

**North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers
Board of Directors Meeting
October 19, 2002
Chieftain Inn, Carrington, ND**

1. **Call to order-** The North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers Board of Directors meeting was called to order on October 19, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. by Roger Kluck, President. Present were Roger Kluck; President, Dean Wieland; Past President, Don Andersen; President-elect, Gary Doerr; Vice President, Kevin Nelson; Secretary-Treasurer, Lawrence Woodbury, PEPP Chairman, Dain Miller, proxy for Gregg Thielman; Chapter 4 President, Candie Robinson and Cliff Keller from the Board of Registration and Mary Nelson, Executive Secretary.

2. **Introductions-**

3. **Adoption of the Agenda –**

Dean Wieland moved to accept the agenda. Motion was seconded by Gary Doerr and carried.

4. **Approval of the Minutes-** the minutes from the NDSPE Board of Directors meeting held in Fargo on April 3-5, 2002 were distributed via mail and reviewed.

Kevin Nelson moved that the minutes be approved as distributed. Motion seconded by Dean Wieland and carried.

5. **Executive Secretary’s Report-** financial report attached

Checking Balance as of 10-18-02: \$541.95
Savings Balance as of 10-18-02: \$10,932.36
CD Balance as of 9-24-02: \$7,973.06
Maturity date 10/24/03
Interest Rate: 2.00%
Total Assets \$19,447.37

Membership Numbers as of September 2002		September 2001	
Licensed:	177	Licensed:	178
Members:	70	Members:	79
Students:	26	Students:	68
Total members:	273	Total Members:	325

6. **Chapter Reports-** Dean Wieland reported that Chapter 1 has held their first meeting for the year.

Gary Doerr reported that Chapter 3 has held their first meeting. Kevin Nelson added that Kathleen Spillman is scheduled to speak at an upcoming meeting.

Dain Miller, Vice-President Chapter 4, presented the written report by Gregg Thielman. The report includes a list of the 2002-03 officers and a treasurer's report. The chapter consists of about 80-90 members. The chapter supported the NDSPE Scholarship fund, NDSU Concrete Canoe team, NDSU Steel bridge team and 2 FM Engineers scholarships of \$500.00 to each. The chapter held a meeting in September and their October meeting is planned for a tour of the Cass County jail. Bill Neuhauser resigned as President-Elect due to relocating to Detroit Lakes. A written report is attached.

Kevin Nelson commented that at the Annual Meeting Chapter 2 was willing to match all funds to the Education Foundation contributed by other Chapters up \$500. Chapter 4 was the only Chapter that contributed to the Education Foundation.

7. Committee Reports-

Don Andersen, Publications Chairman reported that a newsletter was published after the Annual Meeting. Don requested newsletter articles by the end of October for publishing in November.

Kevin Nelson has updated the NDSPE website. Chapter 1 has inquired about putting information on the website. Kevin will gladly add Chapter information if the Chapters will e-mail the information to him.

The possibility of only publishing the newsletter on the website was discussed. It was decided that the newsletter will continue to be sent out in the mail as well as posted on the website.

Advertising in the newsletter has been discussed amongst the Publications committee and the consensus is not in favor of it.

Gary Doerr, Public Relations Chairman stated that the committee consists of a representative from every chapter who can send any pertinent information to him for submittal to the local newspapers. Kevin Nelson stated that if each Chapter submitted information to their local newspaper it might have a better chance of being published.

Kevin Nelson reported on behalf of the Legislative committee. Kevin reported that the Legislators are proposing the idea of starting a "super" board. President Kluck tabled the rest of the committee report with agenda item 10. Legislative issues.

8. Old Business

a. Implementing the Road Show- Annette Petrick provided NDSPE Board members with a proposed program on June 10, 2002. Due to the timing of receiving the information there has not been any action taken towards implementing the program. Scott Zainhofsky had expressed interest as being the Chairman for the committee.

Roger asked for feedback from each chapter for participation by the end of October.

Annette informed NDSPE that about ½ the states in the North Central Region have implemented the program.

- b. **Updates on Handbooks-** Kevin Nelson distributed an updated list of officers, committee assignments, budget, NC region governance guidelines to be inserted in the NDSPE Handbook. A digital copy can be found on the website.
- c. **Use of 24/7-** 24/7 is a way of accessing membership information through NSPE. Information such as new, dropped and delinquent members can be retrieved. Kevin Nelson highly recommended that the Chapters use this.

