**AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY**
**Minutes of the 25 January 2026 Meeting of the Council**
**Houston, TX and Via Zoom**

*Minutes recorded by AMS Secretary Todd Glickman.*

**Participants**

Voting Members:
- President David Stensrud
- President-elect Alan Sealls
- Past-president Anjuli Bamzai
- Second Past-president Brad Colman
- Stephen Bennett
- Danielle Breezy (joined 10:15am)
- DaNa Carlis
- Rebecca DePodwin
- Gina Eosco
- Jenny Frankel-Reed
- Rong Fu
- Stephanie Herring
- Andrew Humphrey
- Bill Kuo
- John Lanicci
- Michelle Mainelli
- Cliff Mass
- Erin Coughlan de Perez
- Russ Schumacher

Non-voting Members:
- Secretary Todd Glickman
- Acting Executive Director Brian Papa
- Student Observers Dillon Blount, Edward Wolff

Commissioners:
- Melissa Burt, Mona Behl, Wendy Schreiber-Abshire, Kim Klockow, Mike Augustyniak, Erica Grow Cei, Justin Pullin, Lance Steele, Walter Robinson, Kristie Franz, Clark Evans, Stephen Bieda, Sue Ellen Haupt, Heidi Centola, Tanja Fransen, Kevin Kloesel

AMS Staff:
- Executive Director-designate Amanda Staudt
- Associate Executive Director Stephanie Armstrong
- Associate Executive Director Paul Higgins
- CFO Andrea Mancinelli
- Directors Beth Farley, Claudia Gorski, Jen Ives, Brian Mardirosian, Rebecca Perriello, Aaron Price, Kelly Savoie, Gwendolyn Whittaker, Stephanie Wurtz

Officers/Councilors-elect:

Richard Spinrad, Jordan Gerth, Aaron Peña, Maureen McCann, Marilyn Averill

Guests:

Past-Secretary/Treasurer Richard Rosen
Michael Moloney, CEO of AIP

1. **Call to Order and Quorum Check**
   President Stensrud called the meeting to order at 7:37am CST. Secretary Glickman noted that a quorum was present, with 18 of the 19 voting members initially present. (Later in the meeting the 19th Councilor joined.)
2. **Approval of 12 and 18 December Council Minutes**
   A motion was offered by G. Eosco and seconded by R. Schumacher to approve the minutes of the Council meetings of 12 and 18 December 2025 (as corrected for a typo). The motion carried unanimously.
3. **Second Vote Confirming e-Vote**
   Three e-Votes of Council (22, 23, 30 December 2025) required confirmation. C. Mass offered a motion to approve them, which was seconded by G. Eosco, and the motion passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of Consent Agenda**
   One action and six informational items were provided in the consent agenda. D. Carlis moved and R. DePodwin seconded a motion to approve them as a group, which was passed unanimously.
5. **Welcome and Thank You**
   President Stensrud thanked the outgoing Councilors and Commissioners for their service to the Society, and welcomed the incoming officers, Councilors and Commissioners. He thanked the Executive Director Search Committee for its superb work, and welcomed Executive Director-designate Staudt who will assume the position in mid-March. President Stensrud then presented a certificate to Acting Executive Director B. Papa thanking him for his service over the past year, and the Council responded with a standing ovation. Finally, the participants in the room and on Zoom introduced themselves.
6. **Council Groups**
   President Stensrud summarized the new process of having small groups of Councilors meet with one of the presidents on an approximately monthly basis. There was consensus this was working well, and President-elect Sealls will repeat the process in 2026.
7. **2025 Year-End Financials**
   CFO Mancinelli summarized the 2025 year-end financials (see details in agenda packet), which despite many challenges shows strong performance thanks to proactive decisions made early in the year.

8. **2026 Program Updates and Metrics**
   Acting Executive Director Papa outlined early thoughts on the 2026 budget based on KPIs from October through early January that can signal the full year's performance. Staff will assess the numbers over the next month or two and consider any further actions that might be required. The AMS directors then gave brief overviews of their departments (see details in agenda package).
9. **Education Program Update**
   Education Director A. Price provided an overview of the program he leads, including new initiatives to move the program forward on a fiscally positive basis. The Council was deeply appreciative of the progress made, and thanked Aaron for the great work he and his colleagues have made.
10. **AMS Strategic Priorities**
    AMS staff updated the Council on strategic priorities (see agenda packet for details). Associate Executive Director Higgins led a good discussion with the Council, that provided excellent suggestions for further incorporation into the process.
11. **Five-Year Budget Projections**
    Acting Executive Director Papa and CFO Mancinelli led a discussion on five-year budget projections for AMS, including methodology and general assumptions. There was a detailed explanation of the portfolio Monte Carlo financial analysis that has been performed – it showed a median that is generally break-even or better over five years. In this analysis, AMS remains profitable on average, with some years close to break-even with equal probability of surplus as deficit, given fluctuations in specific program metrics.
12. **Finance: Investment Firm and Investments Update**
    Investment Committee Chair P. Try reviewed AMS's current investment policy, and updated the Council on plans to engage with an investment management firm – the down-select process is ongoing now.
13. **AIP Update**
    AIP CEO M. Moloney updated the Council on AIP's partnership with AMS, and current program status that includes its shared mission during its upcoming centennial celebration.
14. **RMetS Update**
    Prof. Liz Bentley, Chief Executive of the Royal Meteorological Society, gave a recorded message to the Council. This included a summary of the International Forum of Metrological Societies, to which AMS has two delegates (K. Seitter and M. Behl).
15. **NOAA Update**
    Administrator Neil Jacobs had to postpone his trip to Houston due to the current winter storm. He hopes to arrive Monday evening to participate in the Annual Meeting.

16. **Commission/CIC Reports**

    Commissioner and CIC reports that were provided in the consent agenda were summarized by their chairs/delegates.

17. **AMS Positions Procedures and CCAPS**

    Associate Executive Director P. Higgins and B. Colman outlined the proposed changes (documents in the agenda packet) for developing AMS Positions (Statements, Best Practices, Rapid Responses, and Letters) that affect Councilors' participation. In addition, a modification to the Council Committee on AMS Positions and Statements Terms of Reference was proposed. A motion was made by R. Schumacher and seconded by R. DePodwin to accept both documents, which was adopted unanimously.

18. **Adjournment**

    President Stensrud asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by G. Eosco and seconded by D. Carlis. The meeting was adjourned at 1:52pm CST.