

CSCE Board Conference Call

Friday, May 15, 2020, at 12:00 PM EST



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

ASCE Region 1 Governor Danielle Spicer
2019-20 CSCE President/CT Valley Geo-Institute Chair Ben Cote
2019-20 CSCE President-Elect George Gerard
2019-20 CSCE Vice President Brianna Maljanian
2019-20 CSCE Treasurer Scott Nolan
2019-20 CSCE Director I David Chapman
2019-20 CSCE Director II Chris Beaulieu
2019-20 CSCE Fairfield County Branch President Ron Hill
2019-20 CSCE Golf Outing Chair Jud Wible
2020-22 CSCE Younger Members Committee President Katie Klose
2020-21 Structural Engineering Institute – CT Chapter Chair Alex Mora
2020-21 CSCE Secretary Clay Patterson
2020-21 CSCE Newsletter Editor Tim Ariosto
CSCE Administrative Assistant Amy Petrone

The following items were discussed:

1. Review/Approve Meeting Minutes from CSCE Board Meeting/Conference Call on April 17, 2020

The meeting attendees reviewed the meeting minutes from the CSCE Board Meeting/Conference Call on April 17, 2020. Ben Cote made a motion to approve the minutes. George Gerard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Upcoming Dinner Meetings/Events

July 17, 2020 Geotechnical Workshop – This event has been cancelled because the University of New Haven is closed until at least August. Ben Cote notified the speakers on May 7, 2020. He asked if they would be able to come back in April 2021 for a rescheduled workshop and they said they are willing to come back in 2021 for the same workshop topic. Amy Petrone sent out an email notification about the workshop cancellation and refunded participants and sponsors.

September 15, 2020 – ACE Awards – This event was rescheduled due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The awards application deadline has been rescheduled to July 31, 2020. The formal installation of the 2020-21 CSCE Officers is scheduled to occur at this event.

3. Proposed 2020-2021 Board Members

The Board discussed the installation of the following list of proposed 2020-2021 CSCE Officers:

President: George Gerard	Treasurer: Aaron Foster	Director I: Ben Cote
President-Elect: Brianna Maljanian	Secretary: Clay Patterson of Langan	Director II: Dave Chapman
Vice President: Scott Nolan	Newsletter Editor: Tim Ariosto of WJE	

Ben Cote confirmed via email on April 20, 2020, that Clay Patterson of Langan would serve as Secretary, and confirmed via email on April 21, 2020, that Tim Ariosto of WJE would serve as Newsletter Editor.

The Board discussed the virtual/in-person installation of the 2020-21 CSCE Officers. Aaron Foster had previously shared with the Board that he did not see any mention in the CSCE Operations Manual about other requirements for installation. Amy Petrone contacted ASCE to see if an ASCE representative could install the incoming Board over the phone prior to September. Danielle Spicer replied on April 22, 2020, that the installation of the incoming Board officers could be done virtually and it is up to CSCE to set it up. Ben Cote made a motion to have the installation of the 2020-21 CSCE Officers in mid-June 2020 via Zoom at the annual CSCE Planning Meeting, the length of which will probably be shorter than in past years since it will be held via Zoom. The officers will be inducted in person at the ACE Awards on September 15, 2020. Brianna Maljanian seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

On a related topic, it was suggested that CSCE's monthly meetings in 2020-21 could be held online and speakers could be asked to prepare to do their presentations virtually just in case the meeting cannot be held in person.

4. Fairfield County Branch

Nidal AbiSaab of RA Consultants (NYC) emailed Ron Hill on April 20, 2020, about his interest in becoming more active in the Branch. Ron Hill and/or Ben Cote will contact him next week.

CSCE should use Ronaldphill@gmail.com as the most current email address for Ron Hill.

