

**Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section of American Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE) Board Virtual Meeting via Teams at 12 noon
Friday, September 20, 2024 - Meeting Minutes**



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

Rich Cohen, 2024-25 CSCE President	Tom Wamser, YMG President
Eric Hoyt, 2024-25 CSCE Vice President	Carolyn Foston, President of the Fairfield County Branch
Byungik Chang, 2024-2025 CSCE Treasurer	Landon Barlow, Chair of the CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Geotechnical Institute
Jodi Constant, 2024-25 CSCE Secretary	Sangyul Cho, Chair of the CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute
Scott Nolan, 2024-25 CSCE Director II	Sanjeev Mohan, Member of the CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute
Geoffrey Schwartz, ASCE Region 1 Governor	Ranjit Bhawe, Chair of the CT Chapter of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute
Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant	

1. Report from ASCE Region 1 Governor – Geoffrey Schwartz

- Need to induct the following 2024-25 CSCE Executive Board Officers - Tyler Parker (President-Elect) and Danielle Morin (Newsletter Editor)
- 9/27-28 Fall Assembly in Buffalo – Rich Cohen is attending this Assembly, which is a great way to share information and ideas with other sections. Aaron Foster will attend this event virtually
- IMAX movie Cities of the Future – CSCE is still trying to show this film to its members. ASCE Student Chapters in CT are trying to figure out how to show it. Jane Madden at ASCE could help CSCE with coordinating local showings, one of which could be in Norwalk.
- ASCE Representatives could speak to students about ASCE - Local student chapters could have ASCE representatives come and talk to them. Amy Petrone will send information about the CSCE Dinner Meeting at CT State Community College at Three Rivers on October 15, 2024, to Geoff Schwartz just in case he can attend it.

2. Review/Approve CSCE Board Conference Call Minutes from August 16, 2024

After a review of the minutes, Rich Cohen made a motion to approve these minutes. Jodi Constant seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. CSCE Events

3.1 Dinner Meetings

3.1.1 Past Dinner Meeting - September 10 at UConn - This event went well. On a related note, the 2nd annual UConn internship night was a great event. It was specific to civil and environmental engineering students, which is good for both students and companies.

3.1.2 Upcoming Dinner Meetings:

- October 15 at CT State Community College at Three Rivers, Norwich, CT – People should let their colleagues know that registration for this event is open.

- November 19 at Quinnipiac University – Registration for this meeting will open soon.
- January 29 at UHA – Registration for this meeting will open soon.
- February 11 at UNH – Registration for this meeting will open soon.
- March 12 at CCSU – Registration for this meeting will open soon.
- March 25 at Fairfield County Branch - Two Roads Brewery – Registration for this meeting will open soon.
- April 16 at USCGA – The room has been reserved but the Speaker/Topic still need to be finalized – Rich Cohen discussed possible topics with USCGA ASCE Student Chapter Faculty Advisor Alyssa Milanese. She suggested a topic related to the intersection of AI and civil engineering would be of interest to the cadets. Anyone with suggested topics should send them to Rich Cohen over the next couple of weeks. The CT Chapter of the ASCE Transportation & Development Institute offered a webinar on digital twins in the past and maybe a similar topic focused on technology and engineering could be offered at this meeting. Sanjeev Mohan suggested that a couple of professors from Purdue are working on projects related to AI and engineering and could probably give a virtual presentation. Sanjeev Mohan and Rich Cohen will talk more about this topic in the next few weeks

3.2 Webinars

3.2.1 Upcoming Webinar: December 10 - Webinar co-sponsored by CT Chapter of the Transportation & Development Institute - 12 p.m. Noon - Topic: Role of a Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator and the CTDOT's newly created Active Transportation Unit by Paul Ashworth, CTDOT - Registration will open after CSCE's Microsoft Teams license is renewed.

3.2.2 Need to Renew CSCE's Microsoft 365 subscription - Subscription expires in November 2024 - Microsoft 365 Personal (For 1 Person) is \$69.99/year and Microsoft 365 Family (For Up to 6 people) is \$99.99/year – Byungik Chang and Eric Hoyt will look into paying for this subscription. People discussed if CSCE was going to get the 1 Person or the Family membership. The SEI-CT Chapter would be interested in using 1 of the accounts in the Family membership. After the discussion, Rich Cohen made a motion for CSCE to buy the Family membership and offer 1 of the accounts to each of the CT Chapters/CT Valley Chapter of the ASCE Institutes. Jodi Constant seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3.2.3 Potential Topics: Rich Cohen reached out to United Precast about giving a virtual presentation.

