

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS COUNCIL

Executive Board Monthly Meeting - December 2010

The monthly meeting of the MGEC Executive Board was held on Monday, December 17, 2010, at the Hiway Federal Credit Union, 840 Westminster St., St. Paul.

	Present		Present
President John Siekmeier	X	Director Rachel Guan	X
Vice President Linda Heath	X	Director Marilyn Jordahl Larson	X
Past President Peter Buchen	X	Director Paul Kettleson	
Secretary Len Leitner	X	Director Jerry Kotzenmacher	X
Treasurer Jessica Forsberg	X	Director Mike Lownsbury	
Director Mohammad Dehdashti	X	Executive Director Dana Wheeler	X
Director Andy Eller	X	Administrative Asst Rhonda Bauer	X
Director Pat Ferrin	X	Director-elect Ann Driver	X
Director Joe Fleisher		Director-elect Ryan Wilson	X
Bruce Tanquist, Member	X		

I. **Call to Order:** President Siekmeier called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m.

II. **Committees**

A. **Tellers:**

- 2010 election** – A Tellers committee was appointed (Peter, Len, Jerry) and certified the election results for the 2010 Executive Board Annual Election. Winning candidates were: Mohammad Dehdashti - vice president; Marilyn Jordahl-Larson – secretary; Bob Dehler, Ann Driver, Joe Fleisher, Mike Lownsbury, and Ryan Wilson – directorships. A motion was approved to accept the teller committee report.
- Board vacancy** – A directorship position is open as a result of Marilyn being elected to the office of secretary. The term would be for one year. Four election candidates have expressed interest in the open position, and they were invited to present a brief statement at today's meeting. Item tabled.
- Elections committee** - Renaming of the nominations committee to elections committee was agreed to. By-laws will need to be modified.

B. **Executive:** The summary of the Membership Survey can be posted on the website. Members can request a confidential copy of the survey results --with comments and identifying information removed--be sent to their personal address.

C. **Constitution:**

- Presidential terms** – The board discussed whether one year is a long enough term, concluding that the current structure works well but presidential officeholders (vice/current/past) should meet more often and share commitments to foster involvement, and also invite the vice president to attend more of the activities and meetings.

At this time board candidate Bruce Tanquist arrived. He stated reasons why he wants to serve on the board.

- Forming a sister organization related to professional development - At least one organization may be open to creating a subchapter under MGEC. More research still needed before a decision can be made.
- Meeting frequency – Discussion on how often to meet in order to accomplish all the items on the agenda. Possibilities may be to meet longer during the day with breakouts for committee meetings; standing monthly or quarterly meetings of the executive committee; get together each January to decide the vision and mission for the coming year.

~lunchbreak~

D. Board Service Awards: John thanked the outgoing board members since today will be their final board meeting. There was a short ceremony as Dana and Linda presented appreciation plaques to President Siekmeier, Past President Buchen, and Secretary Leitner. The board was pleased to present Len with a gift certificate to the Ordway Theater. He retires from the board with 18 years of service and is MGEC's longest-serving board member.

E. Finance:

1. **FY 2012 budget** - The finance committee's proposed FY 2012 budget was distributed and reviewed. Some new items are additional staffing time. Time was spent reviewing projected cash flow comparisons if a permanent office space was purchased.
2. **Purchase of office space** - Some spaces have been viewed, including two in Inver Grove Heights.
 - a. Motion was made to explore buying a building in IGH; S/P 10-0.
 - b. Motion was made to pursue buying the larger space; S. Amended to specify a maximum purchase price. Further amended to include a half-time staff position. Motion passed 9-1.
 - c. Motion was made to offer a max of \$██████, with the ability to approve more via electronic vote; motion includes both above amendments; S/P 7-3.
 - d. Motion to empower Dana to make offer on the smaller space if negotiations on the larger space does not meet our requirements; includes both amendments and amendment to cap max offer at \$██████; S/P 8-2.
 - e. Motion to authorize an additional half-time staff regardless of whether office space is purchased; S/P.

F. Tabled Item II.A.2: Motion to appoint Bruce Tanquist to serve Marilyn's remaining directorship term; S/P.

G. Program: A date for the annual meeting needs to be set--motion approved to defer to Program committee; S/P.

H. Legislative: Motion to participate in the Transportation Alliance Day at the Capitol on February 16, 2011; S/P. Motion to sponsor a \$1,000-level banner for MGEC, which can be used for one year; S/P. A legislative committee meeting is needed in January to prepare for the Day at the Capitol [subsequently scheduled for January 28 at 3:30 p.m.]

III. Executive Director's Report: Dana distributed his activities, labor management, and grievances report.

A. MGEC Branding: Tabled to a future meeting.

B. TTAA Reports: Dana discussed this with Transportation Committee Chair Mike Beard.

C. CESO (Council of Engineers and Scientists Organizations): The next conference is May 24-27 in Paris. Anyone interested in attending must decide by the January board meeting. CESO pays for one MGEC representative to attend.

D. NASHTU (National Association of State Highway Transportation Unions): The national conference is April 27-29 in D.C.; two board members usually attend.

IV. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next board meeting was set for Monday, 3:00 p.m., January 10, 2011, at the MGEC office. The Executive committee will meet on January 7 and set the agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Leitner
Secretary

Rhonda Bauer
Administrative Secretary