

MINUTES OF THE CIVIL and ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING (CEE) ACADEMY
April 25, 2015

Present

Officers: Stephen Morse, Chair; Martin Rodin, Vice Chair; David Harkins, Secretary/Treasurer

CECE Department: David Ernst, CECE Chairman, Debbie Starcher, CECE Unit Coordinator

Members: Rusty Thoma, Jacob Bice, Perry Smith, Bernie Gradel, Rich Patrick, Terry Millican, Joe D. Gamble, Gary A. Boubel, Gopal Guthikonda, Rich Oller, Tom Zachman, Terry Winn, Ty Thomas, Brooke Smith, Victoria Harkins, David Harkins, Jeff Stovall, Jerry F. Roberts, Dennis Haar, Stacey Weichert, and José Colón

Call To Order

The Twenty-eighth annual meeting of the CEE Academy convened Saturday, April 25, 2015. Stephen Morse, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Introductions:

Academy members introduced themselves and Stephen Morse highlighted the inductees.

2015 Inductees – Civil and Environmental Engineering Academy

- Jacob Bice — Walter P Moore Diagnostics
- José Colón — Intertek/Architectural Testing, Inc.
- Dennis Haar — Halff Associates, Inc.
- Ronald Jacobson — Texas Department of Transportation
- Lyndsey Rodgers — Texas Department of Transportation
- Perry Smith — SMITH LASALLE, Inc.
- Stacey Weichert — Cude Engineers

Review and Approval of the 2014 Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve (Zachman) 2nd (Winn) – Motion Carried

Treasurer's Report

Discussion by David Harkins

Reviewed expenses:

Operating FY14 \$11,138.61

Operating FY15 \$16,262.22 (minus event and other expenses – discussed with the group)

Motion to Approve (Patrick) 2nd (Boubel) – Motion Carried

Tax Deductible Account 501C3

Victoria Harkins asked about the account to make sure that it is a tax deductible account. Debbie Starcher verified that the account was a 501C3 account and tax deductible.

New CECE Bylaws

Stephen Morris led a discussion regarding adding Construction Engineering to the bylaws of the existing CEE bylaws.

David Ernst indicated (answering a question) that there were seven (7) people in the Construction Engineering Academy. He also indicated that all of the staff in the Construction Engineering program had Civil Engineering degrees except for one.

A discussions resulted related to changes in the bylaws.

Stephen Morse asked how the group thought the Construction Engineering Academy should be included in the CEE Academy.

Tom Zachman asked to change Section 3.1 F and G into a statement at the end of Section 3.1 since they were not really part of the selection.

Brooke Smith asked David Ernst what the difference was between the Technology degree versus the Construction Engineering. David Ernest responded.

Discussion was had regarding the existing members of the Construction Engineering Academy. Should CEE Academy allow all seven members to be in the CEE Academy? (answer yes). Should the new CEE Academy accept all Distinguished Engineers recognized by Texas Tech (answer was only those in Civil, Environmental or Construction Engineering).

Gopal Guthikonda indicated that there were Agricultural Engineers in the CEE Academy.

Rusty Thoma asked about Section 3.2 C related to the number of people admitted limited to 10 percent of the graduates. He asked if including the Distinguished Engineers and Construction Engineering Academy members as members into the CEE Academy would impact the 10 percent limitation. Consensus was that these groups would not count against the 10 percent limitation and would be "Grandfathered" in.

Stephen Morse asked if everyone was alright with the changes and asked how the group wanted to accept the changes (vote now or wait until after the revisions were made). The group decided to vote now and allow Stephen Morse to complete the revisions at a later date.

Motion to Approve (Winn) 2nd (Zachman) – Motion Carried

Stephen Morse indicated that he would have the edits done after the meeting and that Tom Zachman and Terry Winn could review the edits later that night before the banquet.

Presentation 2015 CECE Chair Report – David Ernst, Interim Chair

OLD BUSINESS

CECE Scholarship discussion (Stephen Morse)

CECE Directory – LinkedIn – (Stephen Morse) Is active, contact Phil Meaders to be added. Will change the name on the account to CECE on LinkedIn.

Undergraduate Lab Initiative

Discussion related to history of lab initiative and current status. Current balance approximately \$13,000.

Gary Boubel indicated that the CECE Engineering Advisory Council decided to transfer \$4,995 into the lab initiative fund.

Gopal Guthikonda suggested that the Academy write a letter to the Dean recommending a phased approach focusing on specific items as well as highlight our displeasure at not being able to raise money because of the other fund raising activities not related to CECE.

Stephen Morse indicated that donations can be equipment as well as money.

Stephen Morse led discussion related to the process of moving forward with the lab initiative. Tom Zachman will discuss approach with Dean's office. Victoria Harkins will discuss with Karen regarding funding. A cover letter will be drafted from the Academy detailing the lab initiative to the Academy members and asking for donations (Morse, D. Harkins, Tom Zachman, Terry Winn).

Ty Thomas made a motion that the CECE Academy move \$5,000.00 from the operating account into the lab initiative fund. Rich Oller (2nd). Motioned carried.

Tom Zachman and Terry Winn will inform the Dean's office about the displeasure the CECE Academy has with moving the Distinguished Engineering Ceremony to Friday night that created a conflict with the CECE Friday night reception.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:20 p.m.

(Notes submitted by David Harkins, Secretary/Treasurer, CEE Academy)