5. Region 1 Assembly in Connecticut - June 6-7, 2020

The in-person portion of this event has been cancelled. A virtual Assembly is scheduled for Friday, June 5, 2020, from 1-4:00 p.m. EST. The agenda is being finalized and will be distributed at a later date. CSCE Board members are encouraged to attend this event to connect with ASCE National and Regional representatives. There will be a virtual happy hour with other sections in Region 1 on Thursday, May 21, 2020. It is expected that the Spring 2021 Region 1 Assembly will be held in-person in Connecticut.

6. Treasurer/Financial

Scott Nolan has sent checks to the New York State Education Department (NYSED) for CSCE's Professional Development Hours (PDH) Sponsor application and to the students who were selected to receive 2020 student awards. He will send out a check to pay Amy Petrone's Administrative Assistant invoice this week.

7. Younger Members Committee (YMC)

Katie Klose provided the following information about recent YMC activities. A Committee meeting will be held sometime next week regarding virtual resources and virtual events. ASCE approved the YMC to host the 2022 ERYMC in Hartford at the Marriott, but the YMC has not received any news recently from ASCE related to the event.

8. CT Valley Geo-Institute

September 25, 2020 – 23rd Annual Fall CSCE Geotechnical Seminar - Topic: Coastal Resiliency, Climate Change and Geotechnical Engineering at the Sheraton Hartford South, Rocky Hill, CT – The confirmed speakers & topics are:

- a. Jenn MacGregor and Robin Seidel from Kleinfelder - "Resiliency Planning for Boston Neighborhoods"
- b. James O'Connell from CIRCA at UConn - "Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding: A Strategy for Adaptation in Connecticut"
- c. Daniel Stapleton from GZA GeoEnvironmental - "Geotechnical Engineers, Resilience and Climate Adaptation - Moving from Deterministic to Risk-Based Approaches"
- d. Devin Santa and Azure Dee Sleicher from RACE - "Beaches, dunes & more: How sand can play a role in a resilient coast"
- e. Brian Maggi from USCGA - "Reinforcing Dunes & Coastal Bluffs with Geosynthetics"

f. Doug Gaffney from Mott MacDonald - “Adapting Coastal Infrastructure for Climate Change”

CSCE would like to gather the PDH information from the presenters by the end of July so that it can be submitted to the Practicing Institute of Engineering (PIE) for PDH approval.

9. Structural Engineering Institute – CT Chapter

As the new chair of this Chapter, Alex Mora introduced himself and provided some background on his work history and professional interests. He has worked on structural engineering projects since college and in the last 16 years, he has primarily worked on structural projects in the marine industry. He is interested in structural engineering topics related to marine structures like windfarms, piers, etc.

Other CSCE members who are interested in helping with the Chapter activities include Sangyul Cho of HNTB Rocky Hill, Tim Ariosto of WJE, and Byungik Chang of the University of New Haven.

The Chapter will explore the possibility of hosting a day-long seminar in late 2020 or 2021.

10. Golf Outing

Jud Wible provided the following information about the golf outing:

The Committee held a conference call on April 22, 2020. Due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Committee decided to postpone the golf outing until the fall, possibly during the second half of September.

Jud Wible was going to contact the Timberlin Golf Club to determine available dates and report back to the Golf Outing Committee. If available, the Committee will reconvene during the first week in June for continued planning/determination of sponsorships. If unavailable, the Committee will review dates via email to come up with the best-case scenario and set a schedule for planning.

Three (3) CSCE volunteers have signed up to help with the Outing.

11. Student Scholarships – The certificates and checks were mailed out to the students selected for the 2020 awards.

12. 2020 Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize

CSCE Associate Member Dr. John Fortner of Yale was awarded this prize for his pioneering work on the fundamentals and applications of environmental nanotechnology for advanced water treatment and remediation technologies. To honor this achievement, CSCE will post the information on LinkedIn and in the next newsletter. CSCE will discuss the possibility of inviting him to be a speaker at a dinner meeting in 2020-2021 at a later date.

13. Social Media Platforms - Facebook Account Status – ASCE approved CSCE’s application to start a Facebook account. Amy Petrone will begin setting up the account soon.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting/Zoom meeting call is scheduled for Friday, June 19, 2020, at 12 PM noon EST.