

September 2025

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or call 800-548-ASCE

*ASCE's mission is to provide essential value to our members, their careers, our partners and the public by developing leadership, advancing technology, advocating lifelong learning and promoting the profession.*

## GREETINGS DULUTH SECTION!

Greetings Duluth Section,

I hope you all had a great summer with all your construction projects. It certainly went fast for me. It is hard to believe that it is already September.

Our next luncheon is on September 23 at 12 pm at the BARR office in Duluth, MN. Our speaker will be Victor Lund with St. Louis County. He will be presenting on "Innovative Intersection Designs to Improve Safety and Operations." It will be a great presentation that you won't want to miss. Please use the collaborate link (coming soon) to RSVP so we can plan for food. If you are unable to use the collaborate link, please send me a message.

The following rotational positions will be voted upon at the September luncheon. Our current Vice President Peter Demshar will advance to President. Tyler Yngsdal will be advancing to Vice President, and Alex Popp our current secretary will advance to Treasurer. That leaves our secretary position open. Please let us know if you are interested in the position.

If anyone wants to be on the ballot to fill any of these positions, please let me know. All seats will be put to a vote. Without volunteers like you, our section will not have a full leadership team. If you or anyone you know would be interested in a great networking and leadership opportunity, please reach out to anyone on the board.

Also, keep a look out for our Sponsorship letters for our Section, that should be sent to your office's. They keep the lights on here for our section and help us provide opportunities for you and our community.

Finally, I want to thank all the current Board Member's for their efforts this past year. We accomplished a lot and grew our YMG group and the Student Section group. I really enjoyed working with all the board members and I am excited about what they will do next year for our Duluth ASCE Section.

Hope to see you on the 23<sup>rd</sup> for our first fall luncheon and please don't forget to RSVP.

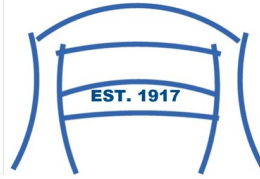
Ryan Swanson  
Duluth Section President

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**Interested in submitting an article for the ASCE newsletter or becoming a Board Member?**

**Contact Pete Demshar (newsletter editor) for information at 952.913.6392 or [pdemshar@barr.com](mailto:pdemshar@barr.com)**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2024-2025

### President

Ryan Swanson, PE  
Ulland Brothers, Inc.  
(218) 966-9822  
[rswanon@ulland.com](mailto:rswanon@ulland.com)

### President-Elect

Peter Demshar, PE  
Barr Engineering Co.  
952-913-6392  
[pdemshar@barr.com](mailto:pdemshar@barr.com)

### Treasurer

Tyler Yngsdal, PE  
SEH  
218-279-3001  
[tyngsdal@sehinc.com](mailto:tyngsdal@sehinc.com)

### Secretary

Alex Popp, PE  
[apopp@DuluthMN.gov](mailto:apopp@DuluthMN.gov)

### Past President

Andrew Lund, PE  
Barr Engineering  
(218) 308-3077  
[alund@barr.com](mailto:alund@barr.com)

## BOARD CHAIRS

2023-2024

### Younger Member Chair

Dalton Scharmer  
TKDA  
[Dalton.Scharmer@tkda.com](mailto:Dalton.Scharmer@tkda.com)

### Membership Chair

Vacant

### Government Relations Chair

Vacant

### Toothpick Bridge Chair

Travis Jensen  
(612) 730-0580  
[jensio73@d.umn.edu](mailto:jensio73@d.umn.edu)

### Web Updates

Rose Kopecky  
SEH  
(218)-249-1558  
[rkopecky@sehinc.com](mailto:rkopecky@sehinc.com)

### Membership Outreach Chair

Rose Kopecky  
SEH  
(218)-249-1558  
[rkopecky@sehinc.com](mailto:rkopecky@sehinc.com)

## UPCOMING MEETING

**Date:** September 23rd, 2025

**Speaker:** Victor Lund, PE, PTOE, Traffic Engineer, St. Louis County, MN

**Topic:** Innovative Intersection Designs to Improve Safety and Operations

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Barr

### Bio:

Vic has more than 18 years of experience as the traffic engineer for St. Louis County, Minnesota. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Michigan Technological University in Civil Engineering, and his Master of Science Degree from Iowa State University in Civil Engineering with an emphasis in Transportation Engineering. His experience includes rural and urban traffic safety, intersection design, intelligent transportation systems and transportation research. Vic was awarded the 2022 David B. Brand Safety Award from the National Association of County Engineers (NACE). Vic is the current chair of the Minnesota County Engineers Association Highway Safety Committee, serves frequently as a Technical Liaison for Minnesota Local Road Research Board research projects, and is a member of the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies Transportation Safety and Mobility Research Council.



