

CSCE Board Conference Call Friday, August 14, 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:

George Gerard, CSCE President
Brianna Maljanian, CSCE President-Elect
Aaron Foster, CSCE Treasurer
Clay Patterson, CSCE Secretary
Tim Ariosto, CSCE Newsletter Editor
Ben Cote, CSCE Director I & CT Valley Geo-Institute Chair
Danielle Spicer, ASCE Region 1 Governor
Ron Hill, CSCE Fairfield County Branch President
Alex Mora, SEI-CT Chapter Chair
Ranjit Bhawe, TDI-CT Chapter Chair
Jud Wible, CSCE Golf Outing Chair
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant

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

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

2. Region 1 Update

September 25 - ASCE Region 1 Fall Assembly in Sheraton, Rocky Hill, CT – This event will be held virtually from 12:30-4:30 p.m. George Gerard will send out a meeting invitation. If an in-person event can be held in spring 2021, ASCE will try to hold it in Connecticut.

September 10-12 - ASCE Presidents & Governors Forum – This event will be held virtually and more information about it can be found in the email sent from Nancy Berson of ASCE.

January 2022 – The Eastern Region Younger Member Council (ERYMC) Conference is scheduled to be held in Connecticut. The 2021 ERYMC Conference in North Carolina has been moved from January to June 11-12, 2021.

3. Upcoming Events

September 25 - ACE Awards Dinner – There will be a virtual notification of awards on September 25 and the 2020 ceremony will be combined with the 2021 event. CSCE still needs to determine the type of virtual notification (graphic, video, etc.). Emails could be sent directly to winners, followed by an announcement sent to the CSCE member list via Constant Contact. Applications will be reviewed in early September. Amy Petrone and George Gerard will work together on an email describing the virtual 2020 ACE Awards.

September 4, 9, 11, 2020 - Connecticut Valley Geo-Institute Virtual Mini-Series: Coastal Resiliency, Climate Change, and Geotechnical Engineering – CSCE changed the format of its 1-day seminar to three two-hour sessions on 3 days. CSCE will continue to refund seminar registrants and the Mini-Series will be promoted on LinkedIn.

CSCE needs to make a formal decision on which hosting platform to use for the Mini-Series (Microsoft Teams vs. Zoom). The Board discussed the following topics related to platforms:

- Zoom costs more than Teams.
- CSCE has a basic account with Zoom that does not have full webinar capability.
- The ASCE Geo-Institute Assembly was recently held on Teams and it worked well.
- A decision needs to be made soon so that the speakers can try out the platform.
- Teams can be run through an app or a browser.
- After this Mini-Series, CSCE could also use Microsoft Teams instead of Zoom for its meetings.
- Webex also works well for presentations but is limited to 200 participants.
- Intrado conference platform works well.

Following this discussion, it was decided that CSCE would use Microsoft Teams for the Mini-Series. Ben Cote will try out Teams with the speakers and the CSCE Board can help test out the platform prior to the event.

September 29 - Virtual Lunch Meeting - Water Resources Topic – Water Resources Committee Chair Tom Loto is looking for speaker for this meeting. CSCE would like to have students from the University of Hartford involved with this meeting.

October 9 – Golf Outing – Timberlin Golf Club, Berlin, CT - ITS is no longer a sponsor of the outing. ITE and CSCE are working together to coordinate the details of the outing. Jud Wible will send an updated flyer to Amy Petrone for distribution and a conference call for the organizing committee will be scheduled soon.

October 13 – Virtual Lunch Meeting – At this meeting, Dimitrios Konstantakos of Deep Excavation, LLC, will speak on, *The Future of Geotechnical Engineering and Construction*. CSCE would like to have students from the Central Connecticut State University involved with this meeting.

November 17 - Virtual Lunch Meeting - Construction Topic - The Connecticut Chapter of the Construction Institute Chair Billy Cunningham is looking for a speaker for this meeting. CSCE would like to have students from Quinnipiac University involved with this meeting.

Name Change & Registration Cost for Meetings – For the time being, it was decided that the monthly meetings would be called *Virtual Monthly Meetings* since they may be held at times other than in the evening. As for costs, it was determined that CSCE would charge \$20 per monthly meeting and provide 1 Professional Development Hour (PDH) for attendees to partially cover the application costs of recently becoming a New York State PDH sponsor. In 2021, CSCE will look into offering a company rate for meetings.

4. Update on Banners - New banners will be purchased since the CT Chapter of the Transportation & Development Institute has been established and its logo can be added to the banners.
5. UConn Professional Development Webinar - Brianna Maljanian will contact UConn to find out how many CSCE members registered for the webinar.

6. Treasurer/Financials – Scott Nolan will meet with Aaron to review the Treasurer files. Related to the accounts at Webster Bank, the signatories on those accounts will be just the current Treasurer, immediate past Treasurer, and possibly a third person who will serve as a long-term signatory (i.e., a past President/Treasurer like Bob Gomez). CSCE needs to provide a letter to Webster Bank from the current CSCE President stating that the signatories are legitimate. Aaron Foster will also ask if the address for CSCE at Webster Bank could be CSCE's P.O. Box.
7. Structural Engineering Institute – CT Chapter – The Chapter has a topic for the structural dinner meeting in January 2021. The topic is the restoration of the Perry Memorial Arch in Bridgeport. More details will be forthcoming. The Chapter is also considering hosting a structural seminar in 2021 on topics related to storm-related damage to infrastructure (wind-, structural-, water-related topics).
8. Transportation & Development Institute – CT Chapter – The CT Chapter of this Institute has been established thanks to the efforts of Ranjit Bhave. A site visit to the I-91 Charter Oak Bridge Project has been tentatively scheduled by the Chapter for some time in September 2020.
9. ASCE Virtual Webinars – As the current CSCE President, George Gerard is receiving emails from Nancy Berson promoting ASCE virtual webinars related to managing section activities. He could forward them to the CSCE Board and other Board members may be able to attend them.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:10 p.m. The next meeting/Zoom meeting call is scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2020, at 12 PM Noon EST.