

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (March Meeting)**

### Board Members:

A.J. Smith (AJ)	(President)
Christopher Nye (Chris)	(1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President)
Firat Sever (Firat)	(Treasurer)
Matt Baxendell (Matt)	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President)
Zach Stolarsky (Zach)	(Secretary)
Brooks Vogel (Brooks)	(Member-at-Large/Newsletter Editor) (Not Present)
Carlos Vazquez (Carlos)	(Past President)

### Guests, Past Board Members, Younger Members:

Peter Narsavage (Peter)	(Website Editor, Ohio Council) (Not Present)
Jason Ross (Jason)	(Student Section Advisor, OSU)
Patrick Karnes (Patrick)	(President, Younger Members)
Jim Pajk (Jim)	(Ohio Council) (Not Present)
Bob Heady (Bob)	(Student Section Advisor, OU) (Not Present)
Mark Seidelmann (Mark)	(Past President) (Not Present)
Dave Pritchard (Dave)	(Past President)
Daniel Pradel (Daniel)	(OSU Professor/ Geo-Institute) (Not Present)

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The meeting was convened at 11:30 AM at the Hull & Associates office (Dublin, Ohio). The participants are listed above.

### **Secretary's Report (Zach Stolarsky)**

Approved meeting minutes were posted online.

### **Treasurer's Report (Firat Sever)**

Average amount in the account is lower than last year. Keeping track of electronic withdrawals and deposits with star chapter still an issue. The banks has returned the fees that were charged in error.

### **Luncheons (Christopher Nye)**

Over 50 people attended the March luncheon

The April Luncheon has been moved to April 27 at LaScala to accommodate the speakers. The board meeting has been moved up a week because of this. We will need to bring a projector. Chris will be out of town and AJ will be there to check in attendees.

June planning meeting. Firat wanted to know if the venue can change. The board agreed it could. We will expect 20-25 people to attend. Firat will need an updated group of people who represent the different area organizations. The invitation will be sent to our membership as well. A list of possible topics will be brought in case there isn't enough brought up by attendees to get the discussion started.

Golf outing – Jim will be sending out sponsorship letters next week.

## **Webinars**

April 17 – Effect of Fill Soil Structures on Subsurface Utilities and Adjacent Structures (at EL Robinson)

AJ has confirmed the section marketing and revenue for ASCE webinars. We must use the promo code when ordering the webinar.

Design of Geomembranes webinar will be hosted by S&ME. The last time this webinar was viewed was over 3 years ago.

## **Technical Seminar (Matt Baxendell)**

The agenda is done and the speakers have been confirmed. Matt gave his personal credit card to the Fawcett Center to hold the reservation. It won't be charged until the event but Matt will replace his personal card with an ASCE one so there won't be a need for reimbursement. As of the morning of the board meeting, there are only 11 attendees signed up. Dave also sent out invitation to advertisers including OPWA, he will also contact Metroparks, Madison County, and Yay Bikes. The idea was brought up to reach out to municipalities. Firat suggested to advertise on LinkedIn.

Jim brought up that the cost of the one day seminar maybe was too much for non-members and even members. The seminar used to be one of our big fundraisers in years past but now we don't quite need to earn anything off of it. He would much rather see the section take a \$1000 loss on a seminar that attracts a lot of folks and directly benefits the member than spend that money for hockey or soccer tickets. In the future maybe offering government employees a discounted rate for the seminar. LTAP and OTEC does this as does other groups. A non ASCE member that works for a government agency would have to pay \$165. OTEC is 2 days and costs about the same with a chance to earn over 10 pdh's.

The idea was brought up to take Jims advice to lower the cost of the event for this year and reimburse those people who had already signed up. This idea was rejected. The thought was brought up to extend the early bird registration for this year's event to the day before the event. Voting for the motion: Firat, Carlos, Matt, AJ, and Chris. Voting against the motion: Zach. Motion passed, early bird registration will be extended to the day before the event.

Matt will send a more custom email for the next reminder. The speakers already are allowed to stay and eat lunch, and obtain pdh's. The idea was brought up to let speakers bring 2 or 3 people from their company. This will be looked at next year. We will pay for at least 35 people no matter what. Dave will help with sign up the day of the event.

Carlos brought up the fact we no longer use a representative logo for the seminars, webinars, etc. Chris brought up that there might be an issue with the template.

## **Newsletter (Brooks Vogel)**

The newsletter will get sent next week or early the following week.

## **Website (Peter Narsavage)**

Nothing to report

## **Younger Member Group (President – Patrick Karnes)**

The STEM expo was well attended with just under 500 students checking in. This number does not include walk in. There were nearly 40 activities sponsors. A debrief of the Expo was held the night before the board meeting and thoughts included that parking at COSI was a challenge. If COSI charges for use of the facility, even a reduced rate, we most likely won't host there again. The space was very crowded with the events in the hallway leading to the Expo stopped flow. The bill for parking was approximately \$2000.

