

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS COUNCIL

Board of Directors Monthly Meeting

April 12, 2010

The monthly meeting of the MGEC Board of Directors was held on Monday, April 12, 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 4:25 p.m.

II. President's Report

A. Announcements:

- i. The Transportation Alliance web site has a listing of who the members are, i.e. city and county engineers. Handout on membership dues.
- ii. There's a bill re: whistleblower protection. He handed out articles on this week's mine accident in WV and the 2008 NY crane failure accident. Safety suffers when there are fewer and fewer employees. Workplace safety is on the agenda for the next MnDOT M&C.
- iii. John was invited by MnSCU and plans to participate in a "conversation" meeting to discuss the future of education on MN. This takes place at MnSCU in St. Cloud on May 7.
- iv. NASHTU – Dana and Mohammad will attend in DC later this month; Jessica and Dana will also attending the CESO in DC during the same week.
- v. AFSCME will attend our May board meeting from 4:30-5:30 and MAPE will attend in June.
- vi. Staffing – need a list of items the board wants before they can be assessed.
- vii. MnDOT M&C – much more on M&C topics are in Dana's report.

III. Secretary's Report: The March 2010 minutes were approved as written. The annual meeting minutes from 2/18/10 were approved as written.

IV. Membership Report: As of 4/12/10 there were 1,034 members (917 full members, 53 fair shares, 64 associates) and 352 life members.

V. Treasurer's Report: Jessica presented the March 2010 Treasurer's Report, which was approved subject to audit.

VI. Committees

A. Legislative: The committee reported on their April 6 meeting. The notes from that meeting were distributed. The next meeting is Tuesday, May 4, at 4:30 p.m.

B. Constitution: The committee will meet May 10 at 2:30 p.m. Some of the items to discuss are: the number of board members that can be on committees; developing a protocol for what information should be on the web site; and a timeline for the annual board election, awards and scholarship.

- C. Education:** No report.
- D. Member Issue Advocacy:** The committee will review issues as they come up and will meet on Wednesdays before board meetings. At their last meeting they reviewed the contract language re: laterals. On another issue they reported that documentation would be needed before going to the agency.
- E. Awards and Scholarships:** Need to set timeline for this year.
- F. Nominations:** Recruitment timeline to be determined.
- G. TTAA Task Force:** Waiting for materials that were requested before scheduling the next meeting.
- H. Compensation Study:** A meeting was held which included Mediator Weisenberger. The next compensation study will be reduced in scope and focus on direct compensation. Data collection is not expected to begin until nearer to negotiations.
- I. Insurance Bargaining:** Dana reported on today's meeting. The units discussed timing of when employees would receive the \$125 Benny card credit. Peter talked about agency Worksite Wellness - Linda Feltes of MMB is the project manager.

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

- A. Early Retirement Incentives:** One bill provides for 18 months of insurance, the other provides six months insurance, 72 weeks of unemployment benefits .

VIII. New Business

- A. Workplace of Choice:** Rebecca Fabunmi of MnDOT is leading a task force. A meeting will be held May 4, 2:00 p.m., in Maplewood for interested MnDOT employees. Worksite wellness is a possible topic we could bring up.
- B. Telework:** Mn/DOT launched a new telework pilot beginning April 1, as part of eWorkPlace.

IX. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next monthly board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 10, 2010 at the MGEC office.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Leitner
Secretary

Rhonda Bauer
Administrative Secretary