



**Minutes**  
**Nevada Geographic Information Society (NGIS)**  
**May 2017 Board Meeting**  
**May 3, 2017**  
**APPROVED**

**Call to Order**

The meeting started informally at approximately 12 noon.

**Roll Call**

Present: Gary Zaepfel, Don Harper, Karin Hagan, Andrea Adams, Eric Ford, Art Ehrenberg, Eric Schmidt, Sue Buto, Jennifer Vlcan Moni Fox.

Not Present: Gary Johnson.

Guests –Karla Chavez.

Gary Z. opened the meeting by noting that changes will be occurring in the Board tomorrow. Art will be leaving the Board but remain with NGIF. Gary J. is leaving as well to enjoy his retirement. Many thank yous to both.

We've been receiving comments from vendors and attendees for the next conference, although the location has not yet been chosen. There have been suggestions to move the conference back to the fall. Maybe rethink the vendor fee and reduce it again? It used to be \$495 and is now \$795. Maybe we should reduce it to \$495 or \$595. We do have a smaller number of attendees, as well.

Art noted that the costs to set up the booths and rooms should be considered. It is normally \$200 – 250 per booth, though this year it was \$100 since the hotel did the setup. Internet access runs about \$1,500 - 2,000. We've cut costs on the hotel and the food, but we had to add in the internet costs. That's why we keep coming back to Sam's Town, where we don't have to use their equipment and they give us good deals on the meeting rooms.

Andrea suggested looking at the budgets for the last few years and consider non-casino venues. Art said that we have looked at other location off of the Strip and at smaller hotels, and they tend to be more expensive once you get more than 100 or so people. Many places aren't big enough to handle a conference of our size.

Eric S. noted that North and South Carolina have discussed a two-year schedule, with their conference in the North one year and in the South the next. We could look at moving to a two-year or 18-month schedule. Gary Z. said that he has spoken with UGIC about partnering with them. Karla noted that they offer free training and that is a draw

for attendees. She said that there were people who backed out of the registration process when they found out we only had one training offered.

So for next year – Tahoe? Reno? Carson City? Minden? Elko? Spring? Fall?  
Date to be determined – weather is a spring concern, but spring is better for vendors, Federal employees and students.

Need a committee chair.

Gary Z., Eric S., and Moni will look at the NGIS Bylaws regarding changing the Business Meeting schedule (one year / 18 months / two years)

**Meeting adjourned at 1:00.**