

Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE) Board Planning Meeting Conference Call via Teams Monday, January 7, 2022, at 12:00 P.M. EST



The conference call/meeting began at 12:00 p.m. The following people were in attendance on the call:

Brianna Ritacco, CSCE President
Scott Nolan, CSCE President-Elect
Aaron Foster, CSCE Vice President
Rich Cohen, CSCE Secretary
George Gerard, CSCE Director I

Danielle Spicer, ASCE Region 1 Governor
Katie Klose, Younger Members Group President
Roy Merritt, CSCE Legislative Affairs Committee Chair
Alex Mora, Chair of CT Chapter of the ASCE
Structural Engineering Institute
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant

1. Review/Approve CSCE Board Conference Call Minutes - November 8, 2021, and December 3, 2021

Brianna Ritacco made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting/call on November 8, 2021. Aaron Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Board will review the minutes from the meeting/call on December 3, 2021, at the meeting/call in February 2022.

2. Report from ASCE Region 1 Governor

- The Multi-Region Leadership Conference (MRLC) will be virtual and is scheduled for 1-5 p.m. on February 9-11, 2022. There is still time to register for it. Region 1 is looking to hold a follow-up meeting after the MRLC.
- From March 2-4, ASCE will host a Legislative Fly-In.
- The Eastern Regional Younger Member Council (ERYMC) is scheduled to be held from June 10-11, 2022. The session on Friday will be all day long and the session on Saturday will be in the morning followed by an awards ceremony in the afternoon.
- Region 1 would like to have an abbreviated Assembly, possibly in-person. Parts of the Assembly may be held in the summer months and outdoors.
- The next ERYMC planning meeting is scheduled for next Thursday. Katie Klose will contact Danielle Spicer next week to finalize the plans for ERYMC and the Assembly.
- Aaron Foster will contact Danielle Spicer to get input about scholarships from ASCE National and to get ideas from other sections of ASCE. To get information from other sections, CSCE could also ask a question in the ASCE Collaborate community.

3. Recent Events

Monthly Virtual Lunch Meeting on December 15, 2021 – This meeting was sponsored by the CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute. The meeting went well and featured a presentation on Benjamin Wright.

4. Upcoming Events

4.1 Monthly Dinner Meetings

- Virtual Lunch Meeting on January 26, 2022 – This meeting will offer a presentation by GM2 Associates on the UHPC bridge and is co-sponsored by the CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute and the ASCE Student

Chapter at the University of Hartford. In preparation for the meeting, CSCE needs to get the speaker biographies, learning objectives and the PDH questions from GM2 Associates.

- Meeting on February 16, 2022 – This meeting will offer a presentation by CT DOT Deputy Commissioner Mark Rolfe on a topic related to the infrastructure bill. The meeting is co-sponsored by the CSCE Legislative Affairs Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at Quinnipiac University. The meeting may also feature recorded messages from U.S. Senator Blumenthal and U.S. Representative Larson. This will be a free meeting and no PDHs will be offered. After a discussion of the pros and cons of holding the meeting in-person, the Board decided to hold the meeting virtually because of the recent increase in Covid-19 cases in Connecticut.
- In-Person Dinner Meeting on March 22, 2022 – This meeting will offer a presentation coordinated by the Fairfield County Branch of CSCE. The topic of the presentation at this meeting will be the Reconstruction of Upper & Lower Toll Plazas and Southbound Approach at the Henry Hudson Bridge by Siefert Associates. Branch President Ron Hill will move forward with this topic/speaker for this meeting. CSCE will decide about a month before the meeting if the meeting will be held in-person or virtually.
- Meeting on April 13, 2022, at the USCGA – This meeting topic is to be determined and will be coordinated by the CSCE Government Engineers Committee. Brianna Ritacco contacted Committee Chair Rabih Barakat about a speaker/topic for this meeting so that the speaker/topic will not duplicate the speaker/topic from the February 2022 meeting.
- Virtual Lunch Meeting on May 10, 2022 – Topic: Applications of iTwin – This meeting will be sponsored by the Connecticut Section of the ASCE Transportation and Development Institute.

4.2 ACE Awards – The winners of the 2021 ACE Awards were notified and promoted in the CSCE newsletter and via email from Constant Contact. CSCE will wait until February to release the 2022 ACE Awards applications.

