



**Nebraska Section Board Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2012, 6:00 pm
Parker's Smokehouse, Ashland**

1. *Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions (DeVivo)*

Attendees: Joe Flaxbeard, YMG
Andres Torres, YMG
Marie Stamm, Director
Mike Sklenar, President-Elect / Interim Treasurer
Ticha Rohan, Transportation
James Wingert, AEI Liaison
Scott Gilliland, Structural
Daren Konda, Past President
Shannon DeVivo, President
Greg Seib, Newsletter

2. *Meetings for 2012-2013 (DeVivo)*

a. *Board meetings - hold before each monthly meeting? Or separately (DeVivo)*

Some will be held before Section meetings and some on their own night. DeVivo will develop a potential schedule, but it will be subject to change based on the agenda each month. Meetings anticipated to take longer will be held separately, likely in the URS Conference Room (or other west Omaha location, to aid those coming from Lincoln).

b. *Tentative Section Meeting Dates (typically the third Thursday of the month)*

- i. *September 13 (Structural – Conference on Friday 9/14)*
- ii. *October 18 (Construction)*
- iii. *November 15 (Management/Government)*
- iv. *January 17 (Water Resources – with UNL Chapter)*
- v. *February 21 (Geotechnical – Conference on Friday)*
- vi. *March 21 (Environmental)*
- vii. *April 18 (Transportation – with UNO Chapter, Conference on Friday)*
- viii. *Annual Banquet - typically in May, move due to graduations/conflicts?*

Let DeVivo know if there are changes to this tentative schedule. We should consider when to hold the Annual Meeting to improve attendance.

c. *rsvp@neasce.org email*

Registration for Section meetings will continue to be through the online system. PayPal has not been set up to pay for Section meeting registration fees. Mike Sklenar stated that it is easier to manage money if people pay at the door. There are also fees associated with PayPal transactions. Registration for Section conferences will still utilize PayPal.

d. *Name Tags*

New name tags will be ordered with the new logo. We will purchase them for board members and everyone who attended two or more meetings last year. No credentials



will be included (P.E., E.I., M.ASCE, etc.) Konda will prepare a list of names and begin the effort to obtain name tags.

3. *Newsletter (DeVivo/Seib)*

The Newsletter deadline will be three weeks before the meeting. As a rule of thumb, shoot for the 1st of the month to get articles submitted for inclusion. The newsletter will be distributed no less than two weeks before the Section meeting; Seib needs a few days to assemble it. Feel free to send articles for inclusion.

4. *Habitat for Humanity Build - Saturday 8/25 (DeVivo)*

More volunteers for the Habitat for Humanity build day on 8/25 would be helpful. We will be installing the fence NEASCE has donated. Contact John Hill with questions.

5. *Truss Bustin' - 25th Anniversary (DeVivo)*

Truss Bustin' 2013 will likely be held at PKI or the Scott Conference Center. Attendance was down last year at the SAC Air & Space Museum. It will probably be tag-teamed with some other E-Week events at UNO (Discovery Days, Learning for Life Engineering Day). This will be the 25th Anniversary of Truss Bustin'. Hill's goal is 250 entries – please help promote the event and make contacts with schools/teachers. He would also like more money for prizes – both more “categories” or places and more substantial prizes (iPad was a suggestion). The Board also discussed providing funding for the Section to buy its own testing machine.

6. *Results of Survey (DeVivo)*

NEASCE sent out a couple of surveys over the summer. DeVivo provided the raw data to meeting attendees. Nothing jumped out as particularly stunning in the responses, though there was some interest in lunch meetings. DeVivo will provide a summary of the survey for the Board and for the newsletter. Raw data attached.

7. *Workshops and Training*

a. *Region 7 Assembly (Torres)*

- i. *Summary of 2012 Meeting*
- ii. *Financial Support from Region for outreach events*
- iii. *Annual Board of Governors meeting in Omaha - Aug 16-17, 2013 or Aug 23-24, 2013 (Torres)*
- iv. *Director Griffiths section meeting attendance (Torres)*

- Torres provided copies of his Region 7 Assembly meeting summary (previously emailed). Key items: grant requests due to Region 7 by Nov. 1, the NE Section should consider nominating individuals for awards (forms available in October).
- Potential outreach activities to tag-team with events at UNO/PKI were discussed. Torres provided a handout (attached). The Section is interested in these opportunities; some money will be budgeted and we will request a grant from Region 7 for the rest. Gilliland also shared additional information on the Learning for Life Engineering Day, as he has worked with the Exploring program (through Boy Scouts) before. Torres also stated that Engineers without Borders is a potential opportunity for donating time or funds. EWB participation is encouraged through ASCE National and helps promote the image of civil engineers (see handout attached).
- Region 7 would like to hold their August 2013 meeting in Omaha. Torres and Stamm have been working with the Region Board. The Section will likely



sponsor refreshments for the Board and Assembly. Potential dates: Aug. 16-17 or Aug. 23-24. Potential locations: downtown or PKI/UNO area.

