

November is the month that the GJGS selects officers for the coming year. The By-laws of the Society stipulate that the elected officers are the President, the Vice President, and three Councilors. President and Vice President are elected for one-year terms; Councilors for 3-year terms with one elected each year. Secretary and Treasurer are appointed by the Council and serve indefinite terms.

This year we have candidates for President, Councilor, and Treasurer. No one has stepped forward for VP or Secretary. Because our Presidential candidate, Ben Haveman, may not be known to many of the members, he has provided a biography. The Councilor and Treasurer candidates are long-time members who are well-known by the members, having been officers before, so we did not ask them for bios.

**Nominations or volunteers for any of the positions from the members are welcome.**

**Ben Haveman** graduated from CMU's geology program in 2013 and became a member of GJGS the same year. In 2019, Ben became a GJGS Councilor. He is currently serving his second 3-year term in this role. In recent years, Ben has helped review Field Camp Scholarships and presented a talk on horizontal principal stress measurements at the February 2021 meeting. Professionally, Ben has conducted mineral investigations in the US and abroad that involve rare earth elements, heavy mineral sands, precious and base metals, industrial minerals, and claystone-hosted lithium deposits, as well as geotechnical studies and laboratory testing. Since November of 2021, Ben has been employed by RESPEC as a Project Geologist, focused primarily on mineral resource evaluations involving potash, lithium, limestone, and trona.

Vice President – Jay Scheevel (Jay would like to step down, as he has done the job for several years)

Councilor – Heidi Schoenstein

Treasurer – Brann Johnson

Secretary – Bill Hood (Same comment as for Jay)

### **Other Business Item**

The Council has voted to put forward a proposal to increase membership dues from \$15 to \$25 per year. Here is a short summary of this year's finances. Our income so far in 2024 is \$7,221. Our expenses are \$5,383, giving us a net gain of \$1,838. That sounds great, so why does the Council think we should raise dues? The reason is this: Of that income, \$2,925 came from donations by 4 members for scholarships and \$245 by 3 members for the field trip. When these amounts are subtracted, our income is down to \$4,051. We very much appreciate the generosity of the members who contribute scholarship and field trip support money each year, but there is no guarantee that they will continue to do so. The extra \$10 in dues from about 80 members would bring our income up to about \$4,800, much more aligned with our typical expenses and keep us on decent financial footing even if our individual contributors are unable to continue. It would also allow us to consider funding some small research projects or helping CMU with the occasional small expense, something that we have not been able to do for the past decade.