44th Annual North-Central Section Meeting
Minutes of the Management Board Meeting
April 12, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. on 12 April, 2010 in the Hensley Ferry Room of the Branson, Missouri, Convention Center Complex.

1. Sixteen people were present and introduced themselves. They were Tom Plymate (outgoing North-Central Chair), Kevin Mickus (outgoing North-Central Vice-Chair), Daniel Holm (incoming North-Central Chair), Carrie Schweitzer (incoming North-Central Vice-Chair); Dave Miller (Technical Program Chair for the 2012 meeting in Dayton), Kevin Evans (Management Board Member, 2008-2011), Eric Venteris (Management Board Member, 2010-2013), Bob Shuster (Management Board Member , 2009-2012), Nancy Williams (Meeting Planner of the Branson meeting), Jack Hess (GSA executive director), Jean Bahr (GSA president), Dave Stephenson (GSA Foundation), Dick Berg (North-Central Section Geology & Public Policy representative), Sherman Lundy (a former North-Central Education Representative on the GSA Education Committee), Carrie Jennings (representing the 2011 Annual Meeting and a former North-Central Chair), and Joe Hannibal (North-Central Section executive secretary).

2. The agenda was adopted.

3. Minutes of the Management Board Meeting at the 43nd Annual Meeting of the North-Central Section on 2 April 2009 were approved.

4. Reports were made by the secretary. Joe Hannibal distributed financial reports that showed that the Section had a total of $91,539 in its operating account at the end of December, 2009 (including $6,400 in deferred meeting revenue) and $168,490 in its operating account at the end of March, 2010 (including $82,075 in deferred meeting revenue). He noted that deferred meeting revenue consisted of funds related to the section meeting and that any funds left after meeting expenses would be split with the South-Central Section according to the MOU with that section. He noted that the continuing financial stability of the Section was due in great part to the fiscal prudence of the organizers of the Rockford meeting and the fiscal success of other recent meetings. The North-Central Section endowment was also discussed. Funds in the endowment at the end of January, 2010, were $99,244, and at the end of February were $101,123. About $1,700 was taken from the endowment, according to our agreement with the GSA Foundation, this year and used for student grants. The 2009 Annual Report of the Section to the GSA Council was distributed and it was noted that both the Annual Reports to Council and the Minutes of the Meeting were posted on the North-Central Section website which is a part of the Geological Society of America web site.

5. Tom Plymate reported on preliminary statistics (with 825 registrants as of the previous evening) and fiscal outlook (good) for the 2010 meeting in Branson. [Note: final registration was 829 registrants excluding exhibitors, or 843 including exhibitors]. Tom also noted the work of the Local Committee, especially that of the

Meeting Planner, Nancy Williams, and noted that that his department had provided $10,000 in support of this meeting. He also noted that the meeting date took advantage of the off-season in Branson and noted that it is a good idea to combine the positions of Exhibits Chair and Sponsorship Chair as exhibiters may be willing to also be sponsors.

6. There was a discussion of a proposal to GSA Associated Societies and Sections to establish a Congressional Fellowship. The pros (it would expand what appears to be a successful program) and cons (including the need to allocate at least $2000 a year for an initial 3-year period from North-Central Section funds) of this proposal were discussed. Dave Stephenson of the GSA Foundation agreed to ask the GSA Foundation for matching grants to help with this support of an additional Congressional Fellow. In addition it was agreed that discussion of support for a Congressional Fellow would be continued via e-mail.

7. Dick Berg gave a Geology & Public Policy Report. Dick noted that the public policy reports of the Geology & Public Policy Committee have become very important. Dick also noted that this would be his last year as our NC representative on the Committee.

8. The consent agenda, after modification, was adopted. In it: Up to $ 2,000 was allocated for student paper awards for the 2010 annual section meeting. Up to a total of $6,000 of Section funds (not counting GSA Foundation matching funds) was approved for student travel to the spring 2011 North-Central Section and fall 2010 Annual GSA meetings. And a maximum of $2,100 was allocated for Undergraduate Student Grants. This is a total of $10,100. Also, up to $20,000 was allocated as a donation to the North-Central Section endowment fund, if funds were available and if the outlook for the stock market improves. [These allocations, including a possible allocation of funds in support of a Congressional Fellow, were voted on and approved by voice vote of the membership of the Section at the Business meeting of the Section on the evening of 12 April, 2010.]

