



PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, January 17, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
ZOOM Meeting: 784 410 2596; Passcode: 8hUXed

The Board Meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Carl Orvis (President).

Attendees: Carl Orvis (President), Penny Canamas (2nd Vice President), Cheryl Williams (Director), Dixie Barons (Director), Kelly Fenton (Director–At-Large), Ted Kaufer (Sergeant-at-Arms), & Jacque Vowell (Editor), Susan Burk (Office Assistant), and Kathy Malin (Office Manager).

ZOOM Attendees:

Mike Young (1st Vice President), Bosco Hoyte (Director), Ray Husum (Bylaws), David Dahlstrom (Legislature Rep), Bill Lane (Chaplain), and Debbie Lane (Reunion Hotel Chairperson)

Absent: Bill McLaughlin, P.P. (Past President), Noreen Hansom (Treasurer), & Betty LeDoux, P.P. (Reunion Hotel Chairperson)

Carl welcomed all. He asked if everyone had read the October 18, 2025, minutes. Cheryl Williams made a motion to approve the October Executive Board meeting minutes, Penny Canamas seconded, and the motion carried.

Penny approved 1 new member, Connie Robinson, BHS 71, Dixie Barons seconded, and the motion carried.

Financials:

The Board reviewed the Check Detail. Penny motioned to approve paying the bills, Dixie seconded, and the motion carried.

Kathy Malin went over the CD which will mature on 2/12/26. Bill Lane recommended investing CDs/APR for one year. Bill suggested investigating other banks such as Ozark Bank for a better return. This will remain on the table while Bill investigates other banks. Carl tabled the vote.

New and Old Business:

- Amendment #48 Ballots are due at the Panama Canal Society office by February 18, 2026.
- 501.3c has been terminated because our membership will need to be open to the public and ByLaws changed to reflect that.
- The maintenance cost is \$300.00 a month for the new database. The database is not running smoothly and not meeting the needs of the Panama Canal Society. The company cannot seem to find fixes, and it was suggested to send a letter to the company for a refund. Bosco volunteered to locate a new database.
- The *Canal Record* has two new reporters, Elizabeth Fahy, co-reporter for Space Coast and Carol Call for Central Florida area. Cheryl motioned to approve them, and Penny seconded, and the motion carried.
- In the March issue, Jacque is reviewing the bylaws with Ray Husum.
- Jacque is reaching out to Renee Davis from Robert's Printing questioning what is happening with the mailings of the Canal Records. Some records arrive with no inner content or just the cover. Jacque stated that the Canal Record could be too big.

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- Nomination committee will meet on July 11, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. to count ballots in Panzacola F-1. Dixie will notify the committee.
- The Gulf Coast Picnic this year is called "Paella in Palmetto". Kelly Fenton and Bill Lane are the Chairpersons for this event. The date set is May 16, 2026, in same location as last year.
 1. Kelly found a catering company that cooks paella on site and includes salad and plantains. It was suggested that there be a charge of \$20.00 to \$25.00 with pre-registration preferred or pay at the door for a paella menu instead of a potluck. (Too much food is wasted on potlucks.)
 2. The cost will be \$100.00 deposit for food, \$250.00 for the rental of the building, and \$500.00 for a refundable security deposit.
 3. Cheryl made a motion to approve the cost of Paella in Palmetto costs of \$850 with a \$500 refundable security deposit, Penny seconded, and the motion carried.

Reunion Business:

- There was discussion for the Board compensation for ball dance tickets. There will be no compensation for ball tickets for the Board, Past Presidents or Honorary members.
- Registered attendees for the Grand Tivoli Soiree as of this date are (44 + 2 kids with 78 registered).
 1. An 8'x8' stand up banner of the Tivoli will be displayed with white wicker rocking chairs in front for pictures. Cheryl made a motion to approve the banner at no more than \$350, Bosco seconded, the motion carried.
- Yoga instructor has been finalized.
- Frankie Preto agreed to perform at the mass.
- Some Board members needed at 9:00 a.m. before the annual meeting to assist with selling Lottery tickets and any late Registration pickup.
- Event insurance will be renewed in March/April. Penny made a motion to approve the insurance and Bosco seconded, the motion carried.
- Kathy discussed Sponsors that we have and will be looking for more.
- Security will be hired for the Saturday night Soiree dance. 2 guards from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and 4 guards from 9:00 -1:00 a.m. There will be a guard hired to stay in the vendor room. Thursday and Friday dances the classes will need to hire their own security.
- Allison McLaughlin, the Security Chairperson, will handle all Society incidents.
- The Coloring Book will be final by February 15, 2026.
- The Reunion bags are being finalized by Shirley.
- Volunteer gifts have been ordered.

Officer Reports:

David Dahlstrom has spoken to Steven Price and will include Steven's cause in his next article. Steven's cause is to include Zonians in the Veterans' legislation on Agent Orange, DDT, etc. that has affected Military with many different diseases including cancer.

Julio Cisneros approached Bosco in Panama and spoke about the Panama Canal Area Benefit Plan. We will place a small box ad in the next *Canal Record*.

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Upcoming Events:

Space Coast Gathering is February 28th

PCS/UF Luncheon is March 28th

Next Board Meeting is April 18th

Gulf Coast - Paella in Palmetto is May 16th

Last Board Meeting before Reunion is June 6th

Load U-Haul: Sunday or Monday, July 5th or 6th

Reunion is July 8-12th

Adjournment

Cheryl motioned to adjourn the Board meeting at 10:53, Dixie seconded, and motion carried.



Carl Orvis, President



Kathy Malin, Office Manager