

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS COUNCIL

Board of Directors Monthly Meeting

January 2010

The monthly meeting of the MGEC Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at the MGEC office.

	Present	Not Present		Present	Not Present
President John Siekmeier	X		Director Joe Fleisher		X
Vice President Linda Heath	X		Director Rachel Guan		X
Past President Peter Buchen	X		Director Marilyn Jordahl Larson	X	
Secretary Len Leitner	X		Director Paul Kettleson	X	
Treasurer Jessica Forsberg		X	Director Jerry Kotzenmacher	X	
Director Mohammad Dehdashti	X		Director Mike Lownsbury	X	
Director Andy Eller	X		Executive Director Dana Wheeler	X	
Director Pat Ferrin		X	Administrative Asst Rhonda Bauer	X	

I. Call to Order: President Siekmeier called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. A motion was approved to accept the agenda as written.

II. President's Report

A. Trip to DC: John gave an update on his trip to Washington, D.C. MGEC will send letters of support of our common objectives with NASHTU's legislative efforts.

B. Position Papers: Four draft position papers were distributed tonight for the MGEC Board to review and send their comments to Dana by the end of this week. At least three papers should be approved by the Board prior to the MGEC Day at the Capitol on March 4.

C. Letters of Opinion: Elected officials suggested MGEC members write Letters to the Editor on issues of concern. The Legislative Committee will discuss the issue of who is being represented when members write letters to the editor of their local paper.

D. Transportation Events: Governors Candidate Forum and Federal Transportation Policy listening session – both events are on January 25. Another announcement should be sent to the membership.

III. Secretary's Report: The December 2009 minutes were approved with corrections noted in attendance and to Item II.

IV. Membership Report: As of January 5, 2010 there were 1,030 members (913 full members, 52 fair shares, 65 associates) and 350 life members.

V. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Forsberg and Executive Director Wheeler met last week and reviewed the bookkeeping and check-writing processes. They will meet on first Tuesdays of the month over the noon hour. President Siekmeier noted that board members were welcome to attend during this time to help plan and prepare for the following week Executive Board meeting.

VI. Committees

A. Legislative: Notes from the last meeting were reviewed.

- i. **Day at the Capitol:** A motion was approved to hold an MGEC Day at the Capitol on March 4, 2010. A motion was approved to partner with MN Transportation Alliance on March 4, and to expend funds for related costs including the luncheon and mileage (if over 35 miles one way), not to exceed \$5,000.
- ii. **Membership Meeting:** The committee will send out a gubernatorial candidate questionnaire and meet with those who respond, possibly at the Kelly Inn.
- iii. **Next Meeting:** The next MGEC Legislative Committee meeting is next Tuesday, January 26.

B. Committee Assignments: Committee assignments were finalized and chairs were appointed. Committees are open to all MGEC members.

C. Awards & Scholarships: A meeting has been called to review six applications for the MGEC scholarship donated by Joshua Vinkmeier of The Wealth Maximizer, LLC.

D. Education: The PE Exam Review spring session begins February 8. Instructors are still being sought for Surveys/Construction, Structures, and Traffic. Dana noted that there may be members of the Minnesota Surveyors & Engineers Society (MSES) willing to be instructors. Some of the past instructors are now members of MSES. Paul will give this consideration.

VII. Executive Director's Report: Dana distributed his monthly status and activities report.

A. MSRS (Minnesota State Retirement System): There is a proposal to drop the COLA cap from 3.5% to 2.0% or freeze COLA for two years and then reduce it to 2.0% until fully funded. Dana will invite the MSRS director to speak at our annual meeting.

VIII. New Business

A. Annual Meeting: A motion was approved to combine this year's annual meeting with the MSES annual meeting on February 18, and to provide for lunch and speakers for our members. Ideas for CEU activities were discussed.

IX. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. The next monthly board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2010 at the MGEC office.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Leitner
Secretary

Rhonda Bauer
Administrative Secretary