- Region 7 also has money for Governors to attend Section/Branch events. Director Griffiths has expressed an interest in coming to Nebraska for an event or official activity (such as the Annual Meeting). His area of expertise is geotechnical engineering, but he will be out of the country during the Geotech Conference. The Board felt it would be good to showcase one of our conferences, so Torres will check his availability for the Transportation Conference. If he is available, perhaps he could speak during the conference. Other activities would include the Section meeting and potentially a tour of UNO or UNL.

b. Request for Annual ASCE Meeting Support (Torres)

Torres will be presenting at ASCE's Annual Conference this October in Montreal. He requests funding from the NE Section to supplement what his employer is willing to pay. A detailed request was provided via email earlier this week (attached). The Board feels it is important to support members who are involved with ASCE on a national/Society level and intends to honor his request. The budget typically includes money for Annual Conference reimbursement (line 35A); we felt this would be adequate to cover his expenses. Torres will provide a report and information on the conference for the newsletter.

c. WSBL - January 11-12 Milwaukee, WI (DeVivo)

Anticipate Sklenar (as Pres-Elect) and one other to attend. Suggestions are welcomed. Governor Loras Klostermann typically attends. Also, Stamm will be attending on behalf of the Leader Training Committee. Early bird deadline will likely be late October.

d. Central Region Younger Members Council January 11-12 Milwaukee, WI (Torres/Flaxbeard)

The YMG would like to send at least a couple of individuals. They also would like to submit nominations for the Central Region YMC's awards this year. More information will come (nomination forms likely in November), but start thinking now.

8. No SPAG: State Public Affairs Grant (DeVivo)

There will not be any SPAGs this year due to budget concerns and changing committees on the Society level.

9. 2013 Budget (Sklenar)

The draft budget was reviewed line by line. Items to note included:

- Usually, we make around \$7k each year. FY 2012 will likely be closer to \$2k due to the donation for the Student Conference (concrete canoe, steel bridge, etc.) UNL hosted.
- Receipts – interest and grants will be reduced.
- Receipts – line 30 for FY 2012 currently includes some Geotech Conference vendors; this number will be closer to budget after the year is finished and the money is designated as geotech funds (Sept. 30).
- Disbursements – line 35C should be called "Younger Member Training" as the YMLS is undergoing changes, but the Committee on Younger Members will continue to offer YM training in various formats.



- Last year the Future City activities (lines 60E through 60H) went over the budget. DeVivo will contact Dave Nielson to get a more reasonable budget for this year. Sklenar will revise the budget as discussed and distribute to the Board for review prior to the September Board meeting.

10. *New Business (DeVivo)*

a. *Vacant offices*

- Vice President*
- Secretary*
- Treasurer*

Mike Sklenar will sit in as interim treasurer, but we would like to find a member to take over for the new fiscal year and run through the entire fiscal year. Board members are encouraged to discuss these openings with other members who may like to get more involved in limited roles. They can get in contact with DeVivo or any board member for information.

b. *State of Infrastructure Report Card*

Dale Jacobsen contacted Scott Gilliland recently to inquire about the status of a Nebraska Infrastructure Report Card. Several years ago (Stamm – Maly, at the time – was President), we initiated an effort and Gilliland was to spearhead the effort. Due to the economy and a variety of things, we never got much farther than a short list of areas to investigate. The Section is interested in doing an Infrastructure Report Card, but needs to have a champion or two to lead the effort (with work, family, and his current position on the board, Gilliland cannot do it). Gilliland will convey this information to Jacobsen and inquire about current tools available from ASCE to assist in the effort.

11. *Adjourn – Next Meeting September 13 (DeVivo)*

The board meeting will be held prior to the Structural Section Meeting at McKenna's steakhouse.