

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS COUNCIL
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
April 2008

The monthly meeting of the MGEC Board of Directors was held on Monday, April 14, 2008, at the MGEC office.

Present: President Joe Pignato, Vice President Peter Buchen, Secretary Len Leitner, Directors Gordon Bergstrom, Ron Dahlquist, Shongtao Dai, Pat Ferrin, Linda Heath, Paul Kettleson, Kim Larsen, Mike Lownsbury, John Siekmeier, Executive Director Dana Wheeler and Administrative Secretary Rhonda Bauer.

Not present: Treasurer Scott Pierson and Past President Jim Sellner.

I. **Call to Order:** President Pignato called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

II. **Secretary's Report:** The meeting minutes for March 10, 2008 were approved as written.

III. **Membership Report**

- A. The April 2008 membership report was reviewed. There are currently 922 Members (819 Regular, 41 Fair Share, and 62 Associates). There are 322 Life Members on the mailing list.
- B. Life membership was granted to Ronald Jacobson (MPCA) and Jim Koivisto (MnDOT). Life membership will be granted to Karl Rasmussen (MnDOT), who retired last May as an Associate.
- C. Dues for Life Members [discussion tabled to next meeting].
- D. Check on statistics that are being reported, i.e., loss of 1,000 engineers.

IV. **Treasurer's Report:** A motion was approved to accept the April 2008 Treasurer's report subject to audit.

V. **Action on Item II:** The board had discussion on and passed a motion to support the retirement system Post Fund proposal (HF 3421 / SF 2969).

VI. **Executive Director's Report:** Dana Wheeler distributed and reviewed his monthly status, labor relations and grievance reports.

A. Republican National Convention: A meeting to discuss the effects on work for state employees will be held on 4-17-08.

B. MnDOT Meet & Confer:

- A M&C meeting took place today. Training on mileage reporting and cell phone policy scheduled for July. Minutes from the 3-11-08 M&C were distributed to the board.
- Legislation that the Deputy Commissioner/Chief Engineer of MnDOT be a licensed engineer: Has second reading in House and Senate; no final action has been taken.

C. Temporary Unit Assignment (TUA): MGEC filed an objection to the TUA (voted on at the 03-08 board meeting) for a newly-created MAPE classification (RECS Construction Project Coordinator Principal).

D. Mandatory Overtime: Some employees have been working overtime every week for 3-4 months. Dana asked for comments.

E. Grievance: Item #19 - arbitration scheduled for 4-25-08. Item #17 – may need a recommendation from the board.

- F. Compensation Study:** MGEC is working on a list of firms to survey that have contracts with the State. It will be narrowed down to approximately twenty, and should include firms in non-MnDOT agencies. Send input to Dana ASAP. The next meetings are 05-12-08 and 06-09-08.

VII. Committees

- A. Program:** The location for the 9-8-08 golf tournament was narrowed to either Oakdale or Woodbury. The committee will look at the locations.
B. Appreciation Dinner: The committee will begin looking at ideas on a location for this event.
C. Legislative: Bring any issues to the next board meeting.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Minnesota State Retirement System:** Discussion on post fund legislative proposal [tabled].
B. Science Debate 2008: Support a debate of the presidential candidates to focus on scientific concerns [tabled]. Review the concept at <http://www.sciencedebate2008.com/www/index.php?id=2>.

- IX. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. The next monthly board meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., Monday, May 12, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Leitner
Secretary

Rhonda Bauer
Administrative Secretary