**Address:** 4787 Midway Rd, Duluth, MN 55811

**Phone:** 218-625-3873

**Email:** [lundv@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:lundv@stlouiscountymn.gov)

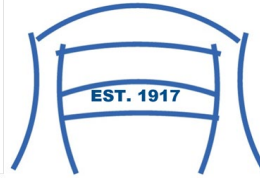
## MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2025

### Membership Meetings

- September 23, 2025
- October 21, 2025
- November 18, 2025
- December 16, 2025

### Board Meetings

- September 30, 2025 – OP
- October 28, 2025
- November 18, 2025
- December 16, 2025



## FINANCIALS

### National Bank of Commerce

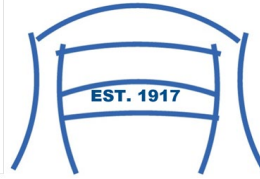
Main Checking	\$1,516.72
Younger Member Checking	\$4,654.22
Savings	\$5,492.16

### Other Assets

PayPal	\$75.74
Other cash/checks	\$0.00
Petty Cash	\$420.00
August 2025' Total Assets	<b>\$12,158.84</b>
Increase/(Decrease) in Assets	<b>(\$6,647.60)</b>

\*Decrease from sponsorships payouts, May luncheon food, Microsoft account, Annual meeting food and venue, president gift.





## ASCE STUDENT SECTION SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

The UMD ASCE Student Section is back in action this fall and looking to make a difference! The first thing I would like to your attention is that our department at the University of Minnesota Duluth has a new name, we are the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (Bulldog CEE). We are changing our Meeting schedule to 3-4 presenters/speakers a semester with a focus on great student attendance. We are hoping to achieve this by tabling in the Civil and Environmental Engineering building in weeks prior to the presentation. With this change we will not be able to host as many speakers during the semester, but would love to work with companies to join us or sponsor these tabling sessions during the semester as an alternative way to get your companies name in front of students. Questions and Inquiries can be directed to our contact email below. Finally, we look forward to seeing you all at the UMD STEMFEST Career Fair this Wednesday!

Contact info: Email – [UMDASCE@d.umn.edu](mailto:UMDASCE@d.umn.edu)

The UMD AISC Steel Bridge team is starting up regular meetings this month including electing new team officers, beginning the design process for the 2026 bridge, and repurposing our previous bridges into functional furniture pieces to be used around the Swenson Civil Engineering building. Our goal for this season is to educate new team members of important competition aspects, design considerations, and get them comfortable using our tools and equipment in the High Bay laboratory. Lastly, we are looking to win our 3rd regional competition and qualify for the national competition, this year hosted by the University of Texas at El Paso. Any contact inquiries can be sent to the ASCE Contact email at this time.

The UMD Geowall team has a new president this year! Nate Umholtz, a Junior, focusing on geotechnical engineering has been a part of the Geowall team for the last two years and is excited to take on this new roll. Geowall is planning on starting to meet this month with new and returning students to lay groundwork of the design process and go over competition details.

Nate's contact info: Email – [Umholoo4@d.umn.edu](mailto:Umholoo4@d.umn.edu)

The UMD Concrete Canoe team has all new leader ship as well! The Co-Captains are Nicholas Mulder and Noah Vetter, and the Deputy Captains are Kyla Schmidt and Carter Wegler. The Concrete Canoe team is looking to get under way with mix development and rehabilitating the mold from last years Canoe.

Concrete Canoe contact info: Email – [CCCanoe@d.umn.edu](mailto:CCCanoe@d.umn.edu)

Thank you to our sponsors from 2023-24 and 2024-25 for helping us bring so many students to last years student symposium. This years Student Symposium will be taking place at the University of Minnesota and St. Thomas in the Twin Cities!





# ASCE DULUTH SECTION BOARD MEETING AGENDA

May 21, 2025 - 5:00 PM  
Ursa Minor, Duluth

## Call Meeting to Order:

- Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.
- Attendance:
  - Ryan Swanson –President
  - Peter Demshar – Vice President
  - Tyler Yngsdal – Treasurer
  - Alex Popp – Secretary
  - Dalton Scharmer – YMG Chair (5:37 p.m.)
  - Rose Kopecky – Website and Outreach Chair
  - Christopher Rousseau – Government Relations Chair

## Approval of Agenda (Ryan)

- A motion was made by Alex Popp, seconded by Pete Demshar approve the agenda.
  - The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.

## Approval of Minutes (Alex)

- A motion was made by Ryan Swanson, seconded by Tyler Yngsdal to approve the April Meeting Minutes.
  - The motion carried by the following vote: All in favor.

