



NSS-CDS BOD Meeting – June 15, 2026

BOD Quorum (at least 4 directors): Yes

BOD Present: Fred Stratton (FS), Jennifer Dillaman (JD), Daniel Alix (DA), Shannon Perry (SP), Steve Dalcher (SD), John Rutledge (JR), Chris Brock (CB)

BOD Absent: None.

Members Present: Renee Power - Board Member Emerita (RP), Adam Hughes (AH), Josh Dillaman (JD2), Chloe Marcum (CM), Barbara Dwyer (BD), Chad Dalton (CD)

Meeting Convened – FS

Meeting called to order by FS at 7:02 PM EST.

Minute Approved – FS

FS made a motion to accept the minutes from June 6, 2026. DA seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Secretary Report – SP

- JD sent meetings from last meeting. SP to take over moving forward.
- SP working to transition duties into secretary role, which includes:
- Getting acquainted with Social Media team in working to facilitate post-event marketing for the ICDC26.
- Coordination of banner printing with CD and Claire (UWT) for Midwest Workshop.

Communications Update: Social Media – FS, CM

Joining the Social Media subcommittee at the annual meeting, CM was invited to present ideas for social media strategy that included:

- Creation of a centralized media repository (using Memento) for instructors and members to submit photos and videos.
- Establishment of a consistent posting schedule throughout the year.
- Expansion into TikTok and greater use of short-form video content.
- Increased use of analytics to improve audience engagement and reach.
- Development of a broader content strategy aligned with the organization's mission.

The board expressed support for:

- Modernizing social media outreach.

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- Reaching younger members.
- Maintaining organizational messaging while allowing creative approaches.
- Using analytics to guide content decisions.

As follow-up before next BOD, CM will:

- Develop sample TikTok and short-form content concepts.
- Present recommendations and examples before broader implementation.

Underwater Speleology Planning and Coordination – BD

- BD reported that production of the summer issue is underway. Articles have been edited and layout formatting is to begin during the coming week.
- The summer issue will include coverage of the conference, which BD has characterized as highly successful both operationally and from a member-experience perspective.
- Sponsor recognition and thank-you communications are being prepared.
- SP helped develop an ad template that will be helpful for sponsors and BD when formatting the magazine.
- Current advertising activity remains largely tied to sponsor benefits rather than standalone advertising sales. The board discussed opportunities to expand advertising revenue outside conference sponsorship programs, including outreach to businesses and individuals that previously advertised lodging, services, and other member-related offerings.

Treasurer's Report – DA

**Report attached.*

Cash in Bank (as of June 11, 2026)

Checking: \$60,045.65

Savings (Training Fund): \$6,942.60

Savings (Meeting House Fund): \$4,864.92

Total Cash-in-Bank: \$71,853.17

Conference Financial Results

- Preliminary conference figures indicate gross revenue of approximately \$34,000.
- Current net income exceeding \$17,000 before final expense reconciliation.
- Outstanding conference expenses include final payment for the Seacraft GO raffle prize, sponsorship reimbursements and deposits, Taproom deposits and conference-related closeout expenses.
- Final conference profit is expected to remain strong and comparable to recent years.
- Merchandise sales performed well during the conference.
- Inventory replenishment will be required for several high-demand items, including mugs.

Treasurer Transition

- Treasurer transition from RP to DA is underway.
- Financial institutions now require expanded documentation for officer transitions, including detailed identification information for incoming and outgoing officers. AH and DA working to update accounts.



Operation Manager's Report – AH

**Report attached.*

- Treasurer transition activities continue to progress smoothly.
- Conference accounting and financial reconciliation are nearing completion.
- Conference generated strong financial results and significant unrestricted revenue. Noted that while overall profit may be slightly lower than the previous year, a greater percentage of this year's revenue is available for general organizational purposes. Prior-year conference revenue included restricted funds designated for training initiatives. Current unrestricted funds provide greater flexibility for future projects and organizational priorities.

Program Director Report 1 – JR

- JR reported no update at this time. JR and SD are planning to meet to decide how to split up duties of the program directors and what JR can take over.

Program Director 2 – SD

- SD reported maintenance activities continue at Cow Springs, including mowing and repair of lawn mowing equipment.

Troy Springs Discussion

- A discussion was held regarding deteriorating conditions at Troy Spring. Concerns include infrastructure decline and reduced usability for training activities.
- SD to coordinate with the North Florida Springs Alliance and assess whether NSS-CDS can help supplement resource and labor needs supporting maintenance efforts at Troy Spring.
- Surplus of materials currently stored at Madison may be redirected to Troy.

