

**Section Meeting Minutes**  
**ASCE ND Fall Meeting**  
**October 27, 2016**  
**Prepared by: Nick Kalenze**

One topic entitled “Engineering the Future” was held from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM, which was presented from our guest speaker: Bob Stevens, PhD., P.E., F.ASCE, Arcadis Executive Vice President, ASCE National Past President (2015).

**The President-Elect called the business meeting to order at 6:30 PM.**

The President-Elect opened the meeting with introduction of all guests.

**1) Previous Minutes**

- a. The minutes from the 2016 Spring Meeting held on April 21, 2016 were reviewed. Motion by Brandon Oye to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Murali Vegi. Motion passed.

**2) President’s Report**

- a. Tony Eukel was not able to attend the meeting.

**3) Treasurer’s Report**

- a. Brandon Oye presented the Treasurer’s Report. Current account balance as of October 27, 2016, is \$8232.28. Murali Vegi motioned to approve the Treasurer’s report, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr. Jerath (UND). Motion passed.
- b. The proposed 2017 budget was reviewed and is currently at \$8,050. There will be an estimated \$6,000 allotment to the current balance by the end of year. Brandon will re-evaluate the budget by the end of the year with the goal of maintaining a healthy budget. Daba Gedafa motioned to approve the 2017 budget, entire Section 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.

**4) Committee Reports**

**a. Continuing Education Committee Report**

1. Tom Klabunde reported that they held a webinar Lunch & Learn in July in both Fargo and Grand Forks. Nick Kalenze assisted with setting up the event in Grand Forks. There were an estimated 15 attendees in Fargo and 11 in Grand Forks.
2. I-Hsuan Ho is the new Grand Forks Committee chair for Grand Forks.
3. They will continue to work on setting up future Lunch and Learns in Fargo and Grand Forks in the future. Tom reported they are interested in hosting one in the winter (November or December) and would like to move the site around a little to engage more members to attend. Tom mentioned if anyone is willing to host as a site that they should let him know.

**b. Volunteer Events Committee Report**

1. Vicki Schneider, the Volunteer Events Chair, reported on last year’s opportunities including: the STAY grant, volunteering from the Section with an event during E-Week at DGF Middle School in Dilworth, and KLJ which hosted a small panel session and first generation session, “Upward Bound.” Alexa Ducioame mentioned about the “Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day” at NDSU during E-Week, including an activity on “How High Can You Launch a Ping Pong Ball” with Matt Walsvik.

**c. Membership Committee Report**

1. Taylor Braaten is the new Membership Committee Chair for Fargo. Iraj Mamaghani is the new Membership Committee Chair for Grand Forks. Matt Walsvik passed on information to

Taylor including 60 current members that are in need of paying Section dues. We currently have over 300 members. Taylor will reach out to members who have not paid and renewed, as last year's statistics on membership will indicate that the members should pay dues and renew membership by the end of the year. Within the next year, Taylor estimated that we will have three more members. Taylor is working closely with Jerod Klabunde on boosting membership. Taylor mentioned that membership is heavily populated on the eastern part of the state.

**d. Social Committee Report**

1. Jerod Klabunde was not present for the meeting, but he relayed information to Murali Vegi that in Fargo-Moorhead, they hosted a Red Halks baseball game for Section members this year which was a successful event for the Section. Other information Jerod passed on included an upcoming tour of the Fargo Brewing Company as a social event on November 16. They have 10 more spots for members to attend.

**e. Webmaster**

1. Alexa Ducioame reported that the website has all events updated on it. She also posts key events on the ASCE ND Section Facebook page. Alexa mentioned to encourage our members to keep sharing these events to promote ASCE and our Section page.

**5) Old Business**

**a. ASCE Region 3 Assembly Report**

1. The Section sent Nick Kalenze (Secretary) to attend this event in Chicago on August 12-13. He mentioned that Bob Stevens was in attendance and presented at the Region 3 Assembly. He also noted that the ASCE Grand Challenge was discussed, including the goal of reducing life cycle cost for infrastructure by 50% by 2020. Other topics of discussion included green infrastructure and Illinois utilities (transportation, water, etc.).

**b. Student Chapter Updates**

1. Keith Korman, UND ASCE Student President presented on behalf of the UND Chapter. He mentioned that since the last year the chapter has had two meetings, primarily to address the goals of the Chapter, including the Steel Bridge participation. Upcoming, the UND Chapter is planning on asking a couple of companies in the area on goals they envision for the Chapter.
2. The UND Student Chapter is proceeding as if they are not going to be receiving the STAY grant this year.
3. Keith mentioned that they have tried to contact "Habitat for Humanity" but have received no response. The Chapter is looking at potentially talking to area schools about engineering as a future activity.

**6) New Business**

**a. Volunteers Needed**

1. Alexa noted that two committee chairs are still needed: a Social Chair and a Volunteer Chair in Grand Forks.
2. Brandon noted that elections occur every two years in our Section, such as for Secretary and for Treasurer.
3. Murali mentioned it is good to see that our Section is having more volunteers becoming involved in our Section. Members interested in volunteering for a chair can let a Board Member know, as there are some preliminary responsibilities laid out for the chairs.

**b. ASCE Dream Big Film, Engineer's Week 2017**

1. Alexa reported that ASCE is putting together the "Dream Big" film that will be played at NDSU during E-Week next February. Alexa handed out a sign-up sheet for this event looking

for volunteers. Alexa noted that Holly Erickson is planning to show the film at NDSU after showing the students around the school and the Concrete Canoe competition.

c. **ASCE Steel Bridge Competition at NDSU**

1. NDSU will be hosting the Midwest Regional Conference Steel Bridge Competition in March 2-4, 2017. They are looking to have more students to volunteer for help. The 11 schools in that region come together for the three-day event. They will need speakers/presenters/judges for the event. The Student Chapter asked if the ND Section would help with the event planning so that the students can focus on the bridge planning/event. More details will come in the future with a possible planning meeting date to be set. Alexa handed out a sign-up sheet for this event looking for volunteers.

d. **UND & NDSU Student Chapter Outstanding Student Awards**

1. Daba introduced and presented the award (\$400) to Keith Korman, an outstanding Civil Engineering student at UND. Lincoln Regula, from NDSU, is another exceptional student and was the other award recipient but was not in attendance for the meeting.
2. Brandon reported that our Section is looking for outstanding students to provide the awards to at the Annual Spring meeting. The budget currently allots \$400 per student award. Brandon noted that he appreciates all students who have been involved with ASCE to receive these awards.

e. **ASCE Legislative Fly-In**

1. Daba noted that he and Murali met briefly with Senator, John Hoeven to discuss related issues to ASCE and have broached the discussion to members of Congress to increase funding to help with infrastructure costs.
2. This year Daba is the Captain of North Dakota Section. Daba mentioned that one or two more people could participate. There will be a request on if ASCE National comes up. ASCE Nationals are looking to find advocacy.
3. Murali mentioned for our Section to please send e-mails for any interest to attend.
4. The Legislative Fly-In event next year is March 14-15 for the whole day.

f. **ASCE North Dakota Section Report Card Possibility**

1. Our Section is interested in looking at a report card for our state. Brandon and Murali discussed this topic. We would need volunteers, including committee members to lead the effort: at least one or two people are needed.
2. For the report card, the NDDOT Transportation would help with providing data.
3. Our Section would look at the potential of paying companies to help with planning.
4. The ultimate goal of having a state report card would be to help the profession and address issues across the state.

Brandon Oye requested motion to close the business meeting at 8:30 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vegi. Motion passed.