

**Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE) Board Planning Meeting Conference Call via Teams
Friday, February 4, 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
Clay Patterson, CSCE Treasurer
Rich Cohen, CSCE Secretary
Tyler Parker, CSCE Newsletter Editor
George Gerard, CSCE Director I
Danielle Spicer, ASCE Region 1 Governor

Tom Loto, CSCE Water Resources Committee Chair
Katie Klose, CSCE Younger Members Group President
Roy Merritt, CSCE Legislative Affairs Committee Chair
Ron Hill, Fairfield County Branch President
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 - December 3, 2021, and January 7, 2022

Brianna Ritacco made a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings/calls on December 3, 2021, and January 7, 2022. Scott Nolan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Report from ASCE Region 1 Governor – Danielle Spicer

- ASCE Steel Bridge Competition – The competition runs from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 23, 2022. To help promote CSCE at the event, CSCE could send 1-3 volunteers to it. Volunteers will sit at a table to promote ASCE and CSCE information.
- The Multi-Region Leadership Conference (MRLC) will be held virtually next week on February 9-11, 2022, from 1-5 p.m. The in-person portion of this event will be held from June 10-12, 2022. A pamphlet of events will be sent to sponsors and to Danielle Spicer so she can share it with other ASCE Governors.
- Virtual Breakout Meeting Room for just Region 1 from 11-12:30 p.m. on February 18, 2022 – More information on this meeting is forthcoming.
- Upcoming Region 1 Assembly – A meeting with ASCE Governors was held. It was decided that Region 1 would combine its Assembly with the Eastern Regional Younger Member Council (ERYMC) and hold the Assembly from 8 a.m. to 12 Noon on June 10, 2022. It will be an in-person event with a virtual element. Attendees who would like to attend the Assembly or ERYMC in person should look into booking a hotel room through the ERYMC. The next ERYMC meeting with ASCE is scheduled for February 10, 2022. Katie Klose will talk with Danielle Spicer after this meeting.
- September 23-24, 2022 – The Region 1 Fall Assembly is scheduled to be held in-person in upstate New York. Hopefully, this Assembly will be similar to past in-person Assemblies.

3. Recent Events

Monthly Virtual Lunch Meeting on January 26, 2022 – This meeting was sponsored by the of CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute. The meeting went well and featured a presentation on the Rehabilitation of Bridge 03094 of I-91 using Ultra-High Performance Concrete (UHPC).

4. Upcoming Events

4.1. Monthly Meetings

- 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.
- 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. The Board discussed holding this meeting in-person since Connecticut has a 7.43% positivity as of 1/27/22, which represents a moderate transmission rate. The Board decided to hold the meeting in-person and discussed the various rates it could charge for registration. After discussing its options, Brianna Ritacco made a motion to charge the following rates for meeting registration:

CSCE Member with PDH = \$40+\$10 = \$50

CSCE Member without PDH = \$40

Non-CSCE Member with PDH = \$50+\$10 = \$60

Non-CSCE Member without PDH = \$50

Scott Nolan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. CSCE will come up with a Covid-related statement to post with the meeting information. CSCE can see what the City of Norwalk's requirements are related to Covid. At a much larger recent event (NEWEA conference in Boston), attendees were tracked by an app.

- 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. Alternatively, CSCE could ask someone from the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) or the Department of Public Health (DPH) to speak at this meeting. Regarding the student award distribution that occurs at this meeting, Brianna Ritacco will contact Aaron Foster to see if the nomination forms need to be updated for 2022. She will include Scott Nolan and Amy Petrone on the email she sends to him.
- 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. Ranjit Bhavne provided speaker names/bios and a presentation overview to Amy Petrone. Photos are requested to help promote the meeting.

4.2 CSCE/WTS Joint Webinar from 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. on March 1, 2022 – Stephanie Slocum, P.E., will give a presentation about Breakthrough Conversations. CSCE will manage the registration process, which will be set up next week. Katie Klose will send information from the speaker to Brianna Ritacco and Amy Petrone.

4.3 2022 Geotechnical Spring Workshop – Date/Topic/Location: TBD – To help plan for this event, Amy Petrone will ask UNH about holding an in-person event like the workshop there.

4.4 ACE Awards – To update the 2022 application forms and prepare them for release, Rich Cohen offered to review the 2021 application forms. When scheduling future ACE Awards, CSCE should avoid scheduling the event on the dates of the CT AWWA conference and NEWEA conference. The date of the 2022 ACE Awards (May 26th) may be in conflict with the 2022 CT AWWA conference and NEWEA conferences.

4.5 2022 ERYMC - June 10-12, 2022 - A portion of the 2021 event is going to be virtual, but the ERYMC is still going to be held in-person and will have similar expenses to those of past events.

4.6 2022 SEI Structures Seminar – Date: June 2022 – The working topic of the seminar is construction challenges and failures. The SEI-CT Chapter is still looking for speakers and would like to offer 4-6 presentation topics.