4.3 2022 Geotechnical Spring Workshop – Date/Topic/Location: TBD

4.4 2022 SEI Structures Seminar – Date: June 2022 – The working topic of the seminar is construction challenges and failures. The SEI-CT Chapter would like to have at least one day of the seminar be in-person so that Professor Epstein can give a presentation.

5. CSCE Executive Board Activities

5.1 Report from President

- The Board discussed 2022 in-person protocols for holding vs. canceling meetings (CT currently at 24% positivity). It could hold in-person meetings when Connecticut is in one of the lower transmission percentages of positivity as shown in the table below.

	Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
Percent Positivity	0-4.99%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	>= 10.0%

- Welcome Letters - Upgraded Membership – Brianna Ritacco is still working on this task.
- Membership Demographic Survey – Brianna Ritacco will coordinate with Amy Petrone on this task.
- Progress on 2021-2022 Goal 1 – CT DOT Involvement – Brianna Ritacco received good feedback on the CT DOT Lunch and Learn on December 7, 2021, and CSCE’s activities after December 7th. She had sent information about the

DOT partner program to the CT DOT Deputy Commissioner for consideration. She will follow up with him about the information.

- Progress on 2021-2022 Goal 2 - WTS Joint Event – Brianna Ritacco is coordinating with Katie Klose on a webinar that may be held in March 2022.
- PayPal Issues - Aaron Foster met with Dave Chapman on Monday to review CSCE's issues with PayPal about a dinner meeting payment, the need for an individual's birthdate to restore all of CSCE's capabilities with the account and updating account holder information. Dave Chapman called PayPal and it is unclear as to why a birthdate is required for a payment. Dave Chapman is going to resolve the issue and then move forward with updating CSCE's account information.

5.2 Report from President-Elect

- Update on 2021 PDH Record Keeping to Date – The January 2022 meeting will offer PDHs. Scott Nolan has the PDH records completed for the meetings during September, October and November.
- Upcoming ERYMC - SLR Consulting would like to sponsor the upcoming conference. The Younger Members Group will send out sponsorship information next week.
- Scott Nolan's 2021-2022 goals are to manage CSCE's involvement with the ASCE's MOSAIC program, which could include a review of CSCE's scholarships, and to focus on health/decrease stress.

5.3 Report from Vice President

- Connecticut Trolley Museum – CSCE could help with its fundraising event on June 25, 2022. This type of activity would likely be considered to be a community outreach event that could be included in CSCE's annual report to ASCE.
- One of Aaron Foster's 2021-2022 goals is to apply for an ASCE Section Award on behalf of CSCE.

5.4 Report from Secretary

- Rich Cohen updated the CSCE Operational Manual Appendix to update the Bylaws for the CT Chapter of the Transportation & Development Institute. He will distribute the updates to the Board members for their review and comments.
- One of Rich Cohen's 2021-2022 goals is to identify and address gaps in CSCE's Section Award Application.

5.5 Report from Newsletter Editor

The January 2022 Newsletter is anticipated to be released during the week of January 24-28. People should contact Brianna Ritacco with ideas for the engineer spotlight or to volunteer to write the biography.

5.6 Report from Director I

- Vertical Banner – George Gerard would like to include the ERYMC logo on the CSCE banner. He will reach out to Katie next week for a logo file.
- New CSCE Laptop Bag – George Gerard shopped for a bag for CSCE's new laptop. He found one for \$46.99: (<https://www.bestbuy.com/site/samsonite-laser-pro-slim-briefcase-for-17-3-laptop-black/7082106.p?skuId=7082106>). He will also look at Lands' End to see if it has a laptop bag with the CSCE logo on it.

6. Reports from Technical Group/Institute/Committee Chairs/Fairfield County Branch

6.1 Legislative Affairs Committee - SE Licensure – CSCE is interested in hearing the opinions of other organizations on this topic. Roy Merritt will reach out to other organizations like ACEC to get an idea of their opinions on the proposed legislation. Brianna Ritacco may reply to the email from Robert Zygmunt related to SE Licensure and ask him to speak at a future meeting of a subset of the CSCE Board and the CT Chapters of the ASCE Institutes.

6.2 Infrastructure Report Card Committee – Roy Merritt reviewed the list of volunteers who offered to help with the Infrastructure Report Card and what topic would be the best fit for them. The Committee will aim to finalize the authors of the sections by next week. CSCE may be able to write a new section in this or future report cards based on the volunteers' interests and availability. The Committee would like to have a kickoff meeting before the end of January 2022 and release the report card in September 2022.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.