

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS  
JULY 28, 2014  
CONFERENCE CALL**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

With President David Cuillier presiding, the meeting of the board of directors of the Society of Professional Journalists was called to order at 2:05 p.m. on Monday, July 28, 2014, via conference call.

In addition to Cuillier, the following were present for all or a portion of the meeting: President-Elect Dana Neuts; Immediate Past President Sonny Albarado; Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fletcher; Vice President for Campus Chapter Affairs Sue Kopen Katcef; Director at-Large Carl Corry; Campus Advisers at-Large Kym Fox and Becky Tallent; Student Representative Lindsey Cook; Regional Directors Rebecca Baker, Andy Schotz, Michael Koretzky, Susan Stevens, David Sheets and Tony Hernandez.

Staff members on the call were Executive Director Joe Skeel and Chapter Coordinator Tara Puckey.

The purpose of the call was to appoint two board vacancies: Campus Representative and Region 11 Director.

Cuillier explained that this appointment would be for five weeks. Members would be voting for new candidates during the Excellence in Journalism conference in early September. However, filling the vacancies was important because the board would be voting on the proposed code of ethics in August – before the election would take place.

Baker pointed out that regardless of who the board appointed, it was incumbent upon SPJ to reach out to all candidates and find ways for them to remain engaged in SPJ.

For each position, the board discussed if the chosen candidate should be someone who plans to seek the office during the election, or someone who would be only a stop-gap. The group debated the pros and cons of each scenario.

**CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE**

Cuillier asked the board to share their thoughts about any of the candidates.

The candidates were:

Daniel Axelrod, Ellen Eldridge, Jordan Gass-Porre, Brett Hall, Kathleen Quillian and David Schick.

**Upon proper motion and second by Neuts and Stevens, respectively, the board appointed Brett Hall to the Campus Representative position by the following roll call vote (6 yes, 3 no, 3 abstain):**

Fletcher: Yes  
Neuts: Yes  
Kopen Katcef: Yes  
Albarado: Abstain  
Corry: Yes  
Fox: No  
Tallent: No  
Schotz: Yes  
Koretzky: Abstain  
Stevens: Yes  
Sheets: Abstain  
Hernandez: No

### **REGION 11 DIRECTOR**

Cuillier asked the board to share their thoughts about any of the candidates. The board debated whether having chapter experience was critical to this position.

The candidates were:

Lauren Bartlett, Brian Bielanski, Molly Dugan, Matt Hall, Debra Krol, Maria Ortiz Briones, Sam Stewart and Elle Toussi.

Schotz moved to appoint Dugan to the Region 11 Director position. No second.

**Upon proper motion and second by Fletcher and Corry, respectively, the board appointed Matt Hall to the Region 11 Director position by the following roll call vote (7 yes, 1 no, 4 abstain):**

Fletcher: Yes  
Neuts: Yes  
Kopen Katcef: Abstain  
Albarado: Abstain  
Corry: Yes  
Fox: Yes  
Tallent: Yes  
Schotz: Yes  
Koretzky: No  
Stevens: Abstain  
Sheets: Yes  
Hernandez: Abstain

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m., July 28, 2014.**