

Minutes of the Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Board Meeting
February 9, 2009 – Hawthorne Inn, Berlin, CT – 4:00 p.m.

CSCE Members in Attendance:

Gary Fuerstenberg	Greg Holness*	Sara Ramsbottom
Peter Heynen*	Tom Loto	Jay Silva*
Chris Holden*	Ron Nault*	Jason Waterbury*

Administrative Staff:
Amy Petrone

*Note: CSCE Board Members

1. President's Report (Chris Holden):

1.1 ACE Awards

- 1.1.1 Establish ACE Rules/Evaluation Criteria (Chris, Ron N., Jason)* – Ron Nault is completing the edits to the evaluation forms.
- 1.1.2 Status of Emcee* – A request has been sent to Matt Scott, who is the meteorologist for WTNH. Jay Silva suggested that Chris Holden contact Meehan & Goodin Engineers in Manchester since a member of that firm may be interested in being the emcee.
- 1.1.3 Status of National Officers* – Since ASCE President-Elect Blaine Leonard is planning to attend the awards ceremony, CSCE is developing a CSCE-centered itinerary (including a visit to the Engineers without Borders Student Chapter at the University of Hartford) for the ASCE National Officers during their visit to Connecticut. It was suggested that Mr. Leonard speak at the awards ceremony. Also, two of the topics that CSCE members would be interested in speaking with Mr. Leonard about is the reimbursement of ASCE member dues by state agencies and the prospect of state agencies getting a group discount on ASCE membership dues as is done in other states such as Maine.
- 1.1.4 Miscellaneous*
- Photographer again?* – It was suggested that Chris Holden contact the Aqua Turf Club for names of photographers.
- Younger Members role* – It was suggested that Younger Members could assist with the registration as was done in 2008.
- Evaluation Committees* – People have expressed interest in being judges. It was suggested that there be at least one non-CSCE Board member on each category's evaluation committee.
- Personal Phone Calls* – Each Board member should send a list of individuals they would like to contact from the ACE mailing list to Amy Petrone. She will add that information to the ACE mailing list Excel file and distribute it to the Board members as needed.

1.2 Outreach - This item was not discussed.

2. President-Elect's Report (Ron Nault):

2.1 Legislative Affairs Committee (Roy)

- 2.1.1 Establish a Legislator Award (Chris, Roy) Tentatively State Representative Joseph Serra* – Prior to this meeting, Chris Holden distributed proposed selection criteria for the “Legislator of the Year” Award for the Board to review. Jay Silva made a motion, which was seconded by Greg Holness, to formally accept the Legislator Award Selection Criteria as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2.1.2 House Bill 785 (An Act Concerning Construction Change Orders - To limit the amount of unapproved change order work imposed on contractors and subcontractors)* – Chris Holden will research this bill for CSCE.
- 2.2 Water Resources Committee (Tom)** - The Committee now has 6 members and a speaker & topic has been chosen for the April dinner meeting. This information needs to be forwarded to the Newsletter Editor as soon as possible.
- 2.3 Professional Development Hours/Continuing Education Units** – Ron Nault will contact Paul Brady of ACEC to obtain more information about the possible provision of PDHs or CEUs by CSCE in the future.

3. Vice-President's Report (Rob Barakat): Public Relations Committee - This item was not discussed.

4. Secretary's Report (Jason Waterbury): Administrative Activities - Distribute ACE applications – Amy Petrone mailed the applications today.

5. Treasurer's Report (Greg Holness):

5.1 Summary Report – Greg Holness will distribute a summary report for the past couple of months after this meeting.

5.2 Scholarship Committee

5.2.1 Update the address information on the account and add the Treasurer to the mailing list for the quarterly reports (Jim) – This item was not discussed.

5.2.2 Two Checks for \$500 to UConn – When the CSCE Board approved this year's budget, it decided that the approved budget includes money for these types of requests and they would be honored on a first come, first serve basis. As a result, the Treasurer should forward two checks for \$500 to the UConn Student Chapter of ASCE to support their concrete canoe and steel bridge teams.

6. Newsletter Editor (Peter Heynen):

6.1 USPS vs. Email – Greg Holness made a motion, which was seconded by Jason Waterbury, to provide the membership with one more month of the newsletter via the USPS mail. This motion passed unanimously. After this last round of USPS delivery of the newsletter, the newsletter will be available to members via e-blasts and the CSCE website.

6.2 Separate Email List – Peter Heynen would like to request Quasars to create an email distribution list separate from the one generated by ASCE so that CSCE can add individual email addresses as needed.

7. Director-II (Billy Cunningham):

7.1 Audit Committee (*Set firm date to audit CSCE books*) & *Nominating Committee* – These items were not discussed.

8. Director-I (Jay Silva):

8.1 Awards - Younger Member Award National – Since the application for the latest nominee for this award did not include any involvement in CSCE or community service activities, the CSCE Board did not act favorably on the application.

8.2 Website

8.2.1 Update Committee Pages to appear similar to Technical Groups – This has not been completed yet.

8.2.2 Update ACE Awards section to include all the winners, not just the sponsors. – This has been completed.

9. New Business

9.1 Professional Engineer Ethics – Jay Silva raised the issue of professional ethics and suggested that CSCE take a more active role in encouraging and supporting ethical practices in engineering. The Board members discussed this issue and raised the following points:

9.1.1 The P.E. Board needs to be more enforceable – CSCE should examine how other state's P.E. Boards (especially Maine and New Jersey) have disciplined professional engineers who have not acted ethically.

9.1.2 Publicize Code Sections in CSCE Newsletter – To educate its membership, CSCE could include a description of sections of the codes that are often ignored in each edition of the newsletter.

9.1.3 Educate Building Officials – Determine how CSCE could provide information to local building officials to educate them about recent code changes or issues with engineers who practice outside of their area of expertise.

To follow-up on this topic, Jay Silva will speak with Tom DiBlasi about professional engineer ethics, will provide written material for the next CSCE newsletter on this topic and would like to spearhead the effort to have CSCE become more involved with this issue.

10. Adjournment – Jay Silva made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 p.m. Peter Heynen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The next meeting of the CSCE Board is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11th in New Haven at 4:00 p.m.