

Board of Directors of the National Space Grant Alliance

Minutes of the June 18, 2002, Meeting in Boulder, CO

The meeting convened Tuesday, June 18, 2002, at 10:35am with Chair John Gregory presiding.

Participating: Gregory (Chair, presiding), Byrd, DeCosmo, Drake, Fischer, Gallimore, Hackney, Hansen, Henry, Hynes, Hiscock, Jariedi, Sukanek, Wefel, Weiner, Wiskerchen, Yingst

Minutes

Minutes from the Board meeting of February 27, 2002, and the full Alliance Session of March 20, 2002, were handed out for review, with a request for any needed corrections.

Status of NASA Activity on the \$5M Increase from Last Year

All of the RFP's are now out. Regarding the hiring of people for HQ under the \$500,000 held for that purpose, Warfield Teague, an IPA from Arkansas, will be in place on August 1.

Appropriations Strategy for FY03

Staffers say the wording will be \$28M, but the actual markups haven't occurred. They are expected in late summer. Our strategy is for those with subcommittee members to remind them just before the markups.

Also, there is a hearing this week in the Senate concerning NASA Education.

Authorization Strategy 2003-2005

The latest news is there's not going to be a NASA Authorization bill this year. The Board has a basic authorization strategy, which is to go for approximately \$4-5M/year increase if an authorization bill should get underway. John Gregory has asked Joe Danek to redraft a letter (for the Alliance) to the Authorization Committee justifying increases. The justification per year is six more upgrades and workforce development. John Gregory's idea of a super strategy increasing the budget by on the order of \$100M would require a champion to accomplish. We would have to find one or more champions, who need to be committee chairs.

Alliance Treasurer's Report (Gregory, for Teasdale)

The current balance is positive (\$49,997.95 as of June 12, 2002), with three months of VSA payments available. 30 states have paid so far this year. There was some discussion of difficulties in paying dues, especially in light of state budget shortfalls.

VSA/TIG Funding Agreements

Things were disorganized at the spring meeting. Repeated requests for additional discussion and information were not getting answered. There were personal problems for VSA staff, and they did not assign other staff to cover for the losses of attention to our needs. John Gregory wasn't getting the input he needed. He called Stewart Van Scoyoc and said he was not getting responses. They proposed discussions with the Board Chair every two weeks and with the Board every month. It was decided that the Board needs to perform an evaluation of the services of VSA and their effectiveness, and make recommendations for the future.

The Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 12:10pm

Draft minutes submitted by Richard Hackney, Secretary of the Board of Directors.