

# COSMOS

## Annual Meeting Minutes

November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008

Hilton Oakland Airport

**Meeting called to order at 12:05 PM**

~25 people present including:

Norm Abramson

John Anderson

Bob Bachman

Roger Borchardt

C.B. Crouse

Bill Iwan

Claire Johnson

John Parrish

Maury Power

Jamie Steidl

### **Introduction: Bob Bachman**

Bob Bachman welcomed the participants and started the meeting by mentioning the retirement of Jim Davis and conveyed his appreciation for the service that Jim has provided to COSMOS. The membership was notified that a new slate of Board of Directors had been elected and that a new president of COSMOS was elected to replace Jim Davis. Bob then turned the meeting over to the new president, Bill Iwan.

### **Report of the President: Bill Iwan:**

Bill began his report by recognizing Jim Davis and the years of service he provided to COSMOS, including the presentation of the plaque to the membership, even though Jim could not be present to accept it. In particular, Bill recognized the work Jim Davis took charge of with respect to the revision of the COSMOS Bylaws to bring them in compliance with the original charter and to set up term limits for the Board Members with staggered terms. The review of the revisions by legal council was mentioned and the definition of a Quorum being 30% of the membership.

Bill discussed the November 20<sup>th</sup> Board of Director's meeting and the election of John Anderson and Bill Iwan to 1-year terms, Maury Power and Doug Dreger to 2-year terms, and Jamie

Steidl and Norm Abrahamson to 3-year terms.. The election of President, Bill Iwan, Treasurer, Maury Power, Vice president, Woody Savage, and Secretary, Jamie Steidl. Recognition was also given to the continued involvement of Bob Bachman and Claire Johnson for the day-to-day operations of COSMOS.

(At 12:15 - ~35 people now present)

Bill brought the membership up to date on the revision of the Vision and Mission statements. John Parrish, who led the review committee, was asked to read these out loud to the membership, attached as Appendix A. Bill Iwan also recognized the passing of George Housner, Honorary President of COSMOS.

#### **Report from Treasurer: Maury Power**

Maury Power brought the membership up to date on the financial status of the organization (sound) and provided three slides for the membership to review (attached as Appendix B). The first included a list of the current membership, including the core member support of \$50K to COSMOS, the strong motion program member support at \$4K, the institutional member support at \$15K, affiliated member support at \$2K, and the individual member support at \$1.9K, for a total of \$72.9K.

Maury then discussed the contracts and grants activities on slide 2. These included two contracts with the CGS that comprised activities such as advocating on an international scale, developing instructional media, and to develop and promote the use of strong motion data in a standardized format. A third contract included the PEER lifelines support of the geotechnical virtual data center, which is in its final phase.

The last slide contained the financial position of the organization.

Maury concluded by thanking the sponsors of COSMOS.

#### **Questions:**

Jim Bela asked about the cost of membership and the difference between becoming a member by attending the meeting only being \$10 more, yet other members pay \$50 per year. He suggested that there be a difference between the price of a founding member versus being a meeting member. Bob Bachman replied that COSMOS' fee structure for this event was based on breaking even and that we didn't anticipate changing the fee structure.

#### **Report of Director of Engineering Applications: Bob Bachman**

Bob asked for more feedback on the venue choice, noting that this year's choice was based partially on the feedback from last year. He requested that the membership continue to provide feedback to COSMOS in this regard. The cost of the meeting was discussed, and that the cost was set to encourage membership for meeting participants.

He reported on the proposed change to the IBC for the instrumentation of buildings over a certain height to be consistent with the UBC. Proposals were rejected because they were required instrumentation rather than suggested or optional. The cost of maintenance after the installation was discussed, and the potential for ANSS to have a role here. Continued efforts in this regard to resubmit as an Appendix where the instrumentation is suggested but not required.

COSMOS participation at the EERI annual meeting was discussed. The special session on 100 years of strong-motion recording where presentations by Bill Iwan and John Anderson were made, followed by Norm Abrahamson on strong motion data processing and quality guidelines. These presentations are available in video form from EERI.

Committee activity was discussed. The furthest along was the international committee with activity before and during the 14WCEE in China, including report of positive feedback from the international community regarding the strong-motion Virtual Data Center. Other committee activities are just getting started and will have more to report by the time of next year's Annual Meeting.

Questions:

Jim Bela asked if public comment was taken in the decision to reject the proposed code changes. The answer was no, because it was decided to revise and resubmit first, before it got to the public comment stage. Since it was an unfunded mandate, it would be made an optional appendix to provide suggested guidance. A comment was made that forty years ago George Housner got the instrumentation into the code and now it was gone from the IBC, but it is hope that it will come back.

**Other Business: Bill Iwan:**

Bill made the comment that he values the membership and encourages feedback to him, Claire Johnson, or Bob Bachman. Bill again recognized Jim Davis.

Questions:

Jim Bela asked about the Bolt Medal and how it was awarded, and suggested George Housner.

Bob Bachman responded that it was a joint committee of COSMOS, EERI, and SSA that selected the medalist. Anyone can nominate, then the nominations go to the joint committee.

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:40 PM**

Minutes taken by Jamie Steidl.