Training Director Report – CB

**Report attached.*

- Previously identified training initiatives remain active and are progressing as planned.
- Ongoing work continues in support of certification programs, instructor development, and training system improvements.

Cow Springs Diver Limitations Discussion – FS

The board discussed environmental degradation within Cow Springs and reviewed historical management practices that limited site usage to four 3-diver teams per day. It was noted that:

- Physical impacts to the cave environment have been observed and documented.
- Current usage levels generally remain below the proposed cap.
- Peak-use periods occasionally create congestion, parking limitations, and reduced diver experience.

Operational considerations discussed:

- Cave preservation.
- Diver safety.
- Visitor experience.



- Administrative feasibility.
- Public reaction to previous access-management decisions.
- Staff confirmed that implementation would require only minor updates to the existing permit system and could be completed within existing budget allocations.

There was broad agreement that reinstating the historical team limit would:

- Protect cave resources.
- Improve diver experience.
- Provide clear operational guidance during peak-use periods.
- Support the organization's conservation mission.

SD moved to reinstate Cow Springs access guidelines limiting site usage to a maximum of four dive teams of up to three divers each. DA seconds. All in favor. Motion passes 7 to 0.

International Cave Diving Conference: After Action Review – FS

The Board conducted a preliminary after action review of the 2026 International Conference.

- Conference was viewed as successful from both an operational and financial perspective.
- Preliminary conference profit is projected between approximately \$13,000 and \$17,000 after remaining expenses are reconciled.
- Attendance and overall member engagement met or exceeded expectations.
- Investments in audiovisual equipment, including upgraded projection and sound systems, significantly improved the attendee experience and received positive feedback from members.
- The raffle process was well organized and executed smoothly throughout the event.
- Raffle ticket sales remained strong and contributed significantly to conference fundraising efforts.
- Prize distribution and winner selection were completed efficiently.
- Sponsorship participation and vendor support contributed positively to the event's success.
- Volunteer support was instrumental in conference operations and event execution.

Opportunities for Improvement

- Explore additional sponsorship and prize-donation opportunities, including potential industry partnerships. (JR)
- Reduce environmental impact by evaluating opportunities to minimize single-use products during future conference operations.
 - o Consider offering a reusable conference cup in lieu of, or as an alternative to, a conference t-shirt.
 - o Consider transitioning from disposable plastic-waste items to other environmentally friendly alternatives (reusable table cloths for round tables).
 - o FS purchased recycling signage and proposed establishing clearly marked recycling stations at future conferences to reduce waste and improve recycling participation.
- Discussed purchasing of an organization-owned trailer to support transportation and storage of conference, workshop, and event equipment. Board members noted that a dedicated trailer could improve event logistics and setup efficiency. No formal action was



taken; the concept will be explored further as part of future planning and budgeting discussions. FS to report back on leads at next month's meeting.

Looking Ahead – FS

- FS encouraged all board members to review the NSS-CDS Bylaws and familiarize themselves with the responsibilities associated with their positions.
- Board members were asked to identify areas within their purview where they can contribute during the coming year.
- Each board member was encouraged to develop two to three initiatives, projects, or goals they would like to advance in support of the organization's mission.
- Discussion emphasized proactive engagement and ownership of responsibilities by all board members throughout the year.

NSS-CDS Midwest Workshop Update – CD

- Planning activities for the Midwest Workshop are underway.
- Conference banner has been completed and is being coordinated with SP and Claire (UWT) for printing.
- CD is sourcing a local T-shirt vendor in St. Louis, with quotes expected in the \$12–\$15 per-shirt range; other vendor options remain available if needed.
- SP and CM will work with CD to ramp up marketing efforts.

Next BOD Meeting

The next Board meeting will be at 7:00 P.M. Eastern / 6:00 Central / 4:00 Pacific on Monday, 20 July 2026.

Meeting Adjourned – FS

FS make motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 PM. SD seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.



Operation Manager's Report – AH

2026 International Cave Diving Conference

Fred usually likes for me to put together a separate conference after-action report, so I'm going to keep most of the conference discussion out of this month's manager report and cover it there instead.

That said, I wanted to at least provide a quick financial snapshot rather than wait until the after-action report is complete.

Current conference performance is showing approximately \$17.3k in net income.

Conference revenue totaled \$34.7k against \$13.8k of paid expenses. Registration and raffle sales both performed really well and overall the event finished stronger than expected.

There are still a few remaining items that need to clear before final conference numbers are locked in.

Pending Deposits:

- DAN sponsorship – \$1,000
- Keg / tap deposit return – \$140

Outstanding Payments:

- Seacraft GO! scooter – \$4,750
- (Payment has already been sent but has not yet been deposited.)