9. There was a discussion of our N-C Education Representative to the GSA Education Committee and the Section's relationship to the Central Section of NAGT. Sherman Lundy described the activities he participated in when he had this role.

10. Reminders were given to future meeting planners about the General Trade Agreement between the North-Central Section and GSA.
    a. The agreement provides two comp registrations for GSA officials, two exhibit booths for the GSA Bookstore, three nights lodging for the bookstore person, and four nights lodging for GSA officials.
    b. It was noted that if GSA Headquarters is the registration agent for your meeting (and this is highly recommended) attention be paid to the contract regarding your need to reserve a room for the GSA staff member who does on-site registration.

11. Other business:
    a. It was noted that the Section Secretary needs meeting statistics from Tom Plymate and GSA Headquarters after the meeting. These include a balance sheet and the list of student paper awards.

b. It was noted that reports on the meeting and its components should be compiled by the local committee as soon as possible and that they should be patterned after the reports produced for the Akron 2006 meeting. The reports should include as much information as possible as to how things were done, for instance how the amount of food to order on opening night was determined.
c. Poster boards were discussed. The poster boards were first built to be used at a meeting in Kansas City, Missouri and which were most recently used at the Rockford meeting. Some, but not all participants felt that the poster boards were fine. It was suggested that they they might be used at the Pittsburgh meeting and that they may be moved from Illinois in a van, or they might be shipped as their weight is relatively low.
d. Planning was discussed. It was noted that it should not be assumed that people will come to a meeting simply because a meeting is being held. The technical program chairs and others need to contact and confirm participation of as many professionals and students as possible well before the meeting. It is also critical to get organizers named for a good number of technical sessions and invited symposia well before the meeting, so that they can recruit suitable speakers. It was noted that the Section has a document with suggestions on organizing sessions.
e. Daniel Holm discussed aspects of the upcoming 2011 joint Northeast/North-Central meeting to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He reported that a local committee had been established and that 24 technical sessions and 11 field trips had been proposed to date. He also noted the booth at Branson promoting the upcoming Pittsburgh meeting (as well as the upcoming South-Central New Orleans meeting) and the notice of these meetings that appearing on the Branson conference computers before, between, and after each talk (set as a desktop computer image).
f. Dave Miller noted that the 2012 meeting would be in Dayton and that he and Chuck Ciampaglio (Chair of the Dayton meeting) would be going to Section Training in Boulder in May.
g. The 2013 meeting in Kalamazoo, Michigan, was noted.
h. Jean Bahr noted that the University of Wisconsin may be willing to organize the 2015 meeting and that there was a possibility of having it in the Lake Monona Conference Center, based on a Frank Lloyd Wright design. It was noted that there had been some discussion of having a meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 2014.
i. Carrie Jennings discussed the 2011 Annual GSA meeting that will take place in Minneapolis, showcasing the Section. It was noted that the 2011 and 2012 meeting places were chosen in part so that they would not be affected by the Annual meeting and vice versa.

12. Jack Hess and Jean Bahr discussed GSA matters and concerns, including discussions of GSA divisions and sections.

13. Dave Stephenson of the GSA Foundation noted that there have been some significant donations to the foundation this year, noted that the foundation would match Section student travel grants in the usual amount ($4,500) this fiscal year and that the Foundation would match contributions to each Section Endowment up to $5,000. [The financial reports noted above show that the Section has already received the

maximum in matching funds this fiscal year]. He also noted that he will be leaving the Foundation at the end of this fiscal year.

14. A change in GSA headquarters rules for field trips was discussed. These rules would require that information on field trips be submitted expeditiously.

15. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Draft minutes compiled May 3, 2010; amended and approved March 20, 2011.
Joe Hannibal
Executive Secretary, North-Central Section
Geological Society of America