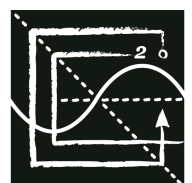


DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL ZONE INTERIM MEETING

April 30–May 2, 2015



NCEES

MINUTES OF THE 2015 CENTRAL ZONE INTERIM MEETING
Christy VanBuskirk, P.E., Central Zone Vice President
Hershey, Pennsylvania
April 30–May 2, 2015

Call to order

Vice President Christy VanBuskirk, P.E., called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Roll call of member boards

Secretary-Treasurer Larry Graham, P.E., L.S., called roll. All Central Zone member boards were present, with the following attendees responding on behalf of their boards.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| ▪ Illinois PE | Philip Corlew, P.E., P.L.S. |
| ▪ Illinois LS | Carol Sweet-Johnson |
| ▪ Illinois SE | David Greifzu, P.E., S.E. |
| ▪ Indiana PE | Vincent Drnevich, Ph.D., P.E. |
| ▪ Indiana LS | Douglas Lechner, L.S. |
| ▪ Iowa | Marlee Walton, P.E., P.L.S. |
| ▪ Kansas | George Barbee |
| ▪ Michigan PE | Andrew Brisbo |
| ▪ Michigan LS | Andrew Brisbo |
| ▪ Minnesota | Lisa Hanni, L.S. |
| ▪ Missouri | Kevin Skibiski, P.E., P.L.S. |
| ▪ Nebraska PE | Roger Helgoth, P.E. |
| ▪ Nebraska LS | James Hawks, L.S. |
| ▪ North Dakota | Candie Robinson |
| ▪ Ohio | Dean Ringle, P.E., P.S. |
| ▪ South Dakota | Dennis Micko, P.E. |
| ▪ Wisconsin | Joseph Eberle, P.E. |

Call for additional agenda items

No additional agenda items were brought forth.

Introduction and welcome of guests and new attendees

Christy VanBuskirk introduced and welcomed the following first-time zone meeting attendees:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| ▪ Michael Albertson, P.E. | South Dakota |
| ▪ Maurice Bowersox, P.E. | Kansas |
| ▪ Philip Corlew, P.E., P.L.S. | Illinois PE |
| ▪ Nirmal Jain, P.E. | Minnesota |
| ▪ Howard Stewart, P.L.S. | Iowa |
| ▪ John (Steve) Peters, P.S. | South Dakota |

Central Zone information

The following handouts were presented:

- Central Zone assistant vice president and secretary-treasurer list
- Central Zone interim meeting locations and vice president list
- List of recipients of Central Zone awards

Vincent Drnevich, Ph.D., P.E. (IN-PE) suggested the information be posted on MyNCEES. VanBuskirk agreed to do so.

Approval of Central Zone meeting minutes from NCEES annual meeting in Seattle, Washington (August 20–23, 2014)

No additions or corrections were noted. Joseph Eberle, P.E. (WI) moved and Dennis Micko, P.E. (SD) seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Financial report

The Central Zone interim financial report was presented. Zone finances are in good condition, with a \$67,983 balance and an average annual budget of about \$35,000.

Introduction of national officers

Vice President VanBuskirk introduced the national officers, past presidents, and NCEES staff present.

Central Zone committees and reports

Awards Committee

Members

- Forrest Erickson, P.E. (KS)—Chair
- Nirmal Jain, P.E. (MN)
- Steve Gravlin, L.S. (MI-LS)

The 2015 Awards Committee presented its report. It received four nominations. The 2015 Central Zone Distinguished Service recipient is Roger Helgoth, P.E. (NE-PE).

Site-Selection Committee

Members

- 2016: Abiodun (Abe) Adewale, P.E. (MO)—Chair
- 2015: John Greenhalge (OH)
- 2017: Maurice Bowersox, P.E. (KS)
- 2018: Matthew Janiak, L.S. (WI)

The 2014–15 Site-Selection Committee presented its report. It stated that more information on the 2016 and 2017 Central Zone meetings would be provided later in the breakout session.

Leadership Development Committee

Members

- Richard Hayter, Ph.D., P.E. (KS)—Chair
- Vincent Drnevich, Ph.D., P.E. (IN-PE)
- John Greenhalge (OH)
- David Krech, P.E. (MN)

Vice President VanBuskirk and Assistant Vice President Hayter presented the 2015 Leadership Development Committee report. The Leadership Development Committee will continue to work with NCEES staff and new membership to encourage and develop new leaders.