Both grand prize winners have been contacted and handoff of the prizes has been facilitated. At this point there are no remaining action items related to either grand prize raffle.

Store / Merchandise

Once the conference closeout is wrapped up, my focus will shift back to some store and merchandise housekeeping.

We moved quite a bit of inventory during conference weekend, so there are a few items that need to be replenished over the next few weeks, including coffee mugs, hats, and a handful of other merchandise items.

I already placed a reorder for mugs, and Shannon is currently working on refreshed designs for hoodies, shirts, hats, and a few additional items.

Once things settle down, I'll also coordinate with Fred to reorganize conference supplies and materials. We moved quickly getting everything together last weekend, so I'd like to get things cleaned up and reset while everything is still fresh.



Closing Thoughts

Overall, the conference weekend was a big success and I'll provide more detail in the conference after-action report rather than duplicate it here.

Financially, the section is in one of the strongest positions we've been in since pre-COVID, and you're (DA) stepping into the Treasurer role with more cash on hand than we've had in a long time.

As we move forward, I'd encourage the BOD to continue thinking about ways to reinvest into the section and member experience. We already started doing some of that this year through investments in sound equipment and event infrastructure, and the feedback on those improvements was overwhelmingly positive.



Training Director's Report – CB

Training Report June 2026

Certifications:

YTD – 49
2025 YTD – 63

YTD Courses with Certifications:

Apprentice Cave – 13
Cave Diver – 9
CCR Trimix – 2
Cave Trimix - 1
CCR Cave – 1
Cave Survey - 1
DPV Cave Diver – 6
TecCavern – 2
Stage Cave - 10

Top Producing Instructors:

Ricardo Castillo 5
Chris Brock 5
Timmy Young 5
Rob McGann 3
Cristina Zenato 4
Ken Sallot 3
Paul Heinerth 3
Max Kuznetsov 6
Joerg Hess 3

Training Committee:

Meeting in July to discuss revisions to Trimix Standards
Setting Dates for Cow Springs Survey Project
Adam to order MNemo and ship to his residence while I am traveling.

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Treasurer's Report - DA

<u>2026 ICDC Revenue</u>		
Event Pre-Registration	\$ 9,940.00	
Event Walk-ins	\$ 1,960.00	
Seacraft GO! Raffle Sales	\$ 7,310.00	
Dive Rite Shopping Spree Raffle Sales	\$ 4,725.00	
Door Prize Raffle Sales	\$ 8,665.00	
Pods Revenue	\$ 505.00	
Merchandise Sales - Store	\$ 765.00	
Merchandise Sales - Event T-shirt	\$ 360.00	
Sponsor Income	\$ 500.00	
TOTAL Revenue	\$ 34,730.00	
<u>2026 ICDC Expenses (Paid as of 6/2)</u>		
Credit Card (Merchant) Fees - Conference	\$ 1,041.90	
Breakfast - Dunkin Donuts	\$ 229.36	
Catering - Sonny's	\$ 3,100.58	
Cavenger Shirts - Conference	\$ 127.00	
Soda, Water, and Coffee	\$ 672.57	
Misc Supplies - Dining Materials and Utensils	\$ 160.18	
Misc Supplies - Raffle Tickets	\$ 69.80	
Misc Supplies - Raffle Buckets & Materials	\$ 206.04	
Misc Supplies - Transport Materials	\$ 45.54	
Misc Supplies - Avery Name Tag Templates	\$ 51.57	
Event Liability Insurance	\$ 121.92	
Food - Social	\$ 1,198.55	
Ice	\$ 94.39	
Shirts - Conference	\$ 2,910.00	
U-Haul Rental (w/ Insurance)	\$ 247.95	
Beer (Includes Deposits)	\$ 712.25	
Pod Cost	\$ 310.00	
Venue Cost	\$ 2,500.00	
TOTAL Expenses	\$ 13,799.60	
<u>2026 ICDC Revenue (not yet Received)</u>		
DAN - Sponsorship	\$ 1,000.00	
Deposit for Kegs & Taps	\$ 140.00	
TOTAL Revenue (not yet Received)	\$ 1,140.00	

<u>2026 ICDC Expenses (not yet paid)</u>		
Seacraft GO! Scooter	\$ 4,750.00	
TOTAL Expenses (not yet paid)	\$ 4,750.00	
Net Income	\$ 17,320.40	

CAVE DIVING SECTION OF THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Statement of Activity YTD Comparison

