

## TAAA Board of Directors Open Meeting Minutes: March 12, 2025

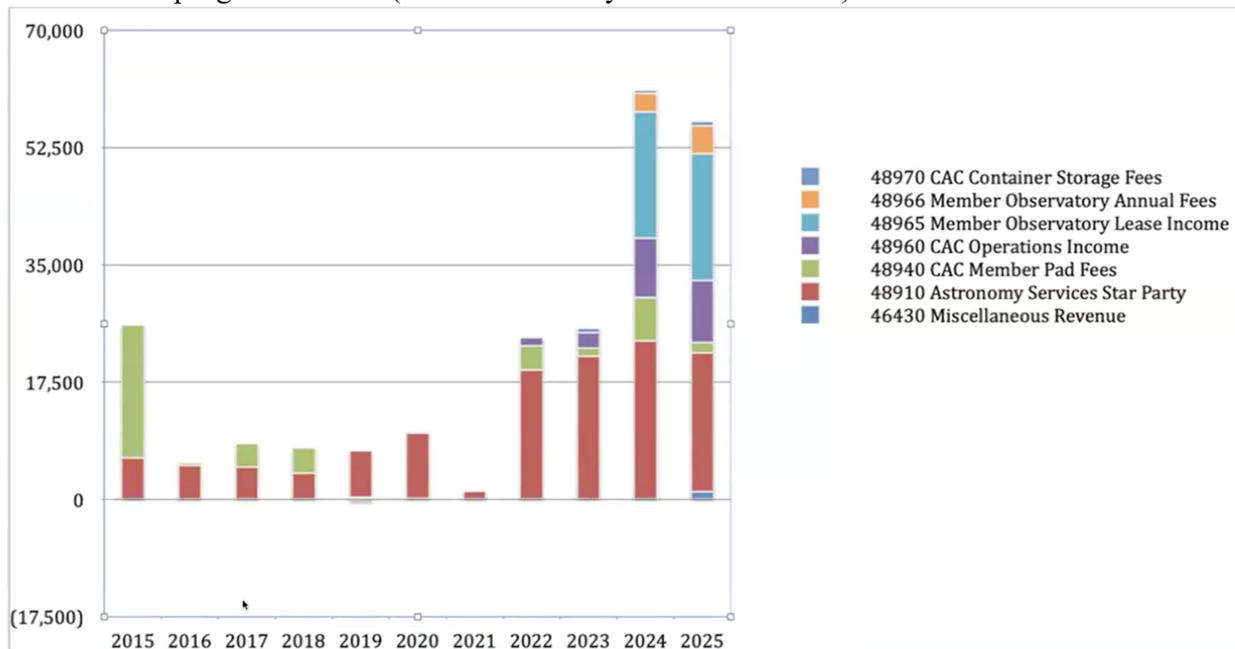
The teleconference Zoom Board open meeting was called to order at 6:32PM, B. Reynolds, Secretary, presiding. Board members present: B. Whitehead, Treasurer; E. Foley, Vice President; M. Smith(joined a few minutes late), President and Members-at-Large D. Rossetter, S. Ferris, J. Kalas. Members attending included: Ross Carnes, John Mead, and Nelsey Toner(joined later).

