



**Minutes of the NHF board meeting at Hilton Copenhagen Airport Hotel, 27th
November 2012**

Present: Board members – Hege Hisdal (Norway), Dirk-Ingmar Müller-Wohlfeil (Denmark), Tiia Pedusaar (Estonia), Johanna Korhonen (Finland), Thorsteinn Thorsteinsson (Iceland), Elga Apsite (Latvia), Zenonas Gulbinas (Lithuania), David Gustafsson & Linus Zhang (Sweden)

Editor of Hydrology Research – Chong-Yu Xu (Norway)

Treasurer – Martin Bergstrand (Sweden)

Web editor – Karin Nyström (Sweden)

Secretary – Heidi Pikkarainen (Norway)

1. Opening, organization and approval of the meeting agenda

The meeting was opened by Hege Hisdal at 10.30. Hege Hisdal was appointed as Chair and Heidi Pikkarainen as Secretary. The minutes will be scrutinized jointly: First the draft will be sent to the meeting participants. The meeting participants are given five days to comment on the minutes, which will then be published on the web site. The suggested agenda was approved.

2. Minutes from the GA 2012

The minutes were discussed. Ülle Leisk will resign from the election committee. Arvo Iital, the previous deputy member of the election committee, was suggested as the Estonian member to the election committee and Anna Pyrh as the deputy. (After the meeting they have both agreed to this change and the head of the election committee, Anders Bækgaard, has been informed.)

Hege Hisdal is the Chair for the next two years; a new Chair has to be elected at the GA in 2014.

3. Minutes from the previous board meeting 15.8.2012

The minutes from the previous board meeting were accepted. Only the action points that still need to be fulfilled are listed here (new information is *in italics*):

- Board meeting 11.8.2010 Riga – item 4 i): The Swedish members have been identified. The list of members is still missing from Sweden and Iceland. *Board members from these countries should send the list to Heidi in January 2013. Tiia and Johanna have successfully recruited two institutional members. EMHI from Estonia and SYKE from Finland will join the NHF as institutional members.*
- Item 4 ii): It's unknown whether Iceland has transferred membership fees for 2010 and 2011. *For Estonia it has been found that some members have paid, but a complete overview is still missing. Martin will investigate and inform Tiia. It was decided at the GA that finances for 2010 and 2011 are closed now. The most important fact is to collect membership fees for years 2012 and 2013. Finland should also take action on transferring the membership fees.*
- Board meeting 11.3.2011 Stockholm
Finances, practices and improvements: the document "All the things a board member should do" has been written and will be published on the web sites with a different title though. Responsible: Heidi
- Board meeting 26.3.2012 Stockholm
NHF officials – changes, treasurer and HR editor:
David signs a contract with Treasurer and Web editor by 1 October 2012. *Heidi sends a draft of an example contract to David. The contracts are to be signed in January 2013.*
- *Publishing and web pages:*
will be discussed at the next meeting where Karin is present.
Karin sends an additional username and password to Heidi who can make only small corrections on the web site. Johanna has established a Twitter account for NHF; spread the word – we need followers.
- Information about the previous NHCs available on the web pages of the Norwegian Hydrological Council should be copied to NHFs web pages, Heidi finds out how to do this. *A draft was presented. Heidi will complete the list in January 2013.*
- Links to the hydrological institutions and organizations in Iceland are still missing from the web pages. *Thorsteinn will find the relevant Icelandic links and send information to Karin. Deadline January 2013.*
- Board meeting 12.8.2012 Oulu
Item 9. Future NHF: See item 5 on today's agenda
Web pages: There are some technical problems with the application form. *Karin will find out how to fix the form.*

4. Meeting costs (for this meeting)

Costs for the meeting facilities and meals at Hilton Copenhagen Airport Hotel are covered by NHF. The travel costs for board members (Müller-Wohlfeil, Pedusaar, Korhonen, Thorsteinsson, Apsite, Gulbinas and Gustafsson); editor of Hydrology Research, Treasurer, Web editor and Secretary will be reimbursed by NHF.

5. NHF Strategy (revision)

The Strategy Document of NHF was formulated in 2010 for the period of the next four years. It was discussed if the new board sees the need to change the content and goals. The updated strategy could cover the period of 2012–2016. A summary of today's discussion:

- Long term goals should be changed. The focus should be more on collaboration, networking and two-way communication in stead of one-way communication.

- Short term goals could be changed every second year.
- Information etc. is available on the Internet, so: What are the member benefits?
How to make NHF more attractive?

(From the minutes 15.8.2012/5. Outcome of the General Assembly: The board discussed how to inform students about NHF and why students should become members in NHF. The board members are asked to contact the institutes which educate hydrologists in their country. The benefits to become a member in NHF for students are for example: to become a part of network of hydrologists, NHC with opportunity to be rewarded with best poster/presentation, and opportunity to apply funding for seminars, workshops etc.)

