

**CSCE Board Conference Call**  
**Friday, November 20, 2020, 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  
Clayton Patterson, CSCE Secretary  
Ben Cote, CSCE Director I & Chair of the CT Valley Chapter of the Geo-Institute  
David Chapman, CSCE Director II

Danielle Spicer, ASCE Region 1 Governor  
Rabih Barakat, Chair of CSCE Government Engineers Committee  
Ranjit Bhawe, Chair of the CT Chapter of the T&D Institute  
Tom Loto, Chair of CSCE Water Resources Committee  
Alex Mora, Chair of the CT Chapter of the SE Institute

Amy Petrone, CSCE Administrative Assistant

The following topics were discussed:

1. Review/Approve Meeting Minutes from CSCE Board Conference Call on October 13, 2020

The meeting attendees reviewed the meeting minutes from the CSCE Board Meeting/Conference Call on October 13, 2020. George Gerard made a motion to approve the minutes. Aaron Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. ASCE Update - Danielle Spicer shared with the Board that every upcoming meeting will be virtual and that the MRLC in North Carolina is postponed until June 2021.

3. Recent Events

The participants discussed CSCE's recent events including the virtual meeting sponsored by the CT Valley Chapter of the Geo-Institute that was held on October 13, 2020, the YM Social and Bingo Fundraiser that was held on November 4, 2020, the virtual meeting co-sponsored by the CSCE Water Resources Committee and the ASCE Student Chapter at the University of Hartford that was held on November 5, 2020, and the virtual meeting co-sponsored by the CT Chapter of the Construction Institute and the ASCE Student Chapter at Quinnipiac University that was held on November 17, 2020. Related to these meetings, the participants discussed CSCE's current inability to record meetings, any requirements from the New York State Education Department (NYSED) related to issuing Professional Development Hours to engineers when they watch a recording vs. a live presentation, and obtaining people's permission before recording a presentation.

Since CSCE will be holding meetings virtually for the foreseeable future, CSCE may want to look into a service to record meetings. CSCE could check with ASCE National to see if it has an option that CSCE can utilize. Aaron Foster will contact Danielle Spicer about this concept. CSCE could also look into purchasing a Microsoft license that could be used for future meetings recorded by Microsoft Teams.

The Board also discussed how it can determine if people are attending the entire presentation to earn a PDH. After some discussion, it was determined that there is no consistency at other continuing education events in tracking people who attend events to qualify for PDHs. Some ideas to determine if people qualified for PDHs included:

- During a presentation, read a code aloud and ask people to email the code to Amy Petrone. After the code is received, then a PDH certificate is sent to them.
- At a certain time during a presentation, ask everyone to send a question to Amy Petrone via email.

- Offer 3 questions at the event and ask people who want PDHs to send answers to Amy Petrone via email. The presenter could devise the questions.
- Run a poll during a meeting
- Offer a key word at the end of the presentation that should be sent via email to Amy Petrone

To move forward with this issue, Brianna Maljanian will look at CSCE's PDH Approval Letter from the NYSED to see if there is anything required about recording/live events and George Gerard will look into options for recording future meetings. It was also determined that CSCE would not pay for a service to record the presentation on December 3, 2020 but would look at such a service for events in 2021.

#### 4. Upcoming Meetings

December 3, 2020 – Virtual Monthly Meeting - Sponsored by the CT Chapter of the Transportation & Development Institute  
 Topic: Accelerated Superstructure Replacement of US Route 1 over I-95 (Br 00037)  
 Speakers: Rabih Barakat, Tom Laliberte (WSP), and George Gerard (WSP)

There will be no school involvement in this meeting. Rabih Barakat will send a biography to George Gerard. The speakers will coordinate the presentation and do a dry run prior to December 3<sup>rd</sup>. George Gerard will send bios to Brianna Maljanian, who will moderate the meeting. Ranjit Bhave will give an overview of the Chapter.