COSI sold \$156 of ASCE tickets to Dream Big which translates to approximately 39 people.

## **E-Week's ASCE Dream Big film at COSI, released on Feb. 24 (Carlos)**

Nothing to report

## **Student Chapter Practitioner Advisors (OSU – Jason Ross, OU - Bob Heady)**

OVSC is next week. Jason will send an email to promote to members.

The board has given to OSU for the OVSC but will still have the costs of our annual gift, the golf outing, and scholarship.

It was reported by Bob that taxes for the OU students are filed by the University. That will continue to be the case moving forward.

## **Ohio Council (Peter Narsavage)**

Jim informed the Board via email that this fall our section will need to supply a board member to the Ohio Council.

This year's legislative day will include the new ethics requirements for PE renewal as a topic of discussion.

## **Membership Events**

CBJ Hockey Game went well with approximately 80 attendees. ASHE will be sending the check soon for their part of tab.

ASHE and Engineers club have reached out about a joint Crew game outing.

Trap shooting event was arranged by Chris at Blackwing for Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup>. This would be the Friday after Memorial Day and interferes with the Memorial Golf Tournament. This event has been rescheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. This would be an afternoon event with lunch at 1:00, then 2 rounds of shooting and wrap up at 3. Attendees can stay longer if they want. This event will be limited to 30-40. There will be a couple of groups in each "house" to encourage socialization. Nonmembers will not subsidized for this event. We will most likely subsidize 25-30% of the cost for members. The idea was brought up for corporate sponsorships for this event. We won't be doing that for this event but will keep it in mind for future event.

Annual golf outing is June 23

## **Other Items of Business**

### **GeoInstitute Chapter**

Hosted the TH Wu Lecture with approximately 50 people attending.

### **UESI Chapter**

MOU signed with national. Firat has the goal to arrange 3 events year with the first one coming this summer.

### **President-Elect Swallow visit planning**

Patrick has reserved Columbus Brewing Company Wednesday evening from 5:30-8:30. Younger members will require funds to cover to costs of the appetizers and drinks. They will also need an advance for the golf outing.

Monday morning, May 18<sup>th</sup> OSU is sponsoring a breakfast at the Blackwell. This will include valet parking. Chris is hoping to have mailed invitations next week to the list of invitees. Carlos wants to make sure higher level STEM expo sponsors are on list.

Luncheon will be at Schmidt's downtown.

### **Legislative Fly-In March 14-15 in Washington DC (Brooks Vogel, Jim Pajk)**

Jim Pajk, Mark Ogden, and Brooks were there from Central Ohio. Also 1 member from Cincinnati, and 2 from Cleveland. The "blizzard" forecast made it difficult to get there for the day we were scheduled to arrive with all flights cancelled. Brooks went early, Jim came late, and Dave Pritchard ended up not coming.

Jim, Mark, and Brooks visited the offices of Senators Brown and Portman, as well as Representatives Tiberi, Stivers, and Beatty.

This year we were pushing the 2017 National Report card which was released the week or so before we were there. Most had seen the publicity and knew of the poor grades. Everyone we met with agree that something must be done with the issue being how to pay for it. Mark Ogden was on the report card committee for dams/levees.

We also asked them to appropriate funding for the bills they passed last year. This was for both the transportation (FAST Act) and water/water resources (WINN/WRDA) bills.

- 2016 FAST Act increased transportation funding, but the lack of a spending bill has it operating under a continuing resolution with funding levels from the previous bill. \$1.3 BB is in the bank not being spent.
- 2016 WINN/WRDA bills need funded for Dam Safety, High Hazard Dam Rehab, and Levee Safety.
- We also asked to triple the funds for the Clean & Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, which was part of Trump's infrastructure plan at some point.

The last item was keeping municipal bonds tax free. These are a potential target to remove their tax exemption as congress explores tax reform as a funding stream.

Most of the Ohio contingent made the "front page" in ASCE's daily Smart Brief email (attached, toward the bottom of the email, and story here: <http://news.asce.org/asce-members-bring-report-card-message-to-capitol-hill/>)

The event seemed pretty successful. Several of the staff we met with we'd met with before, so that makes for a better discussion/idea exchange.

## **Section Dues Review**

The current rate of \$16 for members will remain the same. Dave will look into what other sections in Ohio charge for their dues.

## **2017 Board Elections**

Patrick has accepted his nomination and will run for secretary

## **Section Member of the Year, Engineer of the Year**

This will need to be discussed at the next board meeting.

## **Presidents and Governors Forum September 17<sup>th</sup>**

Chris can't attend. Firat will look into if he can attend. This is a smaller group at ASCE national on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**The next meeting will be on April 20, 2017 at 11:30 AM at the Hull & Associates office (Dublin, Ohio).**

This meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Submitted,  
Zach Stolarsky  
Secretary – Central Ohio ASCE