

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS COUNCIL
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
June 2008

The monthly meeting of the MGEC Board of Directors was held on Monday, June 9, 2008, at the MGEC office.

Present: Vice President Peter Buchen, Secretary Len Leitner, Treasurer Scott Pierson, Past President Jim Sellner, Directors Gordon Bergstrom, Linda Heath, Paul Kettleson, Mike Lownsbury, John Siekmeier, Executive Director Dana Wheeler and Administrative Secretary Rhonda Bauer.

Not present: President Joe Pignato, Directors Ron Dahlquist, Shongtao Dai, Pat Ferrin, and Kim Larsen.

- I. **Call to Order:** Vice President Buchen called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
- II. **Secretary's Report:** The meeting minutes for May 12, 2008 were approved as written.
- III. **Membership Report:** The June 2008 membership report was distributed. There are currently 928 Members (824 Regular, 43 Fair Share, and 61 Associates). There are 324 Life Members on the mailing list. Life membership was granted to James Wright (MnDOT), Greg Gross, (PCA), and Thomas Townsend (PCA).
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:** The April and May Treasurer's reports were approved subject to audit. A draft of the 2009 budget was distributed by a motion was approved to table to next month. The Executive Committee will discuss options other than renting for the MGEC office. The current lease is up next summer.
- V. **Executive Director's Report:** Dana Wheeler distributed his monthly status, labor relations and grievance reports.
 - A. **Office of Pipeline Safety:** Two issues have come up: 1) not counting vacation, sick or holiday hours towards hours worked in a pay period, thereby eliminating paying out straight overtime; 2) an employee is being required to move his office into his home without compensation for home office requirements.
 - B. **Construction Project Coordinator Principal:** No word yet from the BMS hearing on 5-27-08 determining which bargaining unit the new position will be assigned.
 - C. **P.E. in MnDOT Leadership:** The proposed change in statute requiring the chief engineer/ deputy commissioner of MnDOT to hold an engineering license did not pass but had strong bipartisan consent and may come up again in a future session.
 - D. **Minnesota State Retirement System:** A change in law passed which will allow MGEC staff to participate in the MSRS retirement plan.
 - E. **Grievance:** Arbitrator's award on the TNP (time not paid) case did not support the remedy MGEC sought at arbitration. He writes, "The more effective response probably must be pursued at the bargaining table and also through further clarification by management communication of the distinction between time management as a concept and practice, and the concept and practice of compensable overtime." Tabled to next round of bargaining.
 - F. **MnDOT Meet & Confer:** Consider using scenario/consequence examples to illustrate policies.

VI. Committees

- A. **Legislative:** Possible actions to pursue were outlined by Chair John Siekmeier and a committee meeting was scheduled for 6-23-08 to prioritize the issues.
- B. **Awards:** The committee should meet the week of 8-11 to review applications.
- C. **Grievance:** Three directors volunteered to be on-call backup reps: Paul Kettleson, Linda Heath, and Gordon Bergstrom.
- D. **Program:** The committee needs to meet to finalize details of the annual meeting.

VII. Old Business

- A. **MSRS (Minnesota State Retirement System) Post Fund Legislation:** Director Kettleson checked with MSRS and was told there will not be an increase to employees' costs for fees.

VIII. New Business

- A. **PE Review Class:** A new instructor is needed for Surveys & Construction. Education Committee Chair Kettleson will send out an email. This fall be his last session teaching as well – he leads the Introduction and Practice Exam.
- B. **Holiday Pay for Part-time Employees:** This issue was resolved with a bookkeeping change.

IX. **Open Forum:** Discussion followed regarding pay scales, promotions, job audits, hay evaluations.

X. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. The next monthly board meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., Monday, July 14, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Leitner
Secretary

Rhonda Bauer
Administrative Secretary