

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS COUNCIL
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
May 2008

The monthly meeting of the MGEC Board of Directors was held on Monday, May 12, 2008, at the MGEC office.

Present: Vice President Peter Buchen, Secretary Len Leitner, Past President Jim Sellner (5:25 p.m.), Directors Shongtao Dai, Pat Ferrin, Linda Heath, Kim Larsen, Mike Lownsbury, John Siekmeier, Executive Director Dana Wheeler and Administrative Secretary Rhonda Bauer, and member Larry Goss (Item II only).

Not present: President Joe Pignato, Treasurer Scott Pierson, Directors Gordon Bergstrom, Ron Dahlquist, and Paul Kettleson.

- I. **Call to Order:** Vice President Buchen called the meeting to order at 4:43 p.m.
- II. **Grievance (4:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.):** Grievant Larry Goss presented his case and reasons to go to arbitration to the board. A motion was approved unanimously to take the case to arbitration.
- III. **Membership Report:** The May 2008 membership report was distributed. There are currently 919 Members (816 Regular, 42 Fair Share, and 61 Associates). There are 323 Life Members on the mailing list. Life membership was granted to Doug Mandy (MnDOT).
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:** Table to next month. A rough draft of the FY 2009 budget will be forwarded to the Finance Committee.
- V. **Executive Director's Report:** Dana Wheeler distributed his monthly status, labor relations and grievance reports.
 - A. **Grievance:** Motion approved unanimously not to pursue a grievance on behalf of former MnDOT employee Enrico Sherman. There was no basis upon which MGEC can file a grievance. Dana will respond to him with a follow-up letter.
 - B. **Temporary Unit Assignment (TUA):** Dana provided an update on criteria for the newly-created MAPE classification (Construction Project Coordinator Principal). A BMS hearing is scheduled for 5-27-08 to determine to which bargaining unit the position will be assigned.
 - C. **MnDOT Meet & Confer:** Future topic raised by board member – elimination of Principal Engineer positions.
 - D. **Minnesota State Retirement System:** Proposed changes to law will allow MGEC staff to participate in the MSRS retirement plan. Those changes are part of the Omnibus pension bill – final legislative action is expected this week.
 - E. **Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers:** Language requiring a licensed chief engineer/deputy commissioner in MnDOT was pulled from the Omnibus bill so is not expected to pass in this session. New MnDOT Commissioner Thomas Sorel holds a degree in civil engineering. New MnDOT Deputy Commissioner Khani Sahebjam (an MGEC Associate member) is a licensed engineer in MN.
- VI. **Committees**
 - A. **Program:** The 2008 Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament will be at Stone Ridge Golf Club.
- VII. **Secretary's Report:** The meeting minutes for April 14, 2008 were approved as written.
- VIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next monthly board meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., Monday, June 9, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Len Leitner
Secretary

Rhonda Bauer
Administrative Secretary