

NM ASCE Section Meeting Minutes 9 March 2026

Attendees: Ken Cooper, Summer Herrera; Melissa Garcia; Josh Neal, Eric Soule;
Gabby Guadarrama; Claudia Wilson, Roger Zimmerman; Muhammad Saeed; YeongAe
Heo; Astrid Gonzaga

Board Members Not in Attendance: Zach Libben, Fernando Moreu, Jesse Reinikainen,
Kevin Armijo

Approval of Previous Minutes: November 2025, December 2025, & January 2026
(attached); Motion & Second; Approved

Treasurer's Report and Approval: See below

Branch Reports:

Younger Members Report:

- Two members attended Regions 3,6, & 7 Leadership Workshop in Chicago at end of January
- Sponsoring PE Info Night with UNM Student Chapter

Technical Group Reports: None given

Student Chapter Reports:

UNM: resuming meetings; dropped out of concrete canoe competition but will focus on other events

NMT: Conc Canoe & Steel Bridge; Golf Tourney successful; trip to Los Lunas to see Molzen-Corbin project

Old Business

- Melissa Garcia was confirmed as the Section Treasurer by an email vote of the Board of Directors; [REDACTED];

NM ASCE Section Meeting Minutes
9 March 2026

- Recruit EWR Technical Group Chair
- Student Chapter Presentations on "ASCE After College"
- Route 66: Dedication Committee: Jeanette Walther is chair
- Newsletter: engagement on Spring Section Meeting
- Kensey Russell, Region 6 Director, has accepted invitation to be the Fall Conference's keynote speaker
- Constitution and Bylaws Review: Paola has contacted former officers; awaiting response

New Business:

- Resolution thanking Gama Zepeda for serving as Section Treasurer for many years (4+); plaque?
- Confirmation of Northern Branch officers
 - Muhammad Saeed Zafar, President
 - YeongAe Heo, Vice-President
 - Astrid Gonzaga, Secretary
- Spring Conference/TransCon Keynote Speaker date needed so it can be advertised
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Washington Fly-In: Joshua Neal: [REDACTED]
Motion & second, approved

NM ASCE Section Meeting Minutes 9 March 2026

- North American Society of Trenchless Technology (NASTT) (See Below): No interest noted for October conference as it conflicts with Fall Section Conference
- Visits to student chapters: Younger Members Group organizing
- PE Infor Night: Refreshments? [REDACTED]; Motion & second, approved

Action Items:

Ken: write article for newsletter recruiting EWR Technical Group Leader;

Melissa: look into cost of a plaque

Summer, Melissa, Muhammad, YeongAe, & Astrid: Meeting scheduled for 18 March on UNM Campus

Next Meeting: 13 April 2026

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

North American Society of Trenchless Technology (NASTT) organization.

I am reaching out because I am assisting the Western Chapter of NASTT (WESTT) in gauging regional interest in potentially hosting the **2026 WESTT No-Dig Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico**, tentatively planned for **October 2026**.

As part of this early planning effort, we are seeking feedback from organizations across the region to better understand anticipated attendance interest and, in particular, interest in optional Day 2 training courses.

The WESTT No-Dig Conference is typically a one-day technical conference followed by an optional second day of introductory courses.

Day 1 – Technical Conference

NM ASCE Section Meeting Minutes 9 March 2026

- Technical presentations covering trenchless construction for wastewater, water, and utility systems
- Emerging technologies, policies, and regulatory considerations
- Vendor exhibition hall showcasing industry innovations
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs) available

Day 2 – Optional Training Courses

Attendees may register for two introductory courses:

- **Introduction to New Installation Methods**
(Microtunneling, HDD, pipe jacking, auger boring, pipe ramming)
- **Introduction to Rehabilitation Methods**
(Overview of trenchless rehabilitation options for water, sewer, and gas systems)

These courses are well suited for:

- Engineers and technical staff new or interested in learning more about trenchless technology
- Public works and utility staff evaluating delivery alternatives

CEUs are also available for the courses.

At this stage, we are simply gathering feedback to understand:

1. Whether your organization would be interested in attending the conference if it were held in New Mexico
2. Whether the optional Day 2 introductory courses would be valuable for your staff, and if so, which course(s) may be of greatest interest

Your input will help WESTT determine whether New Mexico is a strong location and whether offering the courses would be beneficial to regional agencies and firms. I strongly believe this is a great opportunity for other ASCE members across the state to learn more about NASTT/WESTT and the trenchless technology industry.

I attended the 2025 WESTT No-Dig Conference in Scottsdale and found both the technical sessions and vendor interactions extremely valuable. A New Mexico conference would provide a great opportunity to expand access to trenchless education while highlighting how these methods support efficient, lower-impact infrastructure delivery in our region.

If you're willing, I would greatly appreciate any feedback. A brief reply is more than sufficient. And please forward to any other interested bodies so we can gauge interest for this conference.

January Draft Minutes

Members Present: Gaby Guadarrama; Paola Bandini; Summer Herrera; Claudia Wilson;

XinXing Yuan; Ken Cooper (there was not a quorum)

Board Members Absent: Zach Libbin; Fernando Moreu; Jesse Reinikainen; Joshua Neal

NM ASCE Section Meeting Minutes 9 March 2026

Approval of Previous Minutes: Tabled

Treasurer's Report and Approval: Report submitted after meeting; see attached

Branch Reports: None given

Younger Members Report: Gaby, planning PE Night in February; Gaby and Adilene will be attending MRLC

Institute Reports: None given

Student Chapter Reports: UNT, planning golf tourney (28 March or 4 April); 2 students attending MRLC; had/having guest speakers from Molzen Corbin; visiting I-25/Main St project in Los Lunas

Old Business

- Recruit Section Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer: Summer received contact from member willing to volunteer; she will meet with potential recruit
- Recruit EWRI Technical Group Chair
- Multi-Regional Leadership Conference: attendees from Section, Younger Members Group, and NMT Student Group will be attending
- Student Chapter Presentations on "ASCE After College"; Younger Members will take this on
- Route 66: Dedication Committee: have requested Jonah Ruyibald to chair; Jeanett Walthers has accepted the committee chair

New Business:

Action Items

- Summer: Meet with recruit re: Section or Branch leadership position

NM ASCE Section Meeting Minutes
9 March 2026

- Summer: Investigate whether ASCE has a presentation aimed at students on activities after graduation
- Paola: Recruit 2-3 past presidents to review/revise Section Constitution and Bylaws (Ken will serve on committee as current president)
- Paola: Solicit Transcon Conference/ASCE Spring Section Meeting planning committee member to be Section representative and provide monthly reports
- Ken: Contact Roger Zimmerman re: dates of Route 66 presentations at CABQ libraries

Next Meeting: 13 April 2026

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]