9. New Business-

- a. **Endorsement of Kathryn Gray-** President Kluck requested direction from the Board of Directors on whether or not to support Kathryn Gray from Illinois for NSPE President Elect. Kevin Nelson commented that she was spoken very highly of at the NC region meeting. Dean Wieland noted that Seth Hanson is a member of the nominations committee and the Board may want to contact him for more information. Discussion transpired Art deWit. To date, Art is apparently not running again.

Dean Wieland moved that NDSPE support Kathryn Gray for NSPE President-Elect. Motion was seconded by Don Andersen and carried.

- b. **Young Engineers-** Kevin Nelson reported on the following issues:
 - i. **NSPE Young Engineers Advisory Council-** NSPE is looking for young Engineers to serve on the advisory council. If anyone knows of someone who would be interested they should contact Tony Gott. Kevin Nelson distributed Tony's contact information.
 - ii. **Young Engineers Round Table-** A round table is a group of people, who do not have to be members of NSPE, and 5 facilitators that facilitate 5 discussions throughout the day long event. The facilitators keep the meeting going and take notes. It gives the engineers an opportunity to talk about things that are happening in their profession. Kansas has been doing this. Dean Wieland suggested this idea could be implemented with the Road show membership program.
- c. **National Licensing Issues**
 - i. **National License-** NCEES is talking about implementing a national license engineers and state certification through the state boards.
 - ii. **Texas A.G. Decision-** Individuals in Texas that are not licensed cannot use "engineer" on letterheads and business cards. According to the Texas Attorney General's decision.
 - iii. **NY Continuing education-** NY has 2000 engineers that are members of a union. The union has dictated that continuing

education cannot be required and this is a bargaining tool. NY has decided on a grandfather clause.

Cliff Keller commented that NY is having some problem because of this.

- iv. **Specialty licensing-** encouraging states not to pursue specialty licensing, and have an engineering license and live by a code of ethics.

Lawrence Woodbury commented on the above issues:

- i. There a lot of different proposals out there for the national licensing through NCEES. Individuals can submit credentials to NCEES to become a “model law” engineer to make things easier if a national archive does come in place.
- ii. The problem with professional engineer vs. engineer is that a not a whole can be done other than educating the public of the difference.
- iii. Specialty licensing testing is very expensive.

Cliff Keller commented that some states are using a breadth & depth concept for testing. Everyone takes the same test in the morning and in the afternoon they take a module pertaining towards their specialty.

Don Anderson commented that ND is pretty tough in regards to the model law.

Candie Robinson commented that there are many options on the table for national licensing through NCEES.

- d. **Fellow grade nominations-** Monte Phillips holds fellow grade status in ND. Art deWit strongly suggested nominating Ray Rolshoven and Bob Muscha.

Lawrence Woodbury moved that NDSPE nominate Ray Rolshoven and Bob Muscha for fellow grade status. Motion was seconded by Don Andersen and carried.

Lawrence Woodbury and Dean Wieland volunteered to write letters of recommendations for Ray and Bob.

- e. **Sustaining members membership classification-** the idea of increasing dues at the Annual meeting was not supported. Many states have sustaining members where individuals or companies are recognized for their contributions with sustaining member status.
The idea was approved of. The constitution and bylaws would need to be amended to implement this. A draft will be presented at the next teleconference.

f. National Officer Participation- the Annual Meeting is planned for April 11-12, 2003 in Bismarck.

Discussion followed about whom to request as the National Officer at the Annual Meeting. The first choice of officers to speak at the annual meeting is Terry Hellminger and the second choice is President Howard Blitman. Mary Nelson will submit the request.

The Meeting adjourned at 12:45 for a 5-minute break.

10. Legislative Issues-

a. Registration Requirements- NDCC Ch’s 43-19.1-14 and –15. Roger received a letter from the Board of registration asking for an opinion on registration requirements.

Continuing education solicited support from all professional organizations and was structured in detail and was why it was opposed the last legislative session. The resolution is proposing that retired PE’s be exempt from continuing education.

Board of registration is firmer now; laws have not been opened up since 1950’s for fee caps, etc. There are a number of issues ready to go to the legislature to change these laws. This takes an organized effort of going to all organizations for support. An ad hoc committee has been formed and the Board is looking for individuals for the committee, two from each NDCEC and NDSPE. Lawrence Woodbury recommended Kevin Nelson and Ron Rebenitsch as representatives from NDSPE. The committee will launch an effort to contact legislators, have key people to keep informed those that have opposed past legislations. Those opposed to continuing education feel better with the Board leading the changes.

Kevin distributed the resolutions he drafted. Candie distributed an outline of the model law from NCEES. Candie added that the Board of Registration has passed a motion to exempt retired PE’s from continuing education.

