

Minutes
Kansas Academy of Science
Summer Board Meeting, Aber Cabin, Lake Kahola
June 10, 2023, 1:00 pm

In Attendance: Mark LaBarge, Stewart Gardner, Lynnette Sievert, Hank Guarisco, Leland Russell, Shaun Schmidt, Seid Adem, Sam Leung, Jill Fisher, Erika Martin (via phone)

Call to Order: 12:57 pm

Approval of Agenda: approved

Approval of Spring Minutes: approved

Reports

*Note: The *Transactions* Report and New Business relating to TKAS were moved up in the agenda as Erika was calling in and phone reception was inconsistent.

Transactions Report – Erika Martin reports our ongoing problems with the new press and a new proposal

Sheridan Kansas Press bought Allen Press and the transition to Sheridan happened last fall. Erika contacted Cathy (Sheridan) and Keith (Allen) about possible changes in submission formatting and process/timeline but was told everything would be the same.

The new contact at Sheridan is Cole, who has been slow in communications, so Erika has been communicating with Cathy, too.

Erika received advanced permission to postpone the spring issue to include the annual spring meeting in the submission (this issue was submitted one week after the meeting). Erika did not receive the proof from Cole until 6-9-23.

The proof had wrong information on the spine. Erika asked for the spine to be fixed, but a whole new proof may be on its way.

There has not been a new cost estimate since last fall.

Dr. William Miller of Baker University proposes a 2025 special issue (or issues) dedicated to Tardigrades. Discussion on whether this would be an additional special edition, or if existing issues would be dedicated to Tardigrades. Hank recalled a past special issue devoted to water.

Suggestions for the special included: having a special edition between the regular TKAS issues, having Miller put together the issue and Erika edits, Erika get paid for editing from Miller's grant money, soliciting other papers/research on tardigrades to increase audience and reach, doing more special issues in the future.

Erika will revise Miller's proposal this summer for what will work for TKAS and KAS and return to Miller for approval.

Treasurer's Report - Shaun Schmidt

There is \$61k in the money market. Shaun suggested talking to an advisor about what to do with the money in the CDs and money market for possible low-risk investments.

Hank asked if we are restricted on what we can do with the money as a 501c3, but Shaun mentioned KAS still does not have that status. Shaun believes possibly the current accountant put the non-profit filing on the back burner and got busy with tax season.

Mark asked if the new press and delay in issue may affect income. Shaun said income is slightly less, but still capable of covering expenses.

Mark asked Shaun to write up a small summary of opportunities for investment. A motion to accept the report was made. It was approved.

Secretary's Report – Sam Leung

Membership is currently at 210; jumped from 122 to 205 from the annual spring meeting. There is a concern with the students that do not renew their memberships (unless they attend the meeting again). A motion to accept the report was made. Approved.

Kansas Junior Academy of Science Report - Jill Fisher

Jill updated the group about possibly not being able to offer the KJAS special award at the Kansas State Science and Engineering Fair (KSSEF) due to their board changes.

Jill will investigate holding KJAS in conjunction with the annual KAS spring meeting and reach out to KSSEF again to get an answer about the future of special awards at their fair.

Newsletter Report (*Bulletin*) – Hank Guarisco

The Bulletin is released twice a year; most get it emailed, but a few have requested that hard copies be mailed to them. Mark gave positive comments on the book review section that Hank writes. Hank did remind the group that he has a volunteer assistant editor.

Grants Coordinator Report – Seid Adem

Seid received 8-9 graduate student applicants for 2023 (Erin does undergraduate). Shaun asked if any changes should be made in the number of grants offered.

Seid thinks there should be an increase of grants given to master students; Hank recommended combining the applicants for Masters and PhD's and increasing the number. Mark asked if combining all graduate grants would require a vote by members; Shaun said that a vote would be necessary if more grant awards would cause a change to financials.

Further discussion about increasing the number of grants will be added to new business on the fall Zoom meeting.

Old Business

2024 KAS Annual Meeting - will be at Emporia State University April 5-6. Joanna Gress is the chair of the planning committee. Hank needs will include this announcement in the fall bulletin.

Internal Audit (Lynette) - Lynette is still working on the audit. The purpose of this audit conducted by the President-elect is to ensure financial transparency and to show that the Treasurer and Secretary are not embezzling funds.

Update on Cengage - Cengage has been accessing TKAS issues and sending royalty checks; Shawn has not cashed the checks. Stewart has drafted a cease-and-desist letter for our review. Minor changes in the wording and contact information were suggested. The letter will be printed on KAS letterhead (provided by Sam) and sent as certified mail. Mark motioned to approve the letter with changes; it was approved.

Social Media Editor - At the spring meeting in McPherson, Erin addressed the need for a Social Media Editor, but there have been no applicants. Hank will advertise the need in the *Bulletin* and will ask his Assistant Editor and/or her daughter if they would like the position. This will be discussed more in the fall meeting.

Fall Field Trip - Jerusalem Badlands State Park in western KS was suggested at the spring meeting, but it has been determined to be too far for the fall field trip (would require an overnight stay for many). Hank suggested Kanopolis State Park. Mark will need to decide.

New Business

Continuation of TKAS (without Erika)

A suggestion of looking into Mennonite Press if issues continue with Sheridan Press. Shaun asked if BioOne and JSTOR also work with Sheridan Press, and if they would be with other options.

Future Annual Spring Meetings

Prince Agbedanu of Friends University in Wichita would be willing to host the 2025 meeting.

Officer Candidates for the Board of Council Upcoming Election

Sam will send out ballots for the candidates (member-at-large will have competition, but others are running unopposed). Mark is waiting to hear back for candidate bios. Mark

mentioned the by-law requiring voting to be done by paper ballot, as recent votes have been done electronically. The members must approve a change in the by-law to allow for electronic voting at the spring meeting. Hank will announce the vote for the by-law change in the fall bulletin; Shaun and Sam will draft the wording for the change by the fall meeting.

Next meeting will be by Zoom. Mark will send out a poll for availability for a meeting after the first of October.

Motion to adjourn meeting: approved at 2:35 pm.