January 26, 2021 – Virtual Monthly Meeting: Co-sponsored by the CT Chapter of the Structural Engineering Institute and the ASCE Student Chapter at the University of Connecticut  
 Topic: Assessment and Structural Review of the Historic Perry Memorial Arch in Bridgeport, CT  
 Speakers: Tim Ariosto, P.E., and Hannah Rakowski of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates (WJE)

Registration can be open. George Gerard will send a meeting link to Amy Petrone.

Feb 2021 Meeting - George Gerard and Amy Petrone will contact Roy Merritt to finalize details about this meeting.

March 16, 2021 – The Fairfield County Branch would like to finalize the topic/speaker for this meeting. George Gerard will coordinate with Ron Hill and Amy Petrone

#### 5. Paying for CSCE Annual Dues

Tom Loto asked the Board if others had their companies pay for their ASCE National Dues, but not their CT Section Dues. His company pays for his ASCE National Dues, but not his CT Section dues and no link appears in his ASCE Member account to pay for his CT Section dues. Others have not had that experience or have had their company pay for both National and Section dues. It was suggested that Tom Loto call ASCE Member services to pay his Section dues.

#### 6. Board/Committee/Institute Updates

President – George Gerard will order the CSCE banners.

President-Elect – Brianna Maljanian sent information about upcoming LEED Green Associate webinars to Amy Petrone for posting on the website and in upcoming emails. She and Scott Nolan have talked about Vice President tasks. She will work with George Gerard and Scott Nolan to update and streamline the CSCE scholarship applications and she will work with George Gerard to update/improve the ACE Awards Application.

Vice President – Scott Nolan will work on improving and streamlining the student scholarship applications after Thanksgiving. He and Aaron Foster met at Webster Bank and the accounts were set up as stipulated in previous Board meetings.

Treasurer/Financial – Aaron Foster reported that the signatories on the accounts at Webster Bank were changed to himself and Scott Nolan. One account was converted to a higher interest-bearing account.

He shared that ASCE National is talking about how to get recent college graduates to be involved with ASCE and CSCE. CHA Consulting has started up a student loan refinancing program. To increase involvement in CSCE, it may be to its advantage to get involved in this type of effort.

Secretary – Clay Patterson is working on CSCE’s annual report that will be submitted to ASCE. Brianna Maljanian will send a past annual report to Clay Patterson to assist with this effort.

Younger Members Group – The recent bingo fundraiser was fun and the Group is beginning to plan the 2022 MRLC.

Geo-Institute – Ben Cote is waiting to plan for the April 2021 Workshop. Amy Petrone will contact UNH to confirm that CSCE does not have a reservation in April 2021 yet.

CT Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute – Alex Mora provided the following updates on the Chapter’s activities:

- The vote for Chapter Officers resulted in Byungik Chang being elected Vice Chair and Sangyul Cho being elected as Secretary.
- June 2021 Seminar – The Chapter is looking for presenters and it has reached out to ASCE and received recommendations. The Board suggested that having 1-2 speakers from CT DOT can improve attendance at the event.
- January 2021 Meeting – The Chapter is managing the presentation topic for this meeting.
- The Chapter’s next meeting is scheduled to be held in December.

CT Chapter of the Transportation & Development Institute – Ranjit Bhavne told the Board that next month’s meeting topic is finalized and he is working on increasing membership in the Chapter.

Scholarship Fund Report – Jim Sime submitted a report via email. The Board would like to talk more about the Fund in spring of 2021. One suggestion was that in the future, CSCE could determine a minimum amount to keep in the account and distribute the remaining once a year or on a regular cycle over a few years. This amount would be larger than the annual amounts awarded and could support students in their Junior or Senior years.

Other – Lands’ End Clothing Account – There is a ~2-week turnaround for ordering items.

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m. The next meeting/Teams call is scheduled for Friday, December 18, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Noon.