

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

Jodi Constant, YMG ERYMC Co-Chair
Katie Klose, Younger Members Group President
Tom Loto, CSCE Water Resources Committee Chair
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 - February 4, 2022, and March 4, 2022

Brianna Ritacco made a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings/calls on February 4, 2022, and March 4, 2022. Scott Nolan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Report from ASCE Region 1 Governor – Danielle Spicer

2.1 ASCE Steel Bridge Competition - 1-3 Volunteers are requested to be at the University of Connecticut on April 23, 2022.

2.2 ERYMC Coordination

The meeting attendees discussed a Eastern Region Younger Members Conference (ERYMC) funding request. Katie Klose had emailed Danielle Spicer and they will speak separately. She shared a presentation about the ERYMC with the attendees that included the following information:

- If anyone on the CSCE Board is interested in judging the awards at the ERYMC, please contact Katie Klose.
- A business meeting is hosted at this conference that will include voting on resolutions.
- The ERYMC will be located at the Hartford Marriott from June 10-12, 2022.
- A tentative schedule of events was shared with the group.
- There are 14 sponsors and the YMG applied for a grant from ASCE to support the events during ERYMC.
- A sponsor update will be distributed on April 11, 2022.
- Ticket sales will be run for the evening socials.
- Most of the expenses related to the socials are estimates based on the maximum capacity of the venues.
- The YM Council will be giving out awards.
- The awards banquet is on Saturday and will feature a keynote speaker. In past years, the socials have capped out so some people were unable to attend. This year, the group did not want that to happen.

Following the presentation, the following motions were made:

Aaron Foster made a motion to allocate \$11,500 of CSCE's funding to ERYMC 2022. Brianna Ritacco seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Aaron Foster made a motion for CSCE to pay \$37,341 for various expenses for ERYMC 2022. Brianna Ritacco seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Brianna Ritacco made a motion to spend \$125 on the YMG Social. Aaron Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2.3 ASCE Representative at the 2022 ACE Awards – Billy Cunningham had reached out to ASCE to request a representative attend the 2022 ACE Awards. The ASCE representative needs a full day of activities in order to attend the event. Brianna Ritacco contacted Danielle Spiced to see if there are other sections of Region 1 who could help with that visit.

3. Recent Event - Monthly Dinner Meeting on March 22, 2022 – The topic was the Reconstruction of Upper & Lower Toll Plazas and Southbound Approach at the Henry Hudson Bridge, and the presentation was given by Vincent Siefert, P.E., and Lucas Morgan, P.E., of Siefert Associates at the Norwalk Inn in Norwalk, CT. There were 23 attendees at the meeting, and all were very happy to be back in person.

4. Upcoming Events

4.1 Monthly Meetings

- April 13, 2022 – The presentation topic is CT’s Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding. Student awards will be distributed at this meeting. This year, there were over 30 award applicants, and the Board will be voting on the student award recipients this week. Since the COVID Positivity Rate in Connecticut is 3.1% (low transmission) as of March 26, 2022, CSCE will proceed with hosting the meeting in-person. The meeting will be held at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, which requires people to show proof of vaccination or proof of negative test before entering the Consolidated Club, which is where the dinner will be held. If people are unvaccinated, they will need to wear masks.
- May 10, 2022 – This will be a virtual meeting at noon. The topic will be Applications of iTwin. Registration has been open for this meeting.

4.2 2022 ACE Awards - May 26, 2022 – The following information was discussed:

- Applications were due March 31, 2022. A few were received.
- The deadline will be extended to April 15 and the extension will be promoted on the CSCE website, on Constant Contact and on LinkedIn.
- Brianna Ritacco is working on the schedule for the evening with Amy Petrone and will coordinate with others as needed.

4.3 2022 Geotechnical Spring Workshop – This event was cancelled. A seminar is planned for the fall. Ben Cote and Clay Patterson will meet with a potential Chapter leader soon.

4.4 SEI Structures Seminar – Tentative Date: June 17, 2022 – The Chapter is still gathering information from one speaker and still deciding on the location.

5. CSCE Executive Board Activities

5.1 Report from President - Brianna Ritacco – The following information was shared:

- Goal – CT DOT Involvement - Brianna Ritacco and Katie Klose met with CT DOT Deputy Commissioner Mark Rolfe and ASCE last week to discuss this issue. They will meet with the CT DOT's legal team on contract language in April 2022.
- Presentation Recordings – This issue will be tabled for now.
- Vote on Fly-in Reimbursement – Three people from CSCE attended the recent legislative fly-in in Washington, DC. The costs were \$1,800-1,900 per person. Brianna Ritacco made a motion to pay \$3,800 to two CSCE members to reimburse them for their expenses related to the fly-in. George Gerard seconded the motion and it passed 6-0 (Aaron Foster abstained).
- Open Board Positions – The Secretary & Newsletter Editor positions are open. Any people interested in either position should contact CSCE or Amy Petrone.

5.2 Report from President-Elect – Scott Nolan – The following information was shared:

- Steel Bridge Competition – Scott Nolan has reached out to UConn to find out how many volunteers are needed. When people are needed to be there still needs to be determined.
- PDH Records - Clay Patterson and Amy Petrone can help out with providing information to Scott Nolan for the 2021 geotechnical seminar.

5.3 Report from Vice President – Aaron Foster – The following information was shared:

- A debit card for the Webster bank account was ordered.
- Clay Patterson's name was removed from the Webster bank account and Tyler Parker's name was added to it.
- Constant Contact/Paypal Account Access – The credit card issues with these accounts were resolved.
- CT Trolley Museum Fundraiser Event - CSCE can advertise the event and encourage people to attend the event.

5.4 Report from Secretary – Rich Cohen is working on a plan for high school outreach/presentations.

5.5 Report from Newsletter Editor – Tyler Parker – The following information was shared:

- People should send ideas for articles (engineer spotlight, project spotlight, etc.) to Tyler Parker.
- The April Release Date of the newsletter is during the week of April 25-29.
- CSCE can promote ACE awards applications in the newsletter.

5.6 Report from Director I – George Gerard – The following information was shared:

- Vertical Banner – The ERYMC 2022 shape file was obtained. It will be added to the CSCE banner.
- CCSU Student Chapter/Faculty Advisor – George Gerard will follow up with Dr. Cliff Anderson from CCSU on this issue.

5.7 Report from Director II – Ben Cote is now the ASCE Geo-Institute (G-I) Region 1 Local Involvement Committee (LIC) Chair! Congratulations Ben!

6. Reports from Committee/Group Chairs

6.1 Legislative Affairs Committee - Chair - Roy Merritt – The following information was shared:

- SE Licensure - CSCE met with Robert Zygmunt. The Structural Engineer (SE) License needs to be accepted in other states. CSCE should keep lines of communication open on this issue.
- Gas Tax Holiday – There was no real opportunity for public comment on this issue. CSCE will try to reach out to the assembly to see how any shortfall will affect the special transportation fund. Hopefully, there will be no major impacts to the CT DOT's general revenues.

6.2 Infrastructure Report Card Committee – Roy Merritt – The following information was shared:

- Drafts are due on April 1. The chapters will be assembled next week.
- By mid-April, all chapters should be in a format that can be shared with the CSCE Board and the Committee.
- By May 15, information without grades will be shared with agencies.
- By mid-June, comments should be received.
- By July 1, CSCE intends to submit a draft to ASCE.

6.3 Younger Members Committee President – Katie Hedberg-Klose – There will be a Younger Member Social on April 28, 2022.

The next board meeting will be on Friday, May 6, 2022, at 12 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.