



NORDISK HYDROLOGISK FORENING
Nordic Association for Hydrology

Minutes of the NHF board meeting at Arlanda, Stockholm, 26 March 2012

Present: Board members - Riitta Kamula (Finland), Dirk-Ingmar Müller-Wohlfeil (Denmark), Zenonas Gulbinas (Lithuania), Hege Hisdal (Norway), David Gustafsson (Sweden)

Secretary – Heidi Pikkarainen (Norway)

Treasurer – Martin Bergstrand (Sweden)

Web editor – Karin Nyström (Sweden)

Not present: representatives from Estonia, Iceland or Latvia

1. Opening

The meeting was opened by Riitta Kamula at 10.15.

2. Organization of the meeting

Riitta Kamula was appointed as Chair, Heidi Pikkarainen as Secretary and Hege Hisdal as Scrutinizer.

3. Approval of the meeting agenda

The suggested agenda was approved.

Other items: Discussion of NHC2014 in Sweden.

4. Minutes from the previous board meeting, 2011-03-11

Minutes from the previous board meeting was approved.

Action points from previous board meetings that still need to be fulfilled:

1. Board meeting 8.8.2010 Riga

Item 4 a): David has written the principles for membership registration and membership fees. The date for transfer of membership fees should be changed to 30 June. The document should be published on the web pages. **Responsibility: David/Karin, Deadline: 1 May 2012.**

2. GA 11.8.2010 Riga

No items to be followed up.

3. Board meeting 11.8.2010 Riga

Item 4 i): Heidi hasn't got a list of members from Estonia, Iceland or Sweden. National representatives from these countries have been reminded about this again in March 2012. **There is still an action on the board members from these countries to send an overview of members to Heidi.**

Item 4 ii): Have Estonia and Iceland transferred membership fees for 2010? Riitta follows up and an attempt to clarify this will also be made when the accounts for 2010 and 2011 are finalized. **Action: Riitta/Martin/Hans, Deadline: 1 June 2012.**

4. Board meeting 11.3.2011 Stockholm

Finances, practices, and improvements: Riitta writes the documentation of the current practices for NHF activities "all the things a board member should do". David sends relevant information from the Swedish Hydrological Council to Riitta. Heidi can assist Riitta.

The amended budget for 2011-2012 should be published. Riitta follows up.

Action: Riitta, Deadline: 1 May 2012.

5. Meeting costs (for this meeting)

Costs for the meeting and meals at Arlanda are directly charged to NHF.

The Travel costs for Riitta Kamula, Dirk-Ingmar Müller-Wohlfeil, Zenonas Gulbinas, Heidi Pikkarainen, Karin Nyström and Martin Bergstrand will be reimbursed by NHF.

6. NHF officials – changes, treasurer and HR editor

The editor of Hydrology Research, Professor Dan Rosbjerg expressed his wish to leave the task from 1 January 2012. The new editor Professor Chong-Yu Xu (University of Oslo) was appointed unanimously by the board through e-mail in November 2011.

The Treasurer, Hans Stjärnskog, has also expressed a wish to be replaced. Martin Bergstrand, economist and Head of the bookkeeping unit at SMHI has been asked and agreed to take the position as Treasurer. The board unanimously approved the appointment of Martin Bergstrand as the new Treasurer at the meeting.

Martin introduced himself to the meeting participants and vice versa. The new HR editor and Treasurer will be introduced to the association at the next GA in Oulu in August 2012.

- David drafts a contract regarding the tasks of and conditions for the Treasurer.
- The hourly rate of the web editor was discussed. The new rate, SEK 700,- was approved unanimously. David drafts a contract regarding the tasks of and conditions for the web editor as well.

Action David, Deadline: 15 May 2012.

7. Application requests HR, IHS and DHG

The Italian Hydrological Society (IHS) and the German Hydrological Society (DHG) have expressed their interest to have Hydrology Research as their official international journal. IWA has drafted an "adoption agreement" that was discussed at the meeting.

The board discussed the matter and came to the following conclusion:

- Riitta writes a letter to IWA Publishing with copy to the British Hydrological Society informing that:
 - the Nordic Association for Hydrology accepts and welcomes IHS and DHG to use Hydrology Research as their official journal.
 - NHF would like to sign the adoption agreement together with the new members, IWA Publishing. We also suggest that BHS should sign the agreement.
 - The agreement between NHF, BHS and IWA Publishing remains the same.

It was also noted that NHF has a right to recommend members to the editorial board.

The link from <http://www.iwaponline.com/nh/> to NHF new web pages is not working and we need to inform IWA Publishing about this.

Action Riitta, Deadline: 20 April (Should be finalized prior to EGU 2012)

8. Finances (Accounts 2010 and 2011, Budget 2013 and 2014)

The economical situation of NHF is good.

Accounts for 2010 and 2011 must be finalized during May 2012.

- Riitta contacts Hans, and Martin follows up.
- The auditors need to be contacted in due time before summer!

Martin got the permission to find the most convenient way to organize the bank accounts. At the moment NHF has three different bank accounts, at least one too many. Martin finds out which bank account that is most inexpensive to pay to from abroad.

Budgets for 2013–2014 was discussed and amended. Martin will distribute the 2013 and 2014 budget.

Action Martin/Hans, Deadline: 1 June 2012.

