

**National Speleological Society, Inc.
Minutes of 261st Regular Meeting
of the Board of Governors**

**Ely, NV
October 4th, 2025
DRAFT 2**

COD, Pete Johnson, called the meeting to order at 9:05AM PST, October 4, 2025.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: 9:05AM Local Time

Directors

Sarah Arpin - PRESENT
Mike Backe - PRESENT
Zach Englebert - PRESENT
Pete Johnson - PRESENT
Miki Kalber - PRESENT
Mike Mansur - PRESENT
Nina Martin – PRESENT
Rebecca McNabb - PRESENT
Dennis Melko - PRESENT
Aria Mildice - PRESENT
Anna Pearce - PRESENT
Josh Schultz - PRESENT

2. Minutes to Approve –

2.1.06/23/25 Minutes

WITHDRAWN

2.2.08/11/25 Minutes

WITHDRAWN

3. Division Head & Board Reports

4. Comments from the Membership - None

5. Unfinished Business - None

6. New Business

6.1. Backe Moves to amend the Bylaws with the following language:

The awards committee shall maintain criteria by which awards are granted. Changes to the criteria need approval by the Board of Governors.

Schultz: seconds

Johnson: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

6.2. Backe Moves to approve the current Awards criteria.

Note: The Current Awards Criteria are amended to the end of this agenda.

McNabb: seconds

Johnson: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

7. Closed Session of the Board

Johnson moves to enter closed session – 9:25AM PST

Johnson moves to exit closed session – 12:20PM PST

Report to Membership: The Board elected Josh Schultz Chair of the Board effective 1/1/26

8. Open Session – New Business con't.

8.1. Pearce moves from the floor to modify Bylaw V.B.(4)(d) as follows:

The deadline for receiving ballots shall be no later than ~~>>thirty days<<~~ <<forty-five days>> before the elected directors will take office. Ballots shall be made available to voting members at least ~~>>forty-five days<<~~ <<thirty days>> before the deadline for receiving ballots.

Mildice: seconds

Johnson: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

8.2. Pearce moves from the floor to modify Appendix X.(I)(K) as follows:

Final election results will be announced first to the candidates, then to the Board of Governors, and subsequently to the Society membership. The candidates and the Board of Governors will be informed of the election results no less than ~~>>40 days<<~~ <<30 days>> preceding the current year NSS National Convention.

Mildice: seconds

Johnson: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

8.3. McNabb moves from the floor to approve \$4000 to hire a legal expert to make recommendations regarding the supporting organization structure of the NSS and NSF.

Pearce: seconds

Johnson: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

8.4. Melko Moves from the floor to modify Act 56-624 Convention Bids 11-07-98:

56-624 Convention Bids 11-07-98

~~>>Acceptance of an NSS Convention bid by the Board of Governors will not occur at the same meeting of the BOG during which the bid is presented.<<~~
<<NSS Convention bids may be approved at the meeting where they are presented, provided the Convention Department performed a site visit and submitted a written report to the board 30 days before the meeting.>>

Kalber: seconds

Johnson: calls voice vote

Voice Vote: FAILS

8.5. Johnson moves from the floor to modify 8.4 and remove 56-624 from the bylaws/acts entirely:

56-624 Convention Bids 11-07-98

~~>>Acceptance of an NSS Convention bid by the Board of Governors will not occur at the same meeting of the BOG during which the bid is presented.<<~~
~~>>NSS Convention bids may be approved at the meeting where they are presented, provided the Convention Department performed a site visit and submitted a written report to the board 30 days before the meeting.<<~~

Backe: seconds

Johnson: calls voice vote

Voice Vote:

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

1. Adjournment

Pearce: motions to adjourn

Backe: seconds

Johnson Adjourns at 4:13PM PST