5. CSCE Executive Board Activities

5.1 Report from President

- Virtual MRLC - 2/9/22 - 2/11/22 - People can still register for this event.
- Welcome Letters - Upgraded Membership – Brianna Ritacco sent these letters.
- Goal related to CT DOT Involvement – Brianna Ritacco followed up with Deputy Commissioner about the DOT partner program. This involvement may be complicated. As such, she is still working on this item.
- CSCE External Hard Drive – To back up the files on the CSCE laptop, CSCE would like to buy a hard drive. The Board reviewed 2 options. After a discussion of the options, Brianna Ritacco made a motion to purchase a Toshiba Canvio Flex 2TB Portable External Hard Drive (USB-C USB 3.0, Silver for PC, Mac, & Tablet - HDTX120XSCAA) for approximately \$59. George Gerard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Sharing Presentation Recordings Online – CSCE can share the link to presentations through its OneDrive account. CSCE can also upload videos to YouTube. Brianna Ritacco and Amy Petrone will look into this option for sharing videos.

5.2 Report from President-Elect

- Scott Nolan will be finalizing the PDH records for the meeting on January 26, 2022.
- Scott Nolan will reach out to Clay Patterson for the PDH information related to the geotechnical fall 2021 mini-series.
- Scott Nolan is still interested in helping out with the ASCE/CSCE MOSAIC/Membership Demographic Survey but cannot lead the effort at this time.

5.3 Report from Vice President

- Brianna Ritacco will contact Aaron Foster about the status CSCE's Paypal Account
- Aaron Foster will reach out to Clay Patterson about the transfer of all the Treasurer records.

5.4 Report from Treasurer

- The account balances for CSCE's accounts are as follows: Savings (\$59,584.12) and Checking (\$28,639.27). CSCE aims to maintain a \$10-15,000 balance in its checking account.

5.5 Report from Secretary

- Discussion/Vote on Changes to Bylaws for CT Chapter of Transportation & Development Institute – Brianna Ritacco made a motion to accept the changes related to the bylaws for the CT Chapter of Transportation & Development Institute and incorporate them into CSCE's existing bylaws/appendices. Clay Patterson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Identifying and addressing gaps in ASCE section award application - Rich Cohen will contact Brianna Ritacco and George Gerard for more information about the gaps.

5.6 Report from Newsletter Editor

- For the February 2022 Newsletter, Tyler Parker will include an overview of a 2021 ACE Award Project winner. If anyone has an idea for an engineer spotlight, they should send it to him. The newsletter is planned to be distributed before the meeting on February 16, 2022.

5.7 Report from Director I

- To store and carry the CSCE laptop, the Board discussed some options for a laptop bag. After this discussion, Brianna Ritacco made a motion to buy a bag from BestBuy for \$46.99 (<https://www.bestbuy.com/site/samsonite-laser-pro-slim-briefcase-for-17-3-laptop-black/7082106.p?skuId=7082106>). George Gerard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

6.1 Legislative Affairs Committee

- SE Licensure - CSCE will try to set up a meeting during the week of February 22, 2022. ACEC met and discussed SE licensure on February 9, 2022. Roy Merritt will ask ACEC about the outcome of that meeting.
- Infrastructure Report Card – The authors met with Christine Prouty from ASCE on February 2, 2022. People will now begin to draft the sections of the report card. The Committee will begin to look at the first drafts on April 1, 2022. The Committee aims to send a draft report card to ASCE by July 1, 2022. The estimated release date of the report card is September 27, 2022, which is 6 weeks before Election Day. Maybe DOT could be involved informally in the report card process.
- The CT Legislative Session begins on February 9, 2022.

6.2 Water Resources Committee

- EWRI – This Committee is still trying to transition itself into a CT Chapter of the EWRI

6.3 Younger Members Group – This Group is looking for volunteers.

7. Nominations for ASCE Awards

CSCE can nominate members for the following awards before March 1, 2022:

- Civil Engineering Entrepreneur of the Year Award - This award was established by the ASCE Committee on Developing Leaders to recognize entrepreneurs who create successful private-sector organizations that employ civil engineers and/or expand the civil engineering horizon.
- Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award - This award was established by the Government Engineers Division to recognize distinguished civil engineers employed in public service for significant engineering contributions as a practitioner in public service.
- Edmund Friedman Professional Recognition Award - This award was established to recognize the importance of professional attainment in the advancement of the science and profession of engineering, as defined by the Constitution of the Society.

- Outstanding Public Official Award - This award was established to recognize those members of the engineering profession who have rendered meritorious service in elective or appointive positions in government.
- Parcel-Sverdrup Civil Engineering Management Award -_The John I. Parcel-Leif J. Sverdrup Civil Engineering Management Award recognizes effective leadership and management skills in the civil engineering profession.

With no new business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

The next CSCE Board meeting will be at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, March 4, 2022, via Microsoft Teams.