Committee on Nominations

Members

- Marlee Walton, P.E., P.L.S. (IA)—Chair and NCEES Committee on Nominations representative
- Roger Helgoth, P.E. (NE-PE)— NCEES Committee on Nominations alternate
- Joseph Eberle, P.E. (WI)
- Kevin Skibiski, P.E., P.L.S. (MO)

The 2014–15 Nominating Committee presented its report. The Central Zone secretary-treasurer and the Central Zone representative and alternate to the NCEES Committee on Nominations will be determined at tomorrow's zone breakout session and forwarded to the Central Zone Nominating Committee.

Secretary-treasurer position

Secretary-Treasurer Larry Graham, P.E., L.S., is filling the second year of an unexpired term and has submitted his name for a full term in the position. Graham stated that he was willing to serve and happy to do it.

Old business

Zone interim meeting host state roster

- 2016: Missouri—Kansas City, May 5–7, 2016
- 2017: Kansas—May 4–6, 2017
- 2018: Wisconsin—May 3–5, 2018
- 2019: South Dakota
- 2020: North Dakota
- 2021: Iowa

There was general discussion on the 2016 and 2017 meeting sites.

New business

Future interim meetings

- 2016
 - Southern Zone: April 7–9, Nashville, Tennessee
 - Northeast Zone: April 21–23, Burlington, Vermont
 - Central Zone: May 5–7, Kansas City, Missouri
 - Western Zone: May 19–21, Anchorage, Alaska
- 2017
 - Southern/Northeast Zone (joint): April 27–29, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands
 - Central Zone: May 4–6, Kansas (see below)
 - Western Zone: May 18–20, Colorado
- 2018
 - Western Zone: April 5–7, Hawaii
 - Southern Zone: April 19–21, Virginia
 - Central Zone: May 3–5, Wisconsin
 - Northeast Zone: May 17–19, Maine
- 2019
 - Central Zone: South Dakota
- 2020
 - Central Zone: North Dakota
- 2021
 - Central Zone: Iowa

2017 Central Zone meeting

Vice President VanBuskirk stated that she was approached by the Northeast Zone to join it and the Southern Zone for a joint interim meeting in the Virgin Islands in 2017.

It was noted that some boards might have difficulty in traveling outside the contiguous United States for board activities. Also, with three zones, the meeting would be only one zone short of the size of an NCEES annual meeting.

Site-Selection Committee Chair Adewale, the Kansas board (2017 Central Zone meeting host board), the Western Zone, and the Colorado board (2017 Western Zone host board) have had discussions about a joint 2017 Central/Western Zone meeting in Colorado.

Vincent Drnevich, Ph.D., P.E. (IN-PE) moved and Dennis Martenson, P.E. (MN) seconded to hold a joint meeting with the Western Zone in 2017. The motion passed.

It was noted that Wisconsin might partner with another zone for a joint interim meeting in 2018.

Zone finances

The 2015–16 zone budget information was presented. Vice President VanBuskirk led a discussion on Central Zone surplus funds. Possible use of the funds include the following:

- Additional delegate funding to the 2016 zone interim meeting
- Zone meeting enhancements
- Lower registration fees
- Funding additional delegates from among future leaders

It was noted that the Central Zone funds Central Zone award recipients to attend the interim meeting.

Philip Corlew, P.E., P.L.S. (IL-PE) moved to return excess funds to state member boards. The motion died for lack of a second.

Vincent Drnevich, Ph.D., P.E. (IN-PE) moved and Joseph Eberle, P.E. (WI) seconded to lower the 2016 Central Zone meeting registration fee to \$100. The motion passed.

Financial Policy 3

Information regarding Financial Policy (FP) 3 was presented. Vice President VanBuskirk provided background on the changes to FP 3, described recent discussions, and noted the policy will be reviewed as a committee charge in 2015–16.

Zone Meeting and Continuity Guidelines

Proposed revisions to the NCEES *Zone Meeting and Continuity Guidelines* were presented. Vice President VanBuskirk went over the revisions in the draft guidelines.

Language limiting individuals invited to zone meetings caused concerns. Richard Hayter, Ph.D., P.E. (KS) noted the possible violation of the Kansas Sunshine Law in particular and potential violations for other states. Dean Ringle, P.E., P.S. (OH) mentioned the Ohio Attorney General's office determined that Ohio's law does not cover board members at national meetings.