Cliff Keller explained the current requirements for registration:

Category	Education	Experience prior To examination		Total Experience & Education
		FE	PE	
1	ABET Eng. Degree	0	4	8
2	Non-ABET Eng. Degree	4	4	12
3	All other applicants	10	20	20

The Board is supporting the following changes:

1. Add 6-12 rule, the individual must have an engineering related degree, 6 years of experience prior to taking the FE exam and 12 years of experience prior to taking the PE exam. This would mean that the graduate could take the PE exam 16 years after starting college.

2. Removal of category 3, which means no longer allowing engineering registration to those without an engineering or engineering related degree.

There are only 2 states that you can get a license without an engineering degree.

Lawrence Woodbury added the above changes are a law change; the changes can be more definitive in the administrative code. Once these are passed, rules can be tightening up.

Roger Kluck's opposition was to the change of allowing Construction Management graduates to become licensed and the possible degrading of the profession. Roger stated he now understands that the change will be very structured.

Kevin Nelson presented Resolution 02-03.

Gary Doerr moved to bring Resolution 02-03 to the table. Motion seconded by Don Andersen.

Dean Wieland moved to amend resolution 02-03 to combine the 2nd and 3rd "Be it Further Resolved" and change the word eliminate to implement. Motion seconded by Gary Doerr.

Vote taken on Amendment and passed.

Vote taken on Resolution as amended and passed.

- b. **Retired Status-** NDCC Chap 43-19.1-22. Non-practicing licensed engineers would Not have to meet requirements for continuing education.

Kevin Nelson moved to bring Resolution 02-02 to the table. Motion seconded by Dean Wieland. Vote taken and passed.

- c. **Continuing Education-** Cliff Keller mentioned the important thing is supporting enabling continuing education. One log can be used for all states to chart continuing education. Candie Robinson commented that Dean Watson at UND has committed to continuing education via the Internet.

The goal is to make continuing education easy. Most engineers are already receiving continuing education but aren't tracking it.

Don Andersen moved to bring Resolution 02-01 to the table. Motion seconded by Dean Wieland. Vote taken and passed.

- d. **Fee caps-** NDCC Ch 43-19.1-18. State government charges for everything. It costs the Board \$15,000 out of operating reserves to pay the bills. Eliminate the cap from the existing law, be proactive and get it done ahead of time. The biannual fee is currently \$100. Legislature wants Boards to be fiscally responsible.

Kevin Nelson moved to bring Resolution 02-04 to the table. Motion seconded by Gary Doerr.

Discussion followed. This may be a stand-alone bill because there may be some opposition to this bill. A limit will not be stated, it will be up to the Board to be prudent.

Vote taken and passed.

- e. **Fining and cost recovery authority-** NDCCCh's 43-19.1-08 and -25. The process for a complaint is a preliminary investigation done by Candie Robinson, which is turned over to the Board, and it may be brought to a hearing. This bill would allow the Board to be reimbursed the expenses of the investigation and guard the Board against some potentially high costs.

Dean Wieland moved to bring Resolution 02-05 to the table. Motion seconded by Gary Doerr. Vote taken and passed.

Action by the Board of Directors to appoint two people to serve on the adhoc committee was discussed.

Gary Doerr moved that Kevin Nelson and Ron Rebenitsch serve on the adhoc committee and Brant Malsam be an alternate. Motion seconded by Dean Wieland.

Kevin Nelson and Ron Rebenitsch have both been registered as lobbyists for this legislative session..

No further discussion. Motion carried.

- 11. **Other Business-** NSPE winter meeting is in San Francisco. President-Elect Don Andersen will attend the meeting. The President attends the summer meeting in San Antonio.

The Annual meeting is planned for April 11-12, 2003 in Bismarck. If anyone has any suggestions for the meeting, contact Gary Doerr or Kevin Nelson.

Steve Smith served on the NSPE nominating committee in Orlando. His registration fees were not reimbursed.

Kevin Nelson moved that NDSPE reimburse Steve Smith for registration fees incurred for the NSPE summer meeting in Orlando. Motion seconded by Gary Doerr and carried.

North Dakota is scheduled to host the Fall 2003 North Central Region meeting. It is usually the second week in September. It has been discussed in the region to set up a kitty to reimburse the host state for losses if there are any. The meeting includes membership and leadership training.

12. Adjourn-

Kevin Nelson moved that the NDSPE Board of Directors meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Dean Wieland and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(original signed)

Mary B. Nelson
Executive Secretary

(original signed)

Kevin G. Nelson, P.E.
Secretary/Treasurer

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