

## **NSSCDS BOD MEETING July 21st, 2025**

Quorum - Yes

**BOD Present-** Fred Stratton (FS), Renee Power (RP), Jennifer Dillaman (JD), Steve Dalcher (SD), Joerg Hess (JH), Chris Brock (CB), James Chandler (JC).

**BOD Absent-** None

**Members Present-** Adam Hughes (AH), Shannon Perry (SP), John Rutledge (JR), Barbara Dwyer (BD).

Meeting called to order by FS at 1929 hours. FS made a motion to accept the minutes from June 16, 2025. SD seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

- Winter workshop overview.

- RP announces 5 formal speakers are confirmed.
  - 4 informal 'fireside chat' style speakers are confirmed.
- Sponsors are actively providing donations for the workshop.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> element is donating prizes.
  - Zero gravity is donating prizes.
  - Stream2Sea is donating prizes.
  - DAN donating prizes.
- 14 tickets have sold to date.
- General public announcement will be made on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2025.
- Links are available on the website for all things WW26.
  - Updates have been made to the links and store.
- SD says Deep 6, Landon and Chris Richardson, may have more speakers.
- SD seeking details on a sponsorship from GoPro and/or Insta360.
  - SD is Planning on reaching out to Big Blue for a sponsorship.
- Board is seeking donation for dry bags instead of standard DAN bag for goodie

bags.

- Shearwater is going to be contacted as they have donated dry bags to other venues before.

- There was discussion of considering reaching out to Red Bull for sponsorship.  
- RP expressed that all interested people for WW26 should be directed to website as there is a plethora of information on there.

- FS discussed T-shirts and banners. The plan is to use a local Tulum vendor.  
Coordination with Claire Vogel of Underworld Tulum is in progress.

**Secretary's Report**

- Time was spent getting familiarized with iContact program.
  - Test emails were sent out.
  - Updated the BOD send list to reflect elections

- Email blast was created and sent to member base for the WW26 announcement.
- Email blast was created and sent for the UWS summer issue release.
- Created and scheduled all prize winner announcements (40+) from the ICDC.
- Brought up request from NSS (Ed Strausser) about wanting our publications for the library.
  - AH said that this has already been handled in years past.
  - JD will loop AH into the email chain with the NSS to clear up any questions/confusion.
- JD had questions about what and when reports needed submitted for the website.
  - FS clarified what needs done.

#### Treasures Report

- Full report provided prior to meeting.
- Cash in bank as of July 12<sup>th</sup> , 2025 is \$48,156.03
  - Savings (ear marked for training) as of July 12<sup>th</sup> 2025 is \$6,915
  - Meeting house fund \$9,063.17
- Profit and loss reports have been sent out.
  
- RP reached out to Stream2Sea to find out if they were interested in donating for WW26.
  - Stream2Sea asked if the CDS would like to join up with them as a partnership/collaboration.
    - Their offer is that if we join the program, we put codes on our website as well as their logo, then they would do the same for us. If someone buys their product from our website the customer gets a 10% discount and CDS gets a 20% cut.
      - AH willing to spearhead this.
      - FS says it is a good idea so long as it follows all 501(c)3 rules and regulations.
        - AH is reviewing and researching to confirm, but believes that it does.
        - BOD seems to feel positive towards the idea.
        - RP makes motions that 'we join into a partnership collaboration with Stream2Sea, giving our membership a discount and the NSS CDS receives a percentage of the sale'. SD seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

#### Operations Managers report

- Report provided prior to meeting.
- Quiet month, by design, after conference.
- Spent time following up from ICDC.
- Wants to start amping up the store.
  - The Store is out of stock of many items, making it a good time to re-order, come up with new items, and fire selling old items.
    - As long as we are within the operating budget, and reason, then AH will move forward with decisions.
      - Due to SP finding some really great prices AH is considering finding some other sources of our store products.

