

## NSS-CDS BoD Meeting - Minutes – 26 Jan 2008

**Call to order – KJ 5:09 PM**

**Location: Ginnie Springs**

**BOD Members present:** Gene Melton (GM), Forrest Wilson (FW), Kelly Jessop (KJ), Richard Blackburn (RB), Jeff Bozanic (JB – via phone)

**Members present:** Billy Fowler, Shirley Kasser, Joe Tegg, Richard Vaughan, Wes Skiles, Ken Anderson, Jacki Clark, Robert Brooks, John McMacken, Walter Pickel, Angela Reim, Cindy Butler, Jum Wyatt, Gwen Wyatt, Joel Clark, Jim Wombel

### Old business:

- **Secretary**

- **M)** GM/FW to approve the minutes of the 03 Nov 2007 Meeting. Passed Unanimous.
- Actions Between Meetings

**M)** GM/FW the following policy as the method of administering the cave vandalism reward program:

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#### NSS-CDS CAVE VANDALISM DETERRENCE REWARD

The National Speleological Society Cave Diving Section (NSS-CDS) offers a reward to anyone providing information leading to the legal conviction of vandalism directly related to underwater caves anywhere in the United States.

Settlements due to convictions under cave laws justify rewards to persons who supplied information leading to the conviction. Convictions under other laws, such as property, may also justify a reward, provided the conviction was for activities described below. Out of court settlements may also justify a reward, provided the offenders were formally charged and the settlement promotes cave conservation.

The NSS-CDS pays a reward of \$1,000 (split amongst all witnesses) for information leading to the conviction of any person (or persons) who:

- \* Was convicted of breaking, breaking off, cracking, carving upon, writing on, or otherwise marking upon, removing or in any manner destroying, disturbing, defacing, marring, or harming the surfaces of any cave or any natural material which may be found therein, whether attached or broken, including speleothems, speleogens, and sedimentary deposits.
- \* Was convicted of breaking, forcing, tampering with, or otherwise disturbing a lock, gate, door, or other obstruction designed to control or prevent access to any cave.
- \* Was convicted of dumping, littering, disposing of, or otherwise placing any refuse, garbage, dead animals, sewage, toxic substances harmful to cave life or humans in any cave or sinkhole.
- \* Was convicted of removing, killing, harming or otherwise disturbing any naturally occurring organisms within any cave.
- \* Was convicted of excavating, removing, destroying, injuring, defacing, or in any manner disturbing any burial grounds, historic or prehistoric resources, archaeological or paleontological site or any part thereof, including relics, inscriptions, saltpeter workings, fossils, bones, remains of historical human activity, or any other such features which may be found in any cave.

Application for this reward must be made within three months of such conviction to the National Speleological Society Cave Diving Section, Board of Directors, Attn: Property Program Director, 2109 W. Hwy 90 Suite 317, Lake City, Florida, 32055. The NSS-CDS Cave Vandalism Deterrence Reward Committee will make final determination as to whether a particular set of information qualifies for the reward and the size of said reward based upon the seriousness of the offense and the success of the prosecution. If several people supply information leading to a conviction of a person (or persons) for the same act of vandalism, the reward will be split equally among them.

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Anyone who visits a cave assumes responsibility for its protection and preservation. Reward potential or not, the NSS-CDS strongly encourages everyone to report any suspected act of vandalism immediately, with as much detail as possible (date, description of offense/ offending person, etc.).

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Passes unanimously

**M)** GM/KJ to approve the contract between the CDS & Bill O/Jill H for the printing of *Cave Diving, Articles and Opinions*.

Motion passes unanimous.

- **Program Directors Report**

- Property Reports
  - Alachua
  - Cow
  - School
  - Cathedral
    - Waste collection drains into sink – complaint has been filed with SRWMD
    - Wes Skiles spoke with David Stiles (new head of SRWMD) -- the offer is a “fact finding mission – is it for sale, size of property, owner, etc. They are looking for a location for hydromentia project. They may be interested in a conservation easement.

- Committee status
  - Conservation pamphlet almost ready – has plenty of pictures now
- GM - Update on SRWMD offer on Cathedral

- **Treasurer's report**

- Bank balance 15,111.36
- Filling on the properties
  - Filed property taxes, and exempt paperwork

- **Training**

- Committee minutes – distributed to instructors & BOD members

- **Vice Chairman's report**

- 2008 Workshop report – going well as of now.
- 2008 NSS Convention report/CDS mini workshop – vendors
- Missouri Workshop set for Sept 20<sup>th</sup>.

- **Chairman's report**

- Emerald Sink advisory panel -- still approving applications
- Reaper signs – received 50 more signs
- Manager position – Gwen Wyatt is the new Admin
- Report on HECC – made ~\$800 (donation of \$1000 was made to Hart Springs)

Recessed 6:20PM

Called to Order 6:30PM

### **New Business:**

1. **M)** KJ/FW change UWS to a quarterly format plus a Member's Manual  
Tabled
2. **M)** KJ/GM to link the CDS to Dive Assure

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All opposed – motion rejected

3. **M)** KJ/GM combine banner ads, UWS advertising, and business affiliate program into a commission position at a rate to be determined by the BOD called Marketing Manager.

Unanimous for – motions carries

4. **M)** GM/JB to set the commission rate for the Marketing manager at 15%.

Unanimous for – motion carries

5. **M)** GM/FW to approve a revised property management plan

Tabled to the forum.

6. Discuss vandalism at Cow Springs, repair options, prosecution, and reward.

Michael Angelo volunteered to “artistically” repair.

7. **M)** KJ/RB to establish the process for the 2008 CDS board election, it being

Mail a ballot with a PIN to allow for mailing, online, or fax return of the ballot.

Unanimous for – motion carries

8. Discuss attendance at Beneath the sea

9. Discuss membership renewal stickers

10. Discuss member construction of steps at cow

11. Discuss request for advertising in a Trenton Elementary yearbook.

12. Discuss webcasting BOD meetings.

13. Discuss pre-printing C-Cards

14. Concern from member re: limited access sites.

15. Discussed Cathedral defense fund donation of \$1000, lawyer needs payment

16. Place & date of next meeting – At the workshop.

**Meeting adjourned 8:15 PM**