

17 APR – ANS-Carlsbad Business Meeting Minutes:

Attendees – ANS-C Chair Seth King, ANS-C Treasurer Jef Lucchini and ANS-C Public Relations Jerry Golden

Scholarship

28 April at 7:00 pm scholarships will be presented to Carlsbad High School graduates at the P.R. Levya Auditorium. Seth King will present the ANS-C annual \$1,000 scholarship that is coordinated through the Carlsbad Foundation to the 2025 recipient, Alexander Flores.

ANS-C Website anscarlsbad.org

The discussion with webmaster Greg Sahd included a background discussion – The website was initiated in 2017 to support ANS-Carlsbad's most recent topical meeting in 2017, after the fire and release events.

The current status is "slight" traffic on our website and the software for it has been obsolete. The obsolescence is mitigated by backups that can quickly restore it. On-line voting for annual elections has a modest additional cost.

Greg offered three options for dealing with obsolete (no longer supported) website software:

1. Stay with the obsolete software we currently have at no additional cost. The risk is needing to upgrade if our slightly used website crashes.
2. Preemptively(?) upgrade and refresh the ANS-C website with open source(?) software for about \$500
3. Rebuild our website with well supported distributive authorization(?) software. It includes voting capability plus other features. Expected cost is about \$2000.

Following the discussion on finances below, board members identified the most appropriate website option. Slight use = minimal consequence if the site crashes. Available backups = no impact. This and limitations on ANS-C income were the basis for a decision to go with Option 1, not changing the ANS-C website for now.

Finances

Background: Existing ANS-C resources are mainly residuals from a portion of the fees from the 2017 topical meetings in Carlsbad on WIPP. Local Section dues had been a consistent source of income for ANS-C. However, ANS-National terminated that income stream several years ago.

Annual expenses excluding refreshments when we have presentations are about \$1,500 per year. At this rate of expenditure funding is expected to be adequate through 2030 or beyond.

News from ANS Headquarters

ANS headquarters will conduct a national conference on Advances in Nuclear Fuel Management. It will be held on 20 – 23 July in Clearwater, FL. They are taking reservations now.

Planning is also underway for future National Conferences in Chicago (June) and Washington, DC (November).

A few years ago local section members were reclassified as 'friends of the local section' and encouraged to join ANS headquarters. ANS headquarters "membership" provides additional benefits for dues.

Activities

2025 ANS-C Elections will be in June for the 2025-26 year (July 2025 to June 2026). Voting will be on-line as in recent years. Dates and details will be posted prior to the election.

Now is a good time for interested friends of ANS-C to consider running for available board positions. To run for the available positions, please reply to this e-mail, contact Seth, Jef or Jerry for details directly or use the anscarlsbad.org website.

Available positions this year are vice-chair and secretary. The normal progression will make this year's vice-chair, James Louis-Jean the chair for 2026. For those who wish can contact.

Responding to questions about ANS-C presentations, last fall ANS-C hosted a meeting with the Trinity Section. They came to tour the WIPP Site, CEMRC, the Project Gnome site, and Urenco. Also, it is about a year since Seth King informed us about geologic modelling for permit renewals.

Volunteers or referrals are needed for future in-person presentations. Please contact Seth, Jef or Jerry directly or use the anscarlsbad.org website. The current challenge is national interest now focusing on increasing nuclear power for clean energy and AI. WIPP no longer is in the spotlight. Some research projects at WIPP have been de-funded and the flow of distinguished visitors has been curtailed.

Suggestions about remote presentations are also solicited for sharing with your ANS-C friends. This week a link and information was shared on an educational presentation through ANS national by former WIPP colleague Dr. Rob Hayes. Another one was a Youtube recording explaining WIPP's 2014 Valentine's day deflagration event