

CSCE Board Conference Call
Friday, March 19, 2021, 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:

George Gerard, CSCE President
Brianna Maljanian, CSCE President-Elect
Scott Nolan, CSCE Vice President
Aaron Foster, CSCE Treasurer
Clay Patterson, CSCE Secretary
Katie Klose, Younger Members Group President
Jud Wible, Golf Outing Chair
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant

Tom Loto, Water Resources Committee Chair
Ranjit Bhawe, Chair of CT Chapter of the Transportation & Development Institute
Ron Hill, President of the Fairfield County Branch of CSCE

1. Review/Approve Meeting Minutes from CSCE Board Conference Call on February 19, 2021

The meeting attendees reviewed the meeting minutes from the CSCE Board Meeting/Conference Call on February 19, 2021. George Gerard made a motion to approve the minutes. Brianna Maljanian seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. ASCE National Update - Danielle Spicer provided the following updates via email to the Board prior to this meeting:

- The ASCE Region 1 Assembly is next Friday, March 26, from 12-4:30 (virtual). A great agenda has been prepared and ASCE would love participation from the CT section. The email with the link should be going out either today or tomorrow.
- The MRLC is going to be virtual. CSCE members should have received an email from Nancy Berson of ASCE with the links. The event will be from 2-4 p.m. on April 7-10, 2021. With it being virtual, there is no limit on attendance. So, it is a great opportunity to attend.

CSCE determined that there is no cost to attend the MRLC. People were encouraged to log in and listen to the Assembly on March 26.

3. PayPal Debit Card – A letter from Webster Bank is needed to transfer the authorized user on the account to obtain a debit card for CSCE’s PayPal account. Scott Nolan will send a copy of this letter to Aaron Foster.

4. Student Scholarship Nominations – Seven nominations have been received to date (including 2 from high school seniors). CSCE has not received any nominations yet from the University of Connecticut, Central Connecticut State University or Three Rivers Community College. Amy Petrone will reach out to those schools today. CSCE would like to notify the award winners by April 6, 2021.

5. Laptop Battery – CSCE’s laptop battery is dead and the 1-year warranty on the laptop ended in September 2020. George Gerard will look into the cost to replace the battery and determine if CSCE should replace the battery or the laptop. The laptop is still usable, but it needs to be plugged in.

6. Recent Events

February 23 Virtual Lunch Meeting co-sponsored by the Legislative Affairs Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at the University of New Haven – This meeting went well.

March 16 Virtual Lunch Meeting sponsored by the Fairfield County Branch – This was a good technical presentation and CSCE had received a pdf of the presentation just in case it was needed. However, some people could not access the chat feature in Teams during the meeting.

7. Upcoming Meetings/Presentations

April 16 - 2021 Spring Geotechnical Virtual Seminar – Presenters will be sending pdfs of their presentations to Clay Patterson. George Gerard will give the CSCE laptop to Clay Patterson prior to this seminar.

April 20 – Virtual Lunch Meeting – This meeting is co-sponsored by the Government Engineers Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. The speaker will be CT DOT Commissioner Joseph Giulietti. George Gerard provided input on the topic for the Commissioner’s presentation to Committee Chair Rabih Barakat. He will also coordinate with Rabih Barakat about the timing of the student awards and the presentation. Amy Petrone will add information to the meeting registration page about the student awards announcement being at the beginning of the meeting, so people will know beforehand. CSCE would like to have a photo or live screenshot of the student award winners in addition to the presentation by the ASCE Student Chapter and the Commissioner’s presentation. Since this meeting will include the awards announcement and to include enough time for questions, the Commissioner’s presentation may not be an hour long. This will be a free meeting and no PDH will be provided.

May Meeting – CSCE needs to decide if it would like to hold a meeting in May. A suggested topic was the Walk Bridge replacement in Norwalk. Brianna Maljanian offered to get more information about this topic. CSCE would like to decide about holding a May meeting by the next CSCE Board meeting in April.

