

Section Meeting Minutes
ASCE ND Section Annual Spring Meeting
April 11, 2017
Prepared by: Nick Kalenze

Four presentations were held from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, which included the following speakers and topics.

Title: Soil and Compaction Basics
Speaker: Jennifer McKinnon, Engineer – Braun Intertec

Title: Solving Problems with Admixtures
Speaker: Hank Hauge, Director of Technical Service – Strata Corporations

Title: Challenges of Water Resources Engineering in the Red River Valley, ND
Speaker: Dr. Howe Lim, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering – UND

Title: Biobased Composites for Structural Applications and Biodegradable Sensors for Soil Monitoring
Speaker: Dr. Chad Ulven, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering – NDSU

A social time was held from approximately 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Dinner started at approximately 6:00 pm.

The President-Elect called the business meeting to order at 6:46 PM.

The President opened the meeting with introduction of all guests.

1) Previous Minutes

- a. The minutes from the 2016 Fall Meeting held on October 27, 2016 were reviewed. Motion by Murali Vegi to approve the minutes, 2nd Brandon Oye. Motion passed.

2) President's Report

- a. Tony Eukel was not available to present.

3) Treasurer's Report

- a. Brandon Oye presented the Treasurer's Report. The Section's balance is \$11,108.49. The treasurer's report dated April 11, 2017 was reviewed. The amount consisted of deposits, payments for Red Hawks events, Dream Big, and Lunch & Learns. The goal is to be around \$6,000 and not to overdraw below this amount. Motion by Brandon to approve the Treasurer's Report, 2nd Murali and Daba Gedafa. Motion passed.
- b. Murali noted that Brandon will move on from the Treasurer position.

4) Committee Reports

a. Continuing Education Committee Report

1. Tom Klabunde reported that they held a webinar Lunch & Learn in January in both Fargo and Grand Forks. Dave Sethre presented on "Specifying and Inspecting Finishes for Exterior Flatwork". I-Hsuan Ho assisted with setting up the event in Grand Forks (UND). Had 15-20 attendees for both locations.
2. Tom mentioned that it is a good idea to change the locations for webinars within Fargo and Grand Forks.
3. If any members are looking to hold a Lunch & Learn, they can contact Tom to help set it up. Tom is planning on having another Lunch & Learn this spring.

4. Daba noted that I-Hsuan has been in contact with a speaker who is interested in talking about geotechnical issues. Daba and I-Hsuan will need to see if the speaker will be willing to present to both Grand Forks and Fargo locations.

b. Volunteer Events Committee Report

1. Vicki Schneider, the Volunteer Events Chair, was not in attendance. Alexa Ducioame reported on Vicki's behalf that some volunteers from the Section helped with an event during E-Week at DGF Middle School in Dilworth. The school currently participates in "Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day" at NDSU and a paper bridge event; both events went well.

c. Membership Committee Report

1. Taylor Braaten reported that there are no current life members in the ND Section. Overall our Section has 202 society members, not counting student members, which is a 26% increase from last year.
2. We have a decent spread between young and old members. Taylor wants to get younger members involved, and continuing education is a good way to reach out.
3. Brandon discussed how our Section should try and reach out to student members. Murali noted the benefits to joining ASCE to improve membership: 1) be a committee member and 2) participate in seminars (e.g., Washington D.C. Fly-In)

d. Social Committee Report

1. Jerod Klabunde, the Social Committee Chari, was not in attendance. Brandon and Nick Kalenze (Secretary) noted that the recent social events were held at the Fargo Brewing Company and Dream Big.

e. Webmaster

1. Alexa Ducioame reported that pictures were captured of all officers, will place on the ASCE ND Section website, to make it easier for new members to engage.

5) Old Business

a. Multi-Region Leadership Conference Report

1. This is an annual event that the Section sends one or two members to. Typically upcoming officers or chairs attend the event.
2. The Section sent Taylor to the event in Minneapolis on February 3-4. He reported that topics of discussion were the "Raise the Bar" initiative from ASCE National, looking at Master's degree for engineers. Taylor reported that ASCE took a step back from this initiative. Ironically, some discussion held at this meeting was on how licensure was hurting business.
3. Taylor mentioned "Dream Big" was shown at this event and he was able to talk to ASCE National President-Elect, Kristina Swallow.

b. Legislative Fly-In Report

1. This is an annual event that is open to any Section members.
2. The Section sent Daba and Alexa to the event in Washington, D.C. on March 14-15. Daba reported that the ASCE National Report Card is at a D+, currently. Daba and Alexa met with the staff of legislators. The key focal point of discussion was on drinking water funding improvement.
3. Alexa noted money is approved for drinking water but not for levees and dams.
4. Daba noted that the municipal bond tax reform is a way for ASCE to be active in helping 75% of the states' infrastructure funding.
5. Daba mentioned that congress passed a long-term transportation bill in December 2015 with a \$1.3 Billion increase in funding for 2017 and 2018 fiscal year each, but the states can't use the money since congress did not appropriate it. ASCE members asked members of congress to

appropriate the money instead of continuing resolution so that the states can use the \$1.3 Billion for the intended purposes.

6. Murali stated that the Legislative Fly-In is a good event to partake in for new members.

c. ASCE Dream Big Film, Engineer's Week (E-week) 2017

1. Alexa described that "Dream Big" is a 45-minute film from MacGillivray Films. It has been played in IMAX theatres across the country. 18 cities, 37 schools, and 2200 people have seen the film. Our recent social event had the film shown at Cheyene High School during E-week.
2. Blurays of the film will not be available until 2018. ASCE National will have another meeting about showing the film again, if Williston is interested. Keith Korman UND ASCE Student Chapter President, was involved with the UND showing.

d. ASCE Steel Bridge Competition at NDSU

1. Brandon mentioned that he had been in recent communication with Dylan Dunn, and NDSU took 2nd place in the Midwest Regional completion. NDSU will compete for the National Championship in Oregon. Keith Korman mentioned that in general the Midwest Steel Bridge competition was a successful event. Daba noted that the University of Iowa will host the event next year. UND will host in 2020.

6) New Business

a. Committee Volunteers Needed

1. Alexa mentioned the two open volunteer positions for our Section: Volunteer Committee Co-Chair (Grand Forks) and Social Committee Co-Chair (Grand Forks).

b. UND & NDSU Student Chapter Updates

1. UND Chapter Update (Keith Korman):
 - i. Participated in six meetings this year with some guest speakers, internship opportunities, and air force career paths.
 - ii. Hosted the "Dream Big" Film in Grand Forks. There were 250 people who saw the film.
 - iii. Participated in the Midwest Regional ASCE Steel Bridge competition.
 - iv. Talked to Wells Concrete on day-to-day activities; toured the plant
 - v. Planned to tour the DOT district office; did not work out so will talk to the City of Grand Forks.
2. NDSU Chapter Update (no representatives were present).

c. 2017-2019 Vice President and Treasurer Election Ballots

1. Murali presented the election ballots to the Section. Murali motioned to approve ballots for electing the new officers, 2nd Brandon. Motion passed.
2. Alexa is the new Vice President for two-years; Leelan is the new Treasurer; Daba is the President-Elect, and Murali is the President.
3. Murali nominated Brandon to be in a new role: Chair of ND Report Card. In 2-3 years, Brandon will put together a team of people, fundraising, and a public relations plan to actively pursue a report card for North Dakota. Murali motioned to approve Brandon's new role, 2nd Alexa. Motion passed.

Murali requested motion to close the business meeting at 7:30 PM. Nick so moved, 2nd Brandon. Motion passed.