### Approval of Minutes:

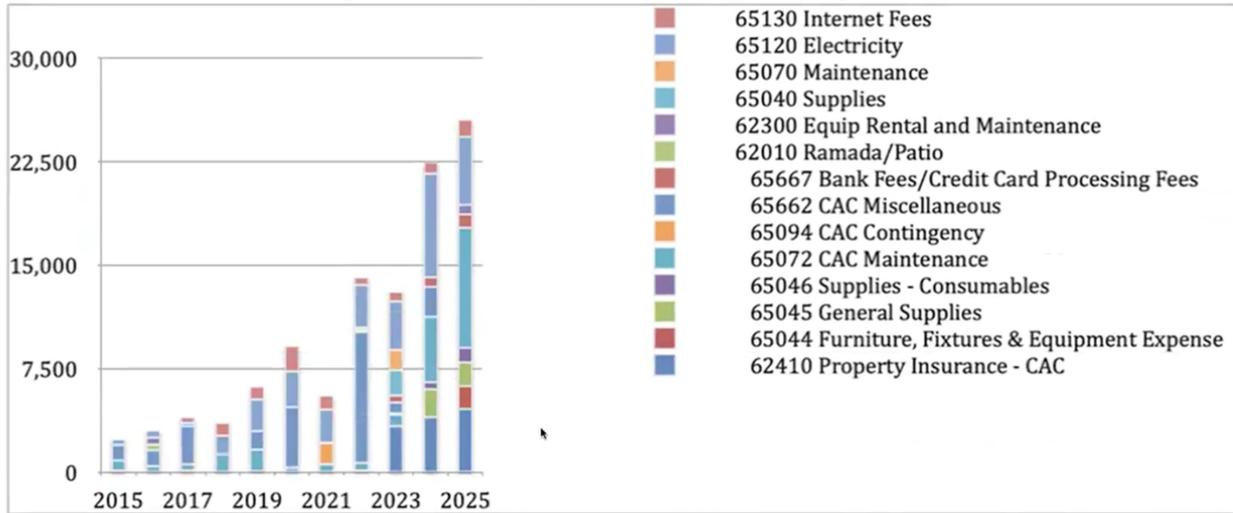
- A motion was made by Ed Foley to approve the March 12, 2025 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by M. Smith and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

### Treasurers Report

- Barbara noted that the TAAA March balance sheet showed approx \$11k in its checking account and approximately \$252k in money market accounts. Further, fixed assets totaled approximately \$1.44 million with total assets sitting at \$1.719 million.
- The net revenue for the month of March was approximately -\$1,845 while year to date stood at approximately \$157k.
- Revenue for the month was over budget due increased donations, star party revenue, and interest. This resulted in a very favorable actual net revenue vs budget (~400+%) thus far this fiscal year. Expenditures are ~\$3.7k under budget thus far this fiscal. Overall, thus far for the year, net revenue is approximately \$118k over budget.
- In response to a request from the President, the Treasurer provided a 10 year analysis of CAC program revenue(note 2025 is only 9 months of data):



- The Treasurer also provided a 10 year analysis of CAC expenses:



- Barbara then presented a quote of \$1,582 for tractor liability insurance. Bob Reynolds then made a motion to accept the quotation subject to identification of specific policy language pertaining to offsite liability coverage. Barbara is going to contact insurance agent to identify subject language. The motion was seconded by John Kalas and was approved by a vote of 7-0.
- A motion was made by Ed Foley to approve the Treasurers Reports as presented for the financial month of March. The motion was seconded by Bob Reynolds and passed by a vote of 7-0.

**Status of Open Action Items:**

**TAAA Board Action Item List as of 04/09/2025**

Date Entered	Item	Date Completed	Comments
A long time ago	Develop award plan/structure for TAAA		Need to find a leader for effort
3/13/24	Continued follow up on Strategic Plan		BOD working its way thru all Plan components
9/11/24	Research off site tractor liability insurance coverage	4/9/25	Pending receipt of quote
9/11/24	Insurance valuations for Ketelsen		Pending bid for DKO construction
10/9/24	Recommendation to migrate to TidyHQ		
12/12/24	Status of proposal for new tablet or camera		Pending input from Terri
1/8/25	Contact TIMPA to see if interested in site wifi		Ben Bailey on 4/12/25
2/6/25	Contingency/recruitment plan for Treasury function		In event member search is unsuccessful
2/12/25	Implement log to record movement of loaner equip		Complete subject to confirmation by Stephen

2/12/25	Need mount for Stellarview refractor by end 2025		Or sell the refractor
2/12/25	Formation of radio astronomy SIG?		Potential SIG mtg scheduled
2/12/25	Survey on non-participating imaging SIG members		Check w/Ruppel
2/12/25	Coordination of imaging SIG and CAC imaging infrastructure		
2/12/25	Need for commercial storage facility for Starry Mes tool kits		Terri Lappin to bring forward proposal
4/3/25	Create & implement CAC volunteer award		
4/3/25	Create Project Histories for presentation to future donors		For July/August BOD meeting
4/3/25	Barbara to check status of property tax exemption	4/9/25	Barbara made necessary filings

### CAC/TIMPA Reports

- Ed Foley provided an update on the progress of the observatory structure for the 32” telescope. Project is moving along well with an anticipated scope installation targeted for June.
- Latest CAC operations meeting focused on development of a “new generation” annual budget which was based on ~\$40k of annual revenue and related expenses.
- John Kalas noted completion of site wide painting project which should be good for 5-10 years.
- TIMPA has almost completed doors and painting on the 14” shed.
- It was noted that TAAA’s access to TIMPA site was briefly restricted. However, further research discovered that the restrictions were related to TIMPA not wanting to have their guests park on TAAA’s improvements. A discussion about lease terms regarding TAAA access followed. It was the perception that TAAA had no restrictions even though TAAA has, historically, tried to accommodate TIMPA usage needs.