June 16, 18 and 23 - Structural Webinar sponsored by the SEI-CT Chapter. George Gerard shared the following information that was provided by Chapter President Alex Mora via email prior to this meeting:

- The webinar speakers have confirmed days and times. The Chapter is waiting for the presentation information (final topic/title, presentation summary and bio).
- There will be five (5) hours of presentation on code-prescribed Wind Loads, lessons learned from wind-related disasters, revisions to ASCE 7-22 Wind section, introduction of tornado loads for the northeast, and machine learning applications in wind engineering.
- 5 NYS PDHs will be offered to attendees.
- The NY Metro and Boston Sections of ASCE will be invited to participate in this webinar. ASCE is asking the Chapter to invite other SEI Chapter chairs as well.
- The fee for these presentations will be developed soon.
- Images for each of the presentations will be provided to Amy Petrone for the webinar promotional materials.
- Registration may open up this month.
- ASCE mentioned that the Chapter may increase the number of attendees by having other sections use their platforms. Alex Mora will look into this and find out more details. Alternatively, CSCE can sign up for another platform that would allow for more than 300 attendees for 1 month to accommodate this meeting.

September 9 - 2021 ACE Awards at the Aqua Turf Club - Brianna Maljanian reviewed last year’s award nomination forms and sponsorship forms and provided comments to George Gerard, Scott Nolan and Amy Petrone. George Gerard will look at the sponsorship levels with Brianna Maljanian, Amy Petrone and Aaron Foster to see if they should be reduced for 2021 because of the pandemic. CSCE will need to take into account that it will be distributing 2020 and 2021 Awards at this year’s ACE Awards.

Annual Golf Outing – Date: TBD (Possibly August) – This is a fundraiser for the CSCE scholarship fund. People who are interested in helping to plan for this outing should contact Jud Wible. He is also a member of the CT Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) and it sold its highest sponsorship level (\$5,000) for its 2021 golf outing scheduled for June 2021. So, that is encouragement that companies are still interested in sponsoring fundraising activities despite the pandemic. Amy Petrone will send out a volunteer request for the golf outing via Constant Contact.

8. Younger Members Group – President Katie Klose provided the following information:

MRLC CT 2022 Update

- There are no sponsorship updates at this time.
- Some companies were waiting until 2021 to decide about sponsoring the 2022 MRLC.
- Scott Nolan reached out to MMI, which is becoming SLR, about a sponsorship.
- There will be a 2022 MRLC meeting on March 30, 2021, when logo designs will be reviewed. If people would like to attend the meeting, please contact Katie Klose.

ASCE Business Meeting on May 7-8, 2021 – This meeting will be held during the virtual Eastern Regional Younger Member Council (ERYMC) and Jodi Greene and Katie Klose will run it. Katie Klose will find out if there is a cost to attend this event and let CSCE know. As a clarification, the Multi Region Leadership Conference (MRLC) is geared more for branch leaders, etc. and the ERYMC is focused more on the interests of Younger Members.

9. Water Resources Committee Update - Committee Chair Tom Loto will work towards transitioning the Committee to become the CT Chapter of the EWRI. Anyone interested in this effort should contact Tom Loto. Amy Petrone will send out a volunteer request for this effort via Constant Contact.

10. Update from President-Elect – Brianna Maljanian will work with Aaron Foster to review the 2020 student scholarship applications to get email addresses to add to Constant Contact. She needs to speak with Roy Merritt about the next Infrastructure Report Card for Connecticut. Anyone interested in managing the update of the 2018 Infrastructure Report Card in 2022 should contact Brianna Maljanian. Ranjit Bhave offered to send names of people who may be interested in helping with the update to the CSCE Board.

George Gerard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brianna Maljanian seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m. The next meeting will be via Microsoft Teams at 12:00 PM Noon on Friday, April 23, 2021.