

**Section Meeting Minutes**  
**ASCE ND Section Annual Spring Meeting**  
**April 26, 2018**  
**Prepared by: Nick Kalenze**

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

Title: Fargo Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion  
Speaker: Karla Olson, Apex

Title: Protecting Minot's Water Supply  
Speaker: Jerry Bents, Houston Engineering

Title: Apology and Responsibility in Corporate Ethics  
Speaker: Dr. William Stodden, Adjunct Professor – NDSU, NDSCS, and University of Jamestown

Title: Regional Transportation: The Future of Fargo Moorhead's Transportation Network  
Speaker: Michael Maddox, Metro COG

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

**The President called the business meeting to order at 6:40 PM.**

The President, Murali Vegi opened the meeting with introduction of life member awards: William Kirk, Robert Bartosh, and Dr. Gay Smith, and afterwards, an introduction of all guests. Taylor Bratten presented life member awards. ASCE is proud to have these members by improving the quality of life around the globe. Life members were presented with gold plated lapel pins.

**1) Previous Minutes**

- a. The minutes from the 2017 Fall Meeting held on October 19, 2017 were reviewed. Motion by Murali Vegi to approve the minutes, moved by Alexa Ducioame, 2<sup>nd</sup> Daba Gedafa. Motion passed.

**2) President's Report**

- a. Murali discussed the roles of Board and Committee members. Our Section hosts monthly conference calls, organizes social activities, and the Board approves some of the logistical items in our Section. Our Section meets twice during the year: an annual spring meeting for 4-professional development hours (pdhs) and once for the fall meeting 1 pdh.
- b. Murali mentioned that this year Alexa was honored as one of ASCE's "New Faces".

**3) Treasurer's Report**

- a. Nick Kalenze presented the financial report on behalf of Leelan. Current Section balance is \$9,814.26, including \$3,353.72 in withdrawals such as fall meeting expenses, student awards, etc.
- b. Deposits (+\$5,290.32) included Section dues and fall meeting registration fees paid by the attendees.
- c. Murali motioned to approve the Treasurer's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> Don Andersen. Motion passed.

**4) Committee Reports**

- a. **Report Card Chair Committee Report**

1. Murali presented on the North Dakota ASCE Report Card efforts on behalf of Brandon Oye. The report card categories include levees, dams, and they are being developed on the fast track to supporting ASCE National goals of the report card. Brandon is scheduling to finalize by December 2018, and a State drive event is tentatively scheduled in January 2019. There is a need to plan a budget for funding this effort, fundraising, including contributions necessary from the Section. ASCE National has a budget template for these types of efforts for other states' report cards. So far, the effort for the North Dakota report card is coming together very well.

**b. Continuing Education Committee Report**

1. Tom Klabunde mentioned that there will be upcoming webinars in Grand Forks, Fargo for the spring and fall. He will try to finalize details including the one in the spring. This is a good boost for our membership.
2. Tom mentioned that there will be an e-mail for an upcoming webinar for Bismarck, which Shannon Fisher will be hosting.

**c. Volunteer Events Committee Report**

1. Vicki Schneider, the Volunteer Events Chair, mentioned volunteering efforts that include a robotics competition and "Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day" during E-week. She was not able to attend the "Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day" at NDSU during E-week, but mentioned that the NDSU ASCE student chapter is the best resource to help for that event. She mentioned that it is best for our Section to reach out as much as possible for help on volunteering efforts.

**d. Membership Committee Report**

1. Taylor Braaten reported that there are three new life members in the Section. Next year there will be two new life members in our Section. Overall, our Section has 170 society members, including 140 Section members and 22 life members. The numbers are a little down from last year, and the age of our members is on the older end.
2. Taylor wants to get younger members involved, and continuing education is a good way to reach out. We want to have more presence on the western side of the state. Currently, there is a heavy presence on the east side.
3. Tom mentioned that joining ASCE is beneficial because of professional development hours (pdhs). Joining ASCE is open to all people and provides an economic benefit between meetings and on-demand webinars for earning pdhs.
4. Murali mentioned the benefits of joining ASCE also include prorated expenses (to start).

**e. Social Committee Report**

1. Dylan Dunn, the Social Committee Chari, was not in attendance. Alexa noted that a recent social event was held at the Proof Artisan Distillers. She mentioned to keep watching e-mails for other social events.
2. Daba noted that there was a recent UND hockey game as a social event in Grand Forks.

**f. Webmaster**

1. Allison Hanslip reported to "like" pages on the ASCE ND Section Facebook page. There will be an update of all current events. Recent events included the Multi-Region Leadership Conference (MRLC), which Shannon attended and the Legislative Fly-In that Daba and Nick attended.

**5) Old Business**

**a. Multi-Region Leadership Conference Report (MRLC)**

1. The MRLC is an annual event that the Section sends one or two members to attend. Typically, upcoming officers or chairs attend the event. The Section sent Shannon to the event in Omaha on January 27-28.

**b. Legislative Fly-In Report**

1. This is an annual event that is open to any Section members.
2. The Section sent Daba and Nick to the event in Washington, D.C. on March 13-15. Nick reported that there were four distinct bills that ASCE is advocating for regarding water and transportation infrastructure: Securing Required Funds for Water Infrastructure Now (SRF WIN) Act, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) regarding levees safety initiatives, Trump Infrastructure Plan, and the Highway Trust Fund.
3. Nick mentioned that he and Daba were able to meet Senator Hoeven and Heitkamp and their staff as well as representatives from Kramer's office to advocate the bills as representatives of the ASCE North Dakota Section. The event was a success.

**c. ASCE Dream Big Film, DVDs**

1. Murali thanked our Section who helped contribute to supporting the Dream Big film by purchasing DVDs. ASCE was able to match 50% of the costs to provide them to middle schools in North Dakota.

**6) New Business**

**a. Presidents and Governors Forum (PGF) Meeting, September 2018**

1. Murali discussed the PGF meeting which include all regional presidents of Sections throughout the U.S. as well as the ASCE India Section presidents in attendance. The goal of this meeting was to present on best practices for sections to all presidents in attendance.

**b. Constitution and By-Laws Status**

1. Alexa noted that there are a couple of changes in the Constitution and By-Laws. Among them, is the split between Secretary and Treasurer into two separate roles. Each officer is elected for a 1-year term on the Board to total 4-years when moving to different position. These all sought approval by the ASCE Governing Documents Committee (GDC). The Board votes on by-laws, whereas the Section votes on the constitution.
2. Alexa motioned to approve the updates in the constitution to the Section. Murali moved, Nick 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Section unanimously approved, and the motion passed.

**c. Committee Volunteers Needed**

1. Alexa noted that the Section is always looking for volunteers, in particular for Grand Forks.

**d. UND & NDSU Student Chapter Updates**

1. NDSU Chapter Update (Max Schumacher):
  - i. Max discussed the leadership conference.
  - ii. The NDSU student chapter hosted FE review courses.
  - iii. Dylan Dunn organized a few firm crawls where the students were able to visit local engineering firms
  - iv. NDSU took 4<sup>th</sup> place in steel bridge competition and did not run in the concrete canoe competition
  - v. Max thanked the Section for our continued support.

**e. 2018-2019 Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President Election Ballots**

1. Murali presented the election ballots to the Section. Alexa motioned to approve ballots for electing the new officers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Bauer. Motion passed.

2. Alexa is the new President-Elect for one-year; Tom is the new Vice President for one-year; Leelan and Nick are the incumbent Treasurer and Secretary, respectively; Daba is the new President for one-year, and Murali is the Past-President.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.