-08:31

>>The NSS Bat Research and Protection Restricted Fund is created. << The purpose of the fund is to provide funding for NSS Bat Research and Protection Grants, and for public education and outreach regarding bats. >>In years that the value of the Fund exceeds \$6,000, 5.5% of the value may be withdrawn annually for these purposes.<< These funds may be spent by the Research Advisory >>Committee<< <<Department>> chair>>man<<, and for public education and outreach regarding bats, subject to Executive Director approval. <<This fund is part of the Holding Fund that is managed by the National Speleological Foundation reference NSF NSS Appendix BV>>18-840 Grant Writing Fund 08-02-10:12

8.59. McNabb moves to update 18-840 Grant Writing Fund 08-02-10:12

>>18-840 Grant Writing Fund 08-02-10:12

The Grant Writing Fund is established to provide funds for hiring a professional grant writer to assist the NSS in procuring grants in support of its varied activities. The Fund is established by donors, and may be spent by the Executive Director<<

8.60. McNabb moves to update 18-961 Cave Preservation Fund 09-30-20:04

>>18-961 Cave Preservation Fund 09-30-20:04

The NSS Board of Governors approve the creation of the Cave Preservation Fund. The purpose of the fund is to support the creation of new NSS Nature Preserves as well as the maintenance of existing NSS preserves; support of cave conservancies and conservation efforts; production and distribution of educational materials; fund additional cave related research objectives; and to cover the operational costs of the NSS Cave Preservation (CPN) program. The fund allocates money raised from the CPN to support the missions above and will be an NSS account. All money raised Top of Acts by the CPN Program or donated specifically to this fund will be stored in this fund. Expenditure of these funds will be considered upon recommendation by the Environmental Education Division<<

8.61. McNabb moves to update 18-982 Management Fund 03-19-22

The >>initial Management<< fund is established in the amount of \$1,000,000 from monies in the Operational Fund, with additional contributions as unrestricted donations allow. Withdrawal of the fund may not exceed 5% of the total value of the fund annually and will be available to the <<Executive Director>> to be budgeted for use to offset operating costs for the administration of the NSS. The fund will be jointly established with concurrence by the Chair of the Board and the Secretary-Treasurer.

8.62. McNabb moves to update 18-986 Publication Fund 10-29-22:6

>>18-986 Publication Fund 10-29-22:6

The Publication Fund, a contract between the NSS and NSF, is approved. The fund will be a source of funds for expenses related to publications produced by the NSS or an approved publisher.<<

8.63. McNabb moves to update 18-995 NSS Perpetuity Operational Fund 03-10-24:5.3

>>18-995 NSS Perpetuity Operational Fund 03-10-24:5.3

The->>NSS Perpetuity Operational<< Fund, Attachment W to the NSS -NSF Contract, is created, and will be managed by the National Speleological Foundation, utilizing \$100,000, located in the Truist Investment Account. (See Attachment W of Appendix C for complete fund details.)<<

8.64. McNabb moves to rescind Act 18-998:

"Johnson Moves to authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to establish the NSS Capital Expenses Fund by signing Attachment X to the NSS NSF Fund Agreements. (New Act 18-998)"

Arpin: seconds

Schultz: calls voice vote

Voice Vote:

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

- 9. Recess**
Schultz moves to recess at 11:10 AM
- 10. Reopen Open Session**
Schultz moves to reconvene open session at 11:15 AM
- 11. Recess for Lunch**
Schultz moves to break for lunch at 11:30 AM
- 12. Reopen Open Session**
Schultz moves to reconvene open session at 12:18 PM
- 13. NCKRI Presentation**
- 14. Closed Session**
Schultz moves to enter closed session at 12:20 PM
- 15. Report to Membership from Closed Session:
NONE**
- 16. Reopen Open Session**
Schultz moves to reconvene open session at 4:12 PM
- 17. Adjournment**

Backe: motions to adjourn

Kalber: seconds

Schultz adjourns at 4:18 PM

FRIDAY July 10, 2026

COD, Josh Schultz, called the meeting to order at 9:07AM Local Time, July 10, 2026.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Executive Director

Annette Engel - PRESENT

Directors

Sarah Arpin - PRESENT

Mike Backe - PRESENT

Zach Englebert - PRESENT

Miki Kalber - PRESENT
Mike Mansur - PRESENT
Rebecca McNabb - PRESENT
Dennis Melko - PRESENT
Anna Pearce - PRESENT
Jim Minie - PRESENT
Derek Bristol - PRESENT
Julian Benson - PRESENT
Matthew Kok - ABSENT
Josh Schultz - PRESENT

2. Comments from Membership

- **Intro to new NSS employees**
- **COG Updates – John Zetterberg**
- **2028 Convention Updates to bid**

3. New Business

- **Englebert moves to accept the 2028 Convention bid**

Kalber: seconds

Schultz: calls voice vote

Voice Vote:

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

4. Closed Session

Pearce moves to enter closed session at 9:25 AM

5. Reopen Open Session

Englebert moves to reconvene open session at 12:55 PM

6. Report to Membership:

- Spring BoG Meeting to be held on February 20th, 2027 in Carlsbad, NM
- Decisions made regarding temporary personnel matters and subsequent communications

7. Adjournment

Pearce: motions to adjourn

Minie: seconds

Schultz adjourns at 12:57 PM