4. Collaborations with Affiliated Organizations - Updates on connections with PWC, SWE, COMTO, CT AWWA, etc. – Eric Hoyt and Rich Cohen were on a call with COMTO earlier this week to talk about planning an upcoming in-person event together.

5. Reports from CSCE Executive Board Members:

- Aaron Foster will attend the Region1 Fall Assembly next week virtually.
- Eric Hoyt may be asked by Rich Cohen to help with CSCE correspondence over the next couple of weeks and will help with transitioning the Treasurer files to Byungik Chang.
- Byungik Chang will be getting access to the CSCE Treasurer files soon.
- Jodi Constant will have drafts of annual reports by the next meeting.
- Scott Nolan was contacted by a publishing company (CT Transportation Institute) about placing an ad in its CT Transportation Annual publication. He will ask them about deadlines, how many people are reached and more details about placing an ad.

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

- ASCE Geo-Institute - Connecticut Valley Chapter – The Chapter has two upcoming events: the GEO-CT Conference on 9/27/24 and a CSCE Dinner Meeting on 11/19/24. For the GEO-CT Conference, the A/V company

- Younger Member Group:

- Resume Reviews were held recently at UNH (80+ students attended) and UHart (15-20 students attended).
- The Board reviewed the following proposed YMG Budget:

Yard Goats	\$2,000
Other sports outing	\$400
Resume reviews (12)	\$3,000
Industry 101 (2)	\$300
Socials (2)	\$1,200
MRLC (2)	\$3,800
YMLS (3)	\$1,500
YMLs Alumni (2)	\$3,800
Board Meetings (4)	\$600
Total:	\$ 16,600

The Board discussed the proposed budget. Eric Hoyt shared that CSCE could cover the proposed budget. The YMG could also ask the schools and the civil engineering departments for funding to cover refreshments at the resume reviews. The YMG holds quarterly board meetings, and this budget includes some funding to offset refreshments' cost. About 8-10 people are invited to attend these board meetings. Following this discussion, Eric Hoyt made a motion to approve this YMG budget of \$16,600. Jodi Constant seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- 9/13-15 - Younger Member Leadership Symposium (YMLS) Alumni Summit in Houston, TX – Tom Wamser, Katie Hedberg-Klose and Ariana Antonucci attended this event.
- One possible future event is a UConn Women's Basketball Game Trip in November.
- Industry 101 is scheduled at UConn on 10/29/24.
- Upcoming resume reviews are at CCSU on 10/7/24 and at Quinnipiac University on 10/14/24.

With no more business to discuss, Rich Cohen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 p.m. Scott Nolan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

<p>Proposal Title</p>	<p>Registration fee discount for the board members of technical institutes and committees who have volunteered in organizing full-day CSCE events</p>
<p>Background</p>	<p>Board members of SEI-CT chapter, a CSCE Technical Institute, have actively volunteered and played a key role in shaping the technical seminar content and structure for several months: from selecting the seminar theme, searching, identifying and inviting potential speakers, to promoting sponsorship and attendance opportunities within their organization and through professional network. Tasks including arranging the seminar venue, coordinating meals and refreshments supply, online/on-site registration can be assigned to board members.</p> <p>Depending on employers, some board members may not get time and monetary support from their employers to attend a full-day event for which they put lots of effort and time in organizing: no professional activity time and/or no reimbursement of the registration fee. Different from the dinner meetings which are typically after-work events, full-day events take more pre-coordination efforts and, on the event day, the commitment during normal business hours. For general attendees, if they could not get support from their employers, it would be no big issue for them to skip the interested event. However, for some board members under this unsupportive scenario, it is a discouraging situation to spend employees' own time, even with make-up, and money in addition to the previous efforts put on. Getting NYS PDH credits may not be enough to justify attending a CSCE full-day event for board/committee members who do not have NYS professional license, especially younger members.</p> <p>Therefore, this proposal is to avoid such awkward situation and to support the board/committee members to attend the full-day event they have contributed to. By providing the monetary incentive to them, the whole CSCE community can show appreciation for their efforts and foster a collaborative environment where their insights and feedback can be more easily integrated. This will eventually encourage other CSCE members to be actively involved with CSCE technical institute boards and CSCE committees.</p>
<p>Proposed Change</p>	<p>Apply the government employee (non-profit employee) rate to members of CSCE technical institute boards and CSCE committees who have volunteered in organizing a full-day CSCE event. No discount applies to non-younger board/committee members who are non-profit employees.</p> <p>Younger board/committee members (under 35-year-old) get additional 30% discount: i.e. 70% of the government employee rate.</p>