May 1-31, 2026

	TOTAL	
	MAY 2026	JAN 1 - MAY 31 2026 (YTD)
Revenue		
Donations Income		100.00
E-Learning Revenue	300.00	1,250.00
Instructor Fees Income		400.00
International Conference Income		
Dive Rite Shopping Spree Raffle Sales	1,260.00	2,850.00
Event Registration	5,985.00	9,160.00
Seacraft GO! Raffle Sales	2,260.00	5,570.00
Total for International Conference Income	\$9,505.00	\$17,580.00
Membership Dues	2,685.00	12,595.00
Merchandise Sales	1,290.01	5,133.46
Midwest Workshop Income		
Midwest Workshop Registration Income	160.00	680.00
Total for Midwest Workshop Income	\$160.00	\$680.00
Student Registrations	75.00	625.00
Winter Workshop Income		
Winter Workshop Grand Prize Raffle		2,300.00
Winter Workshop Raffle Ticket Sales		1,252.00
Winter Workshop Registration Income		300.00
Winter Workshop Sponsor Income		500.00
Total for Winter Workshop Income		\$4,352.00
Total for Revenue	\$14,015.01	\$42,715.46
Cost of Goods Sold		
Books - Blueprint for Survival		389.08
COGS - Books	382.80	825.86
COGS - Pods	310.00	310.00
Stickers - Logo/Round		540.39
Total for Cost of Goods Sold	\$692.80	\$2,065.33
Gross Profit	\$13,322.21	\$40,650.13
Expenditures		
Certification Card Printing Costs		
Card Printer Supplies		218.88
Total for Certification Card Printing Costs		\$218.88
DEMA Expense		
DEMA - Cart Fee		-88.25
DEMA - Registration Fees		691.20
Total for DEMA Expense		\$602.95
FDACS Reporting		61.25
International Conference Costs		
Cavenger Shirts - Conference	127.00	127.00
Event Liability Insurance		121.92

CAVE DIVING SECTION OF THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Statement of Activity YTD Comparison May 1-31, 2026

	TOTAL	
	MAY 2026	JAN 1 - MAY 31 2026 (YTD)
Misc. Event Supplies	69.80	69.80
Shirts - Conference	2,910.00	2,910.00
Venue Cost & Cleaning Fees	1,250.00	1,250.00
Total for International Conference Costs	\$4,356.80	\$4,478.72
JMCo Annual Filing Expense		3,500.00
Midwest Workshop Expenses		
Midwest Workshop - Venue		649.35
Total for Midwest Workshop Expenses		\$649.35
Office Administrator	1,000.00	5,000.00
Office expenses		
iContact Email Membership	58.40	269.83
Merchant (Credit Card) Fees	421.41	1,475.40
Misc Supplies		662.68
Printer Toner		135.48
Total for Office expenses	\$479.81	\$2,543.39
PA Equipment	1,253.46	1,253.46
Postage & Shipping	184.57	783.26
Property Taxes		58.96
Repairs & maintenance		
Clearcut Construction		1,104.15
Cow Porta Potty		536.75
Cow Repairs		107.00
Edwards Construction	657.73	657.73
Total for Repairs & maintenance	\$657.73	\$2,405.63
Software Expense		
Checkstock		124.98
Microsoft 365	12.99	64.95
QuickBooks Online Fees	75.00	504.00
Voting Software		99.00
ZOOM Meeting Subscription	43.98	219.90
Total for Software Expense	\$131.97	\$1,012.83
UWS Expenses		
Adobe Publishing Software	69.98	349.90
Layout & Drafting Fees		1,200.00
Total for UWS Expenses	\$69.98	\$1,549.90
Website Expense		
Hosting Fees		276.00
Webmaster Fees	200.00	1,000.00
Website Design & Maintenance		595.03
WooCommerce Fees		308.00
Total for Website Expense	\$200.00	\$2,179.03

CAVE DIVING SECTION OF THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Statement of Activity YTD Comparison May 1-31, 2026

	TOTAL	
	MAY 2026	JAN 1 - MAY 31 2026 (YTD)
Winter Workshop Expenses		
Winter Workshop - Credit Card Fees		558.22
Winter Workshop - Food		2,592.55
Winter Workshop - Grand Prize Raffle Cost		1,400.00
Winter Workshop - Misc Supplies		647.67
Winter Workshop - Shirts		860.65
Winter Workshop - Soda		133.30
Total for Winter Workshop Expenses		\$6,192.39
Total for Expenditures	\$8,334.32	\$32,490.00
Net Operating Revenue	\$4,987.89	\$8,160.13
Other Revenue		
Interest Income	3.50	17.14
Total for Other Revenue	\$3.50	\$17.14
Net Other Revenue	\$3.50	\$17.14
Net Revenue	\$4,991.39	\$8,177.27