The board proposes the membership fees for 2013. The proposal will be handled by the GA.

9. Conference in Finland, NHC 2012, status

Everything is on track and the local committee will continue their work.

The scientific committee has received 210 abstracts (140 from NHF member countries and 70 from other countries). The notification about acceptance of abstracts will take place before 1 April. The latest registration in order to have abstract included in the proceedings is the 1 July. Otherwise the registration can be done on site.

Marketing material has been produced and can be downloaded from the web site. A special e-mail about the conference has been sent to those members where the Secretary has an e-

mail address. Information about the conference is in several web sites; yet you are welcome to forward it to other sites.

More information about NHC 2012:

<http://nhc2012 oulu.fi/conference.htm>

- Preparations: the best poster and presentation at NHC have to be evaluated. One to three members from the scientific committee should do the evaluation. If possible the winners will be announced at the end of the conference. Riitta contacts the scientific committee. **Action Riitta, Deadline: June 2012.**
- Hege contacts Chong-Yu Xu regarding the best paper in HR. **Action Hege, Deadline: 1 May.**

10. GA 2012, necessary preparations

The following documents need to be finalized in **due time before the GA in August (deadline)**:

- Biennial report from the chairman – **Riitta**
- Biennial report from the Publicity Council (**Hege**, Karin, Dan, Chon-Yu). Hege writes a draft by **15 May** and requests input from the HR and web editors.
- Annual closings for 2010 and 2011 (**Riitta, Hans, Martin**)
- **Hege** contacts the Norwegian member of the election committee by **1 May** to ensure that the committee has started its work. Some of the board members won't continue with their commitment after this years GA.
- The documents should be published on the NHF pages prior to the GA – **Riitta** collects the documents and sends them to Karin.
- The Strategy document has to be updated – **Riitta**
- The board will suggest to the GA that master and PhD students should get a free membership. This action can recruit younger members to NHF and thereby increase the number of members.
- Statutes must be approved by the GA once more.
- The board will repeat information about the possibility to apply for funds for seminars and workshops at the GA.

As a part of item 10 the strategy was discussed and the following statements were noted:

It is important to increase the number of members for example by giving students a free membership and/or other campaigns related to new members.

The existing members need to be motivated to remain members; there are reasons why the association was established (Nordic collaboration, NHF as an umbrella association, networking, importance of NHC). Do these reasons still apply to the existing members, what is special about NHF? What activities can the association offer? Should the focus be more on the institutional members? Could CHIN encourage institutes in their countries to become a member in NHF?

- **Hege** will write about similarities and differences in member countries, research on hydrology and management co-operation.

- Dirk will write facts that unite the member countries.
- Deadline is **15 April 2012**.
- The flyer for NHF will be reviewed.

11. Publishing and web pages

A web meeting was arranged 8.7.2011; Karin, Dirk and David were present at this meeting. The web pages were further discussed and the most important outcome is included in the text below:

- It is important that Karin gets input from the national representatives.
- **Dirk** tests a customized access to NHF pages in order to update the pages about Denmark.
- Should NHF become a member in Facebook or LinkedIn – in that case, it is important to have news to be published on these sites.
- Information about the previous NHCs can be found on the web pages of Norsk Hydrologiråd: www.hydrologiraadet.no

The following documents should be published: minutes (26.3.2012), amended budget 2011–2012, budget for 2013–2014, principles of arranging conferences (important for students and participants from Baltic countries), annual closing 2008 and 2009:

- **Action: Riitta** sends the mentioned documents to Karin. Riitta sends documents regarding budgets and closings to Martin as well.
- **Riitta** was asked to write about NHC in Oulu and publish it as news from Chair's corner.
- David mentioned that Hydrologidagarna 2012 (Hydrology days) were arranged 14–15.3.2012 in Norrköping by SMHI and the Swedish Hydrological Council. The theme was hydrological modeling, and celebrating the 40-year-old HBV-model. A link (<http://www.smhi.se/nyhetsarkiv/inbjudan-till-hydrologidagarna-2012-1.19034>) to this event is to be published at NHF home pages. **Action: Karin**
- **Every national representative sends at least one item from their country to Karin by August 2012.**
- **All board members** should go through the activities in their own country and check that the links are ok by **1 May 2012**. Send changes and amendments to Karin.
- Estonia and Iceland are missing from the NHF pages. **Karin** adds these countries on the NHF pages. **Board members of Estonia and Iceland** should send a list of links to Karin.

12. Other items

NHC 2014 will be arranged in Sweden. Possible locations are for example Stockholm, Malmö or Östersund. David will discuss about the conference with the Swedish deputy board member.

The main theme, location, dates and organizing body will be announced in Oulu during the NHC. (World water week will be arranged in Stockholm every autumn; the dates should probably be checked.)

- **David** follows up and informs other board members.

Students and young scientist need a forum to meet the future employers. It was discussed if a student event should be arranged as soon as 2013.

13. Next board meeting

The next board meeting will be held on 12 August in Oulu prior to the NHC.

- Preparations: agenda has to be sent to the board members in due time before the meeting.

14. Closing of the meeting

Riitta Kamula closed the meeting at 15.45.

Riitta Kamula

Heidi Pikkarainen

Hege Hisdal

Chair

Secretary

Scrutinizer