### Membership Systems Update

- David Rossetter provided an update on the ongoing evaluation of TidyHQ. In summary, the original direction to move to TidyHQ is now being called into question due to lack of needed functionality(reporting, volunteer tracking, etc). As a result, he and his group are now re-evaluating Club Express.
- Downsides of Club Express in ~\$300/mo cost, higher implementation cost and need to migrate TAAA web page to Club Express.
- Bob Reynolds made a motion to continue the deeper dive into Club Express and have Dave and his team make a recommendation between Tidy HQ and Club Express. The motion was seconded by E. Foley. Discussion focused on including use of outside consultants to implement new systems and/or integrate web pages.

### TIMPA Site Management

- Stephen Ferris made a presentation on heat management issues at TIMPA.

## The Issue

- Multiple heat records have been broken in and around the Tucson Area in the last few years.
- Heat has always been an unaddressed issue at TIMPA, but is likely to become a bigger problem looking at the long term.
- TIMPA sits in a low desert environment
- There are no air conditioned shelters at the site
- Water source is not potable
- Not everyone brings sufficient water

## Proposed BOD Rules as Recommended for TIMPA Only



1. TIMPA should not be operated when temperatures at the site exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit, during the day or night.
2. The TIMPA Director will have sole discretion to close TIMPA and/or cancel planned events and scheduled individual use of the site if the temperature is expected to reach or exceed 90's degrees at sunset, or to postpone those events until later in the evening, if possible, after temperatures have fallen.
3. Failure to abide by Policy 1 and Policy 2 may result in the revocation of access to TIMPA for a period determined by the Board of Directors, including the required return of a TIMPA key card.
4. Members attending TIMPA are required to bring their own adequate water supply as the water on the grounds is not potable.
5. The Board will provide, at its discretion, resources for heat safety training to the TIMPA director, as well as one or two other site leaders who are regularly on site during planned events.

\*Notes on justifications for these rules are included in the original report



## Further Comments from the Director

- TIMPA and CAC represent very different conditions in very different environments. Each site will need to manage heat issues in their own ways based on their own needs.
- Rules 1 and 2 could be combined to give the director sole discretionary power to close TIMPA when temperatures are above a set temperature (say 90 or 100) if conditions seem unsafe.
- While 90F is the critical threshold suggested by the research, we could set the threshold higher if we choose to.



## Reasons for Rules in the First Place

- One member expressed the opinion that anyone who operates the site at unsafe temperatures is “on their own” and “does so at their own risk”. While the Director agrees in principle, it’s not at all clear that judges and juries would agree.
- Another expressed the opinion that since there is no BOD rule or guideline on the topic, they are free to use the site as they see fit under any conditions.



## Another Consideration

- The Barn is typically not considered subject to TIMPA operating rules.
  - Heat rules could impair the operation of the Donor and Equipment Sales program
  - Director's position: The Barn and the Equipment Sales Program **ARE NOT** under the same chain of command or rules as the observing site and are not covered by these BOD Rules. The BOD would need to rule separately on all issues related to the Barn.
  - However, classes on the observing site are subject to these rules and the are under the Director so long as they happen on the observing site, even if not taught by the Director
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- Bob Reynolds made a motion that the TIMPA Director develop a temperature management protocol and submit draft to BOD for approval. David Rossetter provided a second. Potential contents of the protocol could include items such as emergency procedures, temperature thresholds, chains of command for both the site and the barn, exits, fire safety, etc. However, Bob Reynolds withdrew his motion once Ed Foley made his motion.
  - Ed Foley noted that the TIMPA Director has always had the authority to determine when the site is open and closed. Ed Foley then made a motion that confirms that both TIMPA and CAC Directors have the authority to open or close sites when there are weather or any other safety concerns. The motion was seconded by Bob Reynolds and passed by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was put forward by B. Reynolds to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Ed Foley. The motion was approved 7-0 and the Board meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.