## JH Project Directors Report

- Report was sent prior to meeting.
- Line committee are getting reports that are incorrect. JH is looking to try and clean that process up by confirming there is in fact broken line before volunteers go out to fix it.
- Opportunity in Wakulla
  - We are putting in a new deck in Clear Cut.
    - Permit has been cleared, architect plans already done.
    - Next steps is to cost it out.
  - There is a possibility for more springs in the Wakulla to be opened.
    - FS discussed that we should start with Clear Cut and then move forward after that.
  - New potential point of communication for Wakulla, Kellie Keys. JH wants to know if he should open that line of contact with her.
    - SD thinks we should.
    - JH wants to know if there is a way to involve her interns and general public.
      - FS likes the idea of educating younger people and general public.
- KUR and CDS research project overview. *See report for details.*
  - SD and JH are asking if CDS wants to become part of the project.
  - FS feels that this may be more of a KUR project.
  - SD and JH disagree, saying it could be a good partnership opportunity.
  - CB asks who would be the explorers/team members as JH and SD mentioned there are people already considered for positions.
    - Potential lead 'explorers' are intended to be Teddy Garlock, and Matt Hanson. JH, and SD, had no other names to provide at the time.
  - SD, JH, JC, asking board if there is a downside to participating.
  - CB tried to clarify if the BOD can be a part of this.
  - JD asks how planning, setup, roles and responsibilities, and liability would be handled in a partnership situation with KUR.
    - No answer provided.
  - RP wants to know if position of 'dive safety officer' has been considered and what are the responsibilities?
    - JH and SD say it is too early to answer that question.
- JH asks if this project is within his position to handle without board approval.
  - Any project of this size and nature needs to have board approval.
  - FS clarified that when operating as a member of the CDS BOD one does not go to an external organization until things have been clarified and/or decided upon internally.
    - SD clarifies that he sent this idea as a general member while JH sent the proposal to the CDS.
- Discussion ensued on how this project came about and who/where the ideas were coming from. There was more discussion on what the purpose of the CDS being involved

was. There were more questions about roles and responsibilities and liability of the CDS vs KUR.

- Very few answers were provided as JH and SD clarified that it is too early for these questions.

- JH reminded BOD that he was only trying to find out if the CDS wants to be apart of the project at this time.

- Decision was made to table the discussion until further details are provided on what CDS participation would like for the project.

- SD requests that specific questions be sent to the entire board.

#### SD Program Director Report

- We completed 5 days of work at Madison Blue Spring in repairing the main walkway.

- Approximately 150 hours were logged on this.

- The project will need some follow up work later in the Fall after the temperatures cool off.

- Upcoming projects include:

- 1) Cow Springs step replacement this Fall.

- 2) Cow Springs path improvement.

- 3) Edward's Spring changing room and sign placement.

#### CB Training Director Report.

- Certifications are up over last year.

- Summer months are typically lower, not the case this year.

- eLearning sales and usage is going well.

- 10 codes have been sold.

- CB sending individual requests for course reports on how eLearning is being used to ensure that it is being used as the training board envisioned.

- Training committee did not meet this month.

- RP DEMA announces that preparations and planning for DEMA is going well.

- FS requests all BOD members send available weekend dates between now and 31 September to try and coordinate the off-site event.

- FS proposes that we pay webmaster Keven Stiegler \$200 per month to take care of website IT and updates. FS motions. SD seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

- AH requests a W-9 and clarifies that payment will begin August 1<sup>st</sup> 2025.

- FS discusses that webmaster address gets a lot of spam. A new address was created so that he gets emails quickly and properly. FS has created a prioritization sheet, so BOD knows how to get their web tasks handled. Information will be sent out shortly after the meeting.

- FS makes closing statement asking to all remember that we are here because we want what is best for the CDS.

Next board meeting will be Monday 18 August, 19:30.

FS motions to adjourn at 21:34. JC seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.