



VERMONT SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

**VERMONT SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 22, 2017**

ATTENDEES:

Christopher Rivet, PE	President
Joe Duncan, PE	Treasurer
KC Norris, PE	State Director/Co-coordinator of Mathcounts
Bill Atkinson, PE	Secretary (Called-In)

Location: Champlain Water District, South Burlington, Vermont

The following narrative is a reasonable written accounting of the items discussed during VSPE's March 22, 2017 Board Meeting.

Convene meeting, roll call, and changes to the agenda

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. The above noted attendees were present at the meeting. Bill Atkinson called in to the meeting.

Chris started the meeting with a review of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting on December 21, 2016. Bill Atkinson had emailed some suggested changes to be made to the meeting minutes. There was also one grammatical error that was brought to Chris' attention. The attendees at the meeting agreed that Bill's changes were acceptable and the rest of the December 21st minutes were accurate.

Treasurers Report

Joe indicated that VSPE is still operating with positive cash flow. He mentioned that the overall organizations budget is about \$10,000. Joe indicated that this amount is expected to decrease after rectifying the receipts from the EWeek committee. Joe thought that overall the expenditures and revenue from the EWeek banquet would probably cancel out.

Chris mentioned to Joe that there was approximately \$3,000 in the VSPE Paypal account from the EWeek banquet. Joe indicated that he had not included that money in his report. He indicated that he would look into getting that money transferred to the VSPE account.

Joe indicated that he is anticipating upcoming expenditures for MathCounts.

MathCounts

KC indicated that the State Competition will be held on March 26th. The State Competition is set to be at Vermont Technical College (VTC) and the room has been

reserved by Scott Sabol of VTC. KC indicated that she had students from Norwich University to help her run the competition. The speaker for the event was also from Norwich.

KC indicated that MathCounts received approximately \$5,400 in donations. She indicated that there is approximately \$9,000 in the MathCounts account and she is expecting the expenditures to be approximately \$5,000 for the State Competition.

MathCounts Scholarship

KC brought to our attention that Chantelle Belleveau is trying to start up a MathCounts scholarship fund that would give a \$2,000 scholarship each year to a civil or environmental engineering student. She indicated that the fund would require initial donations totaling approximately \$50,000 dollars to get the fund started. She mentioned that donations for the fund would be sent to UVM. KC indicated that she brought the scholarship fund to the Board's attention, to consider candidates to approach for donations.

EWeek

Chris indicated that overall the Eweek banquet was successful. He indicated that there were some issues with the online registration process and the length of the banquet. Chris is going to continue working on smoothing out the registration process through the VSPE website. He also indicated that the EWeek banquet committee would have to think about revising the banquet format to address some concerns attendees had.

Bill indicated that he had received some positive feedback regarding the pairing of students with professionals. Many of the students were appreciative of being paired with a professional to help them begin to network with the local engineers. He did mention that the level of student interest had been very high but only one class had been involved this year. Bill indicated that he hoped to get more students involved moving forward.

Raise the Bar Initiative

Joe indicated that there have been no new developments on the Raise the Bar Initiative. He indicated that there is supposed to be a conference call before our next Board meeting but did not expect much to have changed.

Bill indicated that the Raise the Bar Initiative had begun to pursue its goals in New Jersey and that he would be keeping an eye on how things progress.

VSPE Membership Initiatives

The Board continued to discuss the importance of attracting younger members to not only sustain VSPE, but also help it to grow. The Board agreed to further pursue opportunities to present at UVM, NU, and VTC.

The Board discussed the idea of trying to attract student members. Bill asked if that effort would be focused on incorporating them into the state society or trying to get a student chapter started. He mentioned that starting a student chapter generally is challenging to create a sustainable chapter. Bill indicated that student chapters are generally successful when there is a professional member who invests their time to help drive the students and give students a person to reach out to. If we were interesting in meeting with UVM, Bill mentioned that we could use his contacts at UVM to reach out the students.

From a professional engineer's perspective, Bill indicated that people he had talked with generally do not know about VSPE or had the perception that VSPE was generally for civil engineers. The Board discussed ways in which we could go about changing that perception.

VSPE Website Modifications

Chris indicated that overall the registration page worked for the EWeek banquet but there are some minor bugs that need to be worked out moving forward. He indicated that he would work on getting the EWeek photos and write-ups on the website.

Chris indicated that he would continue to work on updating other aspects of the website as needed.

NH/VT Joint Annual Meeting

Chris indicated that he had tentatively scheduled the date of June 15th for the NH/VT Joint Meeting. The Board members agreed that June 15th was an acceptable date. He indicated that he would be letting NH and National know that June 15th would be the meeting date. Chris indicated that he expected one of the National officers to attend the Joint Meeting.

Chris asked around the room about potentially hosting some type of presentation or tour that could be considered for continuing education credits. The Board members indicated that there is probably not enough space at the Quechee Inn to have a presentation but thought having a tour might be a good idea. Dartmouth was proposed a potential option.

Other Business

The only additional business was to schedule the next Board meeting.

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 7th at 4:30 pm at the Champlain Water District office in South Burlington, Vermont.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Vermont Society of Professional Engineers
Board Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2017

The above narrative is a record of those items discussed at this meeting. Any discrepancies, errors or omissions shall be brought to the attention of the preparer, in writing, within five (5) working days of the receipt of these meeting minutes or they will be assumed to be accurate in all detail.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher J. Rivet, P.E.
VSPE President
CC: Attendees and Absentees