- One of the NHF's main goals is the co-operation between scientists and water managers and bridging the gap between them. In addition the conferences NHF could arrange smaller workshops where scientists and managers could meet. The focus of the conferences is often more on science than discussions.
- Co-operation between Nordic and Baltic countries has been established through projects like CES.

Based on the old strategy, the input from Dirk and Hege presented at this meeting and the above bullet points, Hege will draft an updated strategy and distribute to the board for further comments before a final updated strategy is published. Deadline: March 2013

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

An overview over members and national representatives:

Denmark: 4 institutional members, 19 personal members, national representative has resigned. Membership fees for 2012 and 2013 will be invoiced next year.

Responsible Dirk

Latvia: 25 personal members. Membership fees have been transferred to the Treasurer already.

Lithuania: 20 personal members. Membership fees have been transferred already.

Norway: 4 institutional members, 43 personal members. National representative is the Norwegian Hydrological Council. Fees will be transferred in December 2012.

Estonia: 6 personal members who have paid the fee directly to Sweden.

Sweden: 6–7 institutional members, 19–25 personal members. The list of members will be completed in December and sent to Heidi.

Iceland: Thorsteinn will come back to this. The institutional members are most probably: Icelandic Met Office, National Energy Authority (Orkustofnun), and Landsvirkjun. Thorsteinn will find out how to collect the membership fee and transfer it to NHF.

Finland: The Finnish Hydrological Society (SHY) has been inactive for several years. SHY is the national representative of NHF in Finland and responsible for gathering the membership fees. Johanna will find out about members and paid/unpaid fees. Membership fees for (2011?), 2012 and 2013 will be invoiced next year. Heidi sends a draft of invoice.

Membership fees in 2011 have been transferred from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Latvia and Lithuania. In 2012 fees have already been transferred from Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia (and Norway in December 2012). Nordic countries should take action on this before the year ends!

It was decided that membership fee for institutional members from the Baltic countries is SEK 1000,-/year.

It was decided that membership fees – starting from 2013 – should be transferred to the Treasurer **by the 30th June**. The board "re-decides" what has been decided earlier (ref. action points). The document "Principles for membership registration and membership fees" will be changed respectively.

Martin presented the figures for this year. It was reminded that invoices concerning this year (web editor, grant for best paper, travel reimbursements etc.) should be sent to Martin in the beginning of December. Martin was granted up to SEK 40 000 for the extra work he had to do with closing the accounts for the years 2010 and 2011.

It has been suggested several times that NHF could probably have only institutional members. Discount on conference participation could be given to employees working in the respective institutions. Hege will bring this issue to the next CHIN meeting. It was also suggested that a campaign how to recruit institutional members should be arranged.

Johanna will find out about the financial result of the NHC 2012. Deadline January 2013.

7. Conference in Stockholm, NHC 2014

(final date and place, main topic, scientific committee etc.)

The next NHC will be arranged in Stockholm; 11–13 August 2014 (will not collide with the World Water Week). The main topic will cover the idea of bridging the gap between science and water management, a sort of "the Nordic hydrology model". The conference will be announced during the spring 2013. Hege sends the document "Principles how to arrange conferences" to board members. This document is not published on the web site. The **board members** are responsible for appoint a member to the scientific committee from their country. **Deadline: 1st February 2013**
David will come back to the main topic in December 2012.

8. Conference 2016, status

The Lithuanian board members have had a planning meeting on NHC 2016. Kaunas (the next largest city in Lithuania) has been suggested as the conference site. The best way to organize the conference is to hire a convention bureau (or similar) to do the administrative tasks.

9. Publishing and web pages

HR: The deadline for paper submission to special NHC 2012 issue is postponed to 1st January 2013. It is an ambition that the papers in HR should be cited more often. Generally the quality of the submitted papers could be improved.

Board members and their students etc. are encouraged to submit high quality papers to HR and to cite the HR papers! The more quotes, the more subscribers and the more economical benefits NHF will get. The editors from NHF and BHS meet the IWA Publishing once a year. Hege is invited to this meeting in London this year. It was decided that Hege's travelling costs will be covered by NHF.

Web pages: Send news and updates from your country to Karin. The logos and links to institutional members will be added to the web sites. Karin will fix the

membership form and add a box where you can tick off if you are a student or a retired hydrologist. Karin adds the Twitter symbol on the web site as well. A list of relevant books could be added for example under the national activities.

10. Other items

Hydrological terminology: The copyright regarding Nordic Glossary of Hydrology was transferred from KOHYNO (does not exist anymore) to NHF by the permission of Norwegian Hydrological Council (Hege) and Swedish Hydrological Council (David). An electronic version will be improved covering all the languages to NHF. A good starting point can be Environmental dictionary EnDic. Johanna has sent a link.

11. Next board meeting

The next board meeting will be held in early May 2013 in Tallinn. Tiia sends a doodle on possible meeting dates.

12. Closing of the board meeting

Hege Hisdal closed the meeting at 16.00.

Hege Hisdal

Heidi Pikkarainen

Chair

Secretary