

**Meeting Minutes**  
**ASCE ND Section Spring Meeting**  
**April 19, 2011**  
**Prepared by: Brandon Oye**

The 2011 spring meeting of the ASCE ND Section was held at the Doublewood Inn in Fargo on Tuesday, April 19, 2011. President Charles Moretti commenced the business meeting at about 7:00 pm.

There were no available minutes to approve from the previous meeting held on October 19, 2010.

Charles Moretti presented the president's report. He stated that the members need to start thinking about building up the chapter.

Brandon Oye presented the treasurer's report for review. The total expense was \$21.25. The total deposit was \$730.18. The ending balance as of April 19, 2011 is \$6,522.26. It was stated by John Frauenhoffer, Region 3 Governor, that the section will also receive money from ASCE National for allotments and dues that were held since the section was no longer functioning. The treasure should be receiving this check soon. The amount was unknown at the time. The financial report is attached to the minutes. The treasurer's report was accepted.

Charles Moretti asked Brandon Oye to discuss the different areas that the ND Section of ASCE could build on which included the following:

**Continuing Education**

It was discussed to set up a Continuing Education Committee that would organize events to provide opportunity to receive PDHs between the spring and fall meetings. Matt Walsvik and John Wirries volunteered to head the Continuing Education Committee. They will be responsible to look into options for providing continuing education opportunities that would be made available to ASCE members.

**Membership Recruitment**

John Frauenhoffer, the ASCE Region 3 Governor and Secretary-Treasurer, asked members to find a friend or young engineer and bring them to the section meetings. The benefits of being a member were discussed which included 1) Ability to help with national issues 2) Networking 3) Continuing education opportunities. It was discussed to encourage DOT employees to become members. Some of the issues restricting people from joining is that their employers may not give credit to join or help with membership dues. The employers need to be on board with the benefits their employee will receive by being a member. It was discussed to contact local employers about paying for their employee's membership dues. It was also discussed to have smaller groups of members to meet in the different larger towns across ND, then one larger Section (State) meeting would be held per year to combine the efforts of all. Lawrence Woodbury stated that he knows some leaders in Bismarck that he can tap into to possibly start a Bismarck group.

It was discussed to try to get a Bismarck college chapter started. The Membership Recruitment Committee needs to follow up with ASCE student members after they graduate to become ND Section members. Ryan Callahan stated that he would help initiate conversations with Minot firms and professionals to encourage membership. It was also discussed to start thinking about a different kind of section meeting, possible a noon hour meeting to get PDHs. Don Anderson and Dick Anderson volunteers to head the Membership Recruitment Committee.

### **Volunteer Programs**

Brandon discussed trying to start looked for some volunteer opportunities that the ASCE ND Section can do together as a group. Jerod Klabunde volunteered to head the Volunteer Programs Committee.

### **Public Relations**

It was discussed to do things that provide more exposure for the ASCE ND Section. Possibly write a letter or editorial to the newspaper. It was discussed to put together an ASCE ND Section website. Garrett Brunell, NDSU ASCE Student Chapter member, stated that he helped put together the student chapter website. Garrett volunteered to help put together a ND Section website. No Public Relations Committee head was designated for this area.

No discussion on possible awards committee.

### **Other discussion from our ASCE National guests:**

Eriks Ludins, the ASCE Region 3 Director, asked if our section would sent a representative from our section to the Washington DC “Fly-In”. They have been doing the program for 12 years. Anyone in ASCE can apply for fly in. The group flies out to Washington DC to set up appointments with senators and congressman to discuss what is important to them in the civil field. The flight cost and \$100/day for hotel will be paid for. You will need to pay for miscellaneous cost. The fly in will be in mid to late March.

Andrew Herrmann, the National ASCE President-Elect, discussed the Key Contact Program. When you are part of the program, ASCE sends you emails when important bills come up for vote. This gives you the chance to compose comments and contact your local representatives on how you feel they should vote.

Eriks Ludins, the ASCE Region 3 Director, stated that they are looking for a member from the ND Section to be part of the Region 3 Assembly being held in Chicago on August 12-13.

The business portion of the meeting closed.

President-Elect Andrew Herrmann did a presentation discussing ASCE’s three initiatives: infrastructure, competency, and sustainability, but focused mainly on sustainability.

Questions asked of Andrew Herrmann after his presentation:

How is ASCE National helping with the Japan tsunami? Mr. Herrmann stated that teams from ASCE went to Japan to study how infrastructure performed and they are reporting back as to what changes we need to make to improve our codes and standards.