



NORDISK HYDROLOGISK FORENING

Nordic Association for Hydrology

Minutes of the NHF board meeting at Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Dreggsallmenningen 1, Bergen, 12 August 2018

Present: Board members – Līga Klints (Latvia), Diana Meilutyte-Lukauskiene (Lithuania), Kolbjørn Engeland (Norway), Linus Zhang (Sweden)

Denmark: Sofie G. W. van't Veen

Estonia: Elve Lode and Jaanus Terasmaa

Lithuania: Vytautas Akstinas

Not present: representative from Finland, Iceland

Treasurer – Martin Bergstrand (Sweden)

HR-editor – Chong-Yu Xu (Norway)

Secretary – Heidi Lee (Norway)

1.–3. Opening, organization and approval of the meeting agenda

Linus Zhang opened the meeting at 18.15. Linus Zhang was appointed as the Chair and Heidi Lee as the Secretary. The minutes will be scrutinized jointly. The meeting participants are given five days to comment on the minutes, before they are published on the website. The suggested agenda was approved.

4. Minutes from the previous board meeting 18.6.2018

The minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.

5. Meeting costs for this meeting

The dinner after the board meeting will be charged NHF directly. The reimbursement of the travel costs has been decided on in a previous board meeting.

6. Finances and membership

Further discussion on the summary from the working group about membership recruitment and consolidation of NHF. The summary is enclosed the minutes.

Conclusions so far: NHF needs new ways to attract and motivate its members. The personal membership should be free of charge. More activities are needed, for example, a summer school or a workshop could be arranged in connection with the NHC

or during the year when NHC is not arranged. A workshop could include some field work with measurements that a (hydropower) company could pay for.

More communication is needed, for example, a short hydrological news from the member countries could be published on the website.

The relevant companies need future specialists – how to involve the companies better in NHF's activities and how to establish a meeting place for the future hydrologists and possible employers.

A small working group, Kolbjørn as its leader, will develop these ideas further. The working group consists of Linus, Sofie, Kolbjørn, Elve and Jaanus.

In order to contact the relevant companies for institutional membership and other co-operation, the working group will also a) prepare a presentation of NHF, b) identify relevant companies in the member counties, and c) make a plan how to approach the companies.

The board needs to update the strategy of NHF.

Membership fees have been invoiced in every member country. The payments and reminders are to be followed during the autumn.

7. Status NHC 2018

The best student presentation and poster will be awarded. The jury consists of the members of the scientific committee and the ordinary NHF board members that are present at the NHC 2018.

The best paper in HR has been selected and approved by the NHF board. Heidi, Martin and Linus will take care of the payment of the prizes.

A special issue of HR from the NHC 2018 will be published. A call for papers will be send after the conference. Knut Alfredsen and Kolbjørn will act as guest editors.

Elve Lode presented a preliminary plan including date, venue, main theme and subthemes for the NHC 2020. NHC 2020 will be announced at the GA. Every member country is to appoint a member to the scientific committee.

In addition, the NHC 2022 needs to be discussed either at the GA or in the next board meeting.

8. GA 2018

The preparations for the GA have been carried out.

The board suggests the GA to keep the membership fees unchanged: SEK 300/100 (Nordic/Baltic) for individual members and SEK 4000/1500 for institutional members.

The change of the statutes § 6, Board of the Association, will be presented to the GA.

The NHC 2020 will be announced at the GA.

9. Marketing

Campaigns to increase awareness interest in the association (HR survey, etc.):

The questionnaire will be sent to the NHF's members and the conference participants after the NHC 2018.

Website: to be handled in the next board meeting.

10. NHF Organisation

What's on the Google disk – to be handled in the next board meeting.

11. Other items

No other items.

12. Next board meetings

The next board meeting will be held on Monday 13 August 2018 right after the GA. The previous board and the newly elected board are invited to this meeting.

13. Closing of the meeting

Linus Zhang closed the meeting at 20.30.

Linus Zhang
Chair

Heidi Lee
Secretary

Consolidation of NHF

Why NHF

Sharpen the focus on applied science and cooperation between scientific institutions, water companies, public administration and the private sector (consulting companies).

NHF does not want to compete with e.g. EGU and the EGU conference with respect to basic research levels within specific subareas of hydrological sciences.

Rather, NHF want to be regarded as a forum, where Society meets Science to discuss questions on water resources, their use and needs for their protection.

Initiatives

The board members could start a campaign that addresses all the above mentioned partners for cooperation, and maybe invite those to video meetings.

Financiation

There is no sense in letting personal members pay for basic expenses of NHF, except during conferences. Conference fees can be expected to be paid by the employers.

Reduce costs

Traveling costs should be minimised, .i.e. no more than one travel per year, for all other meetings video facilities should be used. This should also include potential meetings og sub-groups.

Cooperation with other organisations could be considered to reduce costs related to activities, such as meetings or conferences. Among others particularly the following organisations might be relevant to contact: [IAH](#), [IAHS](#), [EGU](#). Cooperation could also be interesting for members if this involves incensement of possibilities (access to (other) journals and meetings / conferences).

Increase revenue

Revenues might be increased by the increasing the number of institutional members. The higher the number of sponsors, the lower membership fees might be set / or the higher the number the number of potential activities that can be supported.

It should be easy to convince the Nordic and Baltic Research institutions from the use NHF activities, but one might consider writing contracts that include clear and practical targets and obligations NHF has to fulfil during each 2 years or 4 years period to receive fee from the research institutions.

The focus will be different for consulting and water supplying companies. They may want to support activates that lead solutions of challenges posed to them. Both may be happy to meet each other as customer and client, and both will also be interested in meeting administrators.

I don't think it's a good idea I raise the conference fees.

Another way of increasing revenues is by involvement of funds. See e.g <https://www.fonde.dk/top-menu/om-fondedk.aspx> or <https://www.norden.org/da/om-samarbejdet-1/stoetteordninger-og-legater/stoetteordninger-og-udbud-sorteret-efter-emne/kultur-og-kreative-industrier>.

I don't know of any Nordic / Baltic homepage that provides an overview of relevant funds. But one might starts with contacting homepages, like the ones above.

Unfortunately funds typically support separate and time limited activities.