

National Speleological Society, Inc.

Board of Governors Meeting

Agenda of the 252th Regular Meeting

Golden, CO

October 29, 2022

The 252th regular meeting of the Board of Governors will be held in Golden, CO on October 29, 2022 at 9 am MDT.

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- 1) **Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2) **Minutes to approve - June 2022**
- 3) **Officer & Committee Reports:**
 - a. [President \(PRES\)](#) – Kristine Ebrey
 - b. [Executive Vice President \(EVP\)](#) – Scott Engel
 - c. [Administrative Vice President \(AVP\)](#) – Adam Weaver
 - d. [Operations Vice President \(OVP\)](#) – Maureen Handler
 - e. [Secretary-Treasurer \(S-T\)](#) – John Stembel
- 4) **Comments from the Membership**

Consent agenda
- 5) **2024 NSS Convention presentation by Maureen Handler**
- 6) **Changes to NSF Contracts: Publication Fund**

Ebrey moves to accept and adopt the publication fund contract between the National Speleological Society and National Speleological Foundation. Contract attached [here](#).

7) Vertical Bill Tower Proposal

Manning Moves to authorize the construction of a “vertical training tower” in honor of Bill Cuddington at the National Speleological Society Headquarters under the Operations Vice President. This tower will be available for use by internal organizations and external rescue agencies for training purposes, and will support our mission of educating our members on safe caving practices. Additionally, this would give a permanent home to the Vertical Training Commission in the southeast. Fundraising will commence with the goal of raising \$100,000. within two years of approval, for construction, future maintenance and insurance. Should fundraising efforts fall short of the \$100,000 goal, the remainder must be allocated from either Beach or Jones bequests. Donations must be allocated for the HQ Building and Grounds and placed in our investment account.

8) Mitchell Award definition

Ebrey moves to modify act 43-139 to be consistent with the Act 18-148 and attachment D of the NSF Contracts regarding eligibility.

43-139 Mitchell Award 10-24-15:12, 11-04-00, 10-26-85, 10-20-84, 3-15-80, 11-18-72, 11-14-64 award approved and amended on subsequent dates

The James G. Mitchell Fund was established in 1965 and is maintained by contributions to the National Speleological Foundation. Pursuant to the agreement with the Foundation, an award may be made for the best scientific paper presented ~~at any of the sessions of the annual convention by a member (or members) of the Society.~~ <<in person or virtually, at any of the sessions of the annual convention by a member (or members) of the Society who are current students or who carried out the research as students and graduated within the last six months.>>

**Papers shall be evaluated primarily on how well they exemplify sound methods of scientific research and presentation, and secondarily on their contribution to knowledge. The eligible papers shall be judged by an interdisciplinary panel appointed by the Awards Committee Mitchell Award Sub-Committee Chairman and shall include, if possible, a member of the Research Advisory Committee. The Award shall consist of a suitable certificate (or certificates in the case of multiple authors) and a cash award equal to the maximum \$5 increment below the interest earned on the fund for that year and shall be announced at the annual convention.

10) Closed Session for the BOG

11) Closed Session of the Directorate

12) Closed Sessions Report to the Membership