## Government Relations (Vacant)

- Report card is coming in 2026 and will be led by Pete
  - Chris and Peter will likely cover the Duluth items and the dam section
  - AMI may assist with the Port
  - Report card update will be presented at the Duluth Airport
    - Craig will coordinate the release

## Student section update (Zach H)

- No student section representative present

## Younger Member Discussion (Dalton)

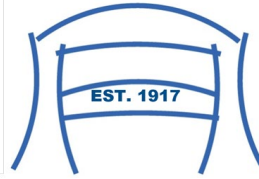
- Lukas is moving but will look for a replacement
- Board plans to meet in early June to finish year, then restart meetings in August
- Board needs to submit recommendation for chair to Peter for appointment in the fall

## Treasurer's Report (Tyler)

- Main Checking \$6,908.85
- Younger Member Checking \$5,854.22
- Savings \$5,487.63
- Petty Cash \$420.00
- Checks \$60.00
- PayPal \$75.74
- April treasurer's report was for assets prior to disbursing the scholarships and paying for the new year end banquet

## 2024-2025 Speakers (Pete)

- September 16<sup>th</sup> – Storm chamber system from ACF West Geosynthetics at Barr



**2024-2025 BOARD MEETING / LUNCHEON SCHEDULE (ALL MEETING SCHEDULED AT 12:00 PM)**  
**Luncheons**

- September 16, 2025

**Board Meetings**

- May 21, 2025
- August 28, 2025 at Bent Paddle

**Newsletter Update (Pete)**

- President's message (Ryan), meeting minutes (Alex), YMG (Dalton), UMD section updates (Zack), Sponsorship letter (Pete), Treasurer report (Tyler)
- Submissions Due: Send to Pete by 9/1/2025, Send Newsletter out 9/5/2025

**Membership Chair (Vacant)**

- Contact list update

**Website and Outreach Chair (Rose)**

- Update
- Nominate section for small section website award

**Toothpick Bridge Chair (Travis)**

- Debriefing meeting went well. Start planning in October for the 2026 event
- Plant to rename this committee to the K-12 outreach committee
- Work with Travis in fall to determine how Board can support efforts
  - Possible need to help update list of teachers at schools

**Ongoing Business:**

- ASCE Archival documents (Rose has)
- Board Seat Email platform – New email [ASCEDuluthMN@outlook.com](mailto:ASCEDuluthMN@outlook.com)
  - Board seat Cut sheet for positions.
  - Review the Section Bylaws in comparison with the National Template for updates.
- Committee chair cut sheet
  - YMG Committee Chair
  - Student Practitioner Advisor
  - Membership
  - K-12 Outreach
  - Government Relations
  - Website and Outreach

**Matrix and Bylaw Review**

- No items to report

**New Business**

- Update One Drive files
- Sponsorship count (9) (Tyler)
- End of year banquet date should be evaluated for 2026 to align with UMD calendar to make it easier for scholarship recipients to attend and encourage other students to attend as well.
- Review section dues (Ask national for a history of our section rates)
- Golf outing as a future engagement activity



- ASCE National sent a request for what the Duluth Section portion of the annual dues should be, response is due by May 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - Tyler will request a summary of what other sections in our region have for their dues
- **A Motion was made by Dalton Scharmer, seconded by Ryan Swanson to increase the Duluth Section dues to \$30.**
  - The motion was carried by the following vote: All in favor.
- Section website and LinkedIn links will be added to the email signature for section correspondence

**Next Board Meeting: August 28, 2025, at Bent Paddle in Duluth**

**Adjournment:**

- Meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

## ASCE DULUTH SECTION SPONSORSHIP LETTER

We want to thank you for supporting The Duluth Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers in the past. Your sponsorship helps fund several programs that are specific to the Duluth Section. The first being our toothpick bridge competition. This program helps promote civil engineering at a young age, which is vital to the future of our profession. The second program is our annual scholarships to civil engineering and civil engineering technology students. Your sponsorship helps our local ASCE section to promote these valuable activities. That is why it is time again for us to ask you to renew your sponsorship, or consider a new sponsorship for 2025-2026. Our membership is comprised of engineers from a diverse range of companies (engineering, construction and geotechnical, etc.). We are very proud to showcase your company logo on our sponsor page.

With a contribution of \$ 250, your company's logo will be displayed in each section newsletter from September 2025 through August 2026. Our newsletter is produced 9 months of the year and reaches all of our 250+ members. Your support also aids the Duluth ASCE Section's efforts to keep the civil engineering community actively involved through technical presentations and networking luncheons, social activities, and student outreach activities.

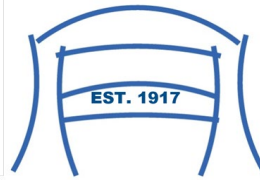
If you would like to renew your sponsorship or become a sponsor, please send a check payable to **ASCE - Duluth Section** to the Section PO Box:

ASCE Duluth Section  
P.O. Box 211  
Duluth, MN 55802

New sponsors, or to update logos, email your company logo to Tyler Yngsdal at: [tyngsdal@sehinc.com](mailto:tyngsdal@sehinc.com)

Sincerely,  
The Duluth Section Board of Directors





THANKS TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS!

(Consider being a sponsor!)



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