Vincent Drnevich, Ph.D., P.E. (IN-PE) moved and Steven Brosemer, L.S. (KS) seconded to strike said new language on page one of the guidelines and to approve all other changes shown. The motion passed.

State activity reports

Illinois PE, Philip Corlew, P.E., P.L.S.

Illinois is not a *Model Law* state, and the governor is looking into the issue. He brought up several minor issues that the PE board is dealing with.

Illinois LS, Carol Sweet-Johnson

The board is a six-member board with one public member. Unions tried to make surveyors subject to prevailing wage laws but were unsuccessful. The state has a new governor. IDOT has dropped "survey worker" from its list of covered workers. There was a tornado in Fairdale, and local surveyors were undertaking an initiative to put back the major property boundaries so that people could rebuild.

Illinois SE, David Greifzu, P.E., S.E.

There are no new initiatives. The board has four new members and is working on housekeeping issues, including rule changes to cover webinars and other electronic media not considered 20 years ago, including computer-based testing (CBT).

Indiana PE, Vincent Drnevich, Ph.D., P.E.

The board is working on rules changes. There are concerns about having had five administrators in six years. It is causing some continuity issues. It has no newsletter and no website administrator. It has worked out a deal with the ISPE to publish articles in ISPE's newsletter in the interim. The governor put a moratorium on rule changes, and the board must now get a waiver to make rule changes. CBT drove some needed changes, so the board did a lot of necessary rule changes under that waiver. It is soliciting public input on non-ABET-accredited

degrees and is looking at substantial equivalency and what that means. There is progress, but there is more to do.

A recess was called at 2:55 p.m. on May 1, 2015.

The meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m. on May 2, 2015.

State activity reports (continued)

Indiana LS, Douglas Lechner, L.S.

Don't worry, be happy!

Iowa, Marlee Walton, P.E., P.L.S.

The board is honored to have Christy VanBuskirk as Central Zone vice president. The Home Base Act of July 2014 requires the board to expedite comity application for veterans. The governor asked for rolling reviews of rules and regulations on a five-year timetable. The board will attempt to get its rules and regulations closer to the NCEES *Model Law* and *Model Rules*. It has revised rules on grounds for discipline and behavior of licensees. There is a shortage of land surveyors, so the board is seeing more dual licensees. It is struggling with the experience review of these applicants and is experimenting with work logs to try to delineate the engineering and surveying parts of work experience.

Kansas, George Barbee

Kansas has a combined board covering architects, engineers, geologists, landscape architects, and land surveyors. In 2014, the Kansas board took on a goal to straighten out the statutes and has accomplished much of that. The legislation originally included QBS, but that was cut prior to passage. There were definitions of practice included, but a particular gadfly who had run afoul of the board for practicing engineering under his architectural license made such a hue and cry over one or two points in the language that a tailing bill had to be introduced to clean up some semantics. Tim Sloan rehashed the state-specific surveying test issue as covered in the Surveyors' Forum. Kansas will offer its state-specific test in the board office six times per year.

Michigan PE and LS, Gilbert Barish, P.S.

The Michigan boards will hold a joint meeting on May 6 and will discuss minimum sanctions and minimum standards for property boundary surveys. The boards have 999 active surveyors and 3,400 active engineers. All paperwork is done online. Reorganization is pending, and the number of staff is being cut in half. The Health and Engineering sections are being merged into Reinventing Michigan. The board is reviewing all of its rules and statutes. Senate Bill 149 was reintroduced, requiring an affidavit of merit in order to bring a negligence suit against a professional engineer. This will be the board's first year of an audit of the continuing professional competency requirements.

Minnesota, Dennis Martenson, P.E.

The board has disciplinary actions, such as revoking or suspending a license, putting conditions on the licensee's practice, issuing a fine, or requiring an 8-hour ethics course (cost: \$1,500). It now has statutory protection of the terms "P.E." and "PE." Someone must hold a valid engineering license to use those initials. The board changed the definition of land surveyor. Two continuing education units (CEUs) of ethics must be a part of the 24 CEUs required for renewal, and there is no carryover for ethics CEUs. The board audited 198 licensees; of these, three complaints are pending. The board covers nine professions and consists of 25 members. It is preparing for the CBT version of the surveying exam. Half of its registrants are from out of state.

Missouri, Kevin Skibiski, P.E., P.L.S.

The governor finally appointed a chair to the board. A fourth engineer was also appointed ... finally. Ten of the 14 board members are operating on expired terms. They are currently updating board rules and regulations to catch up with the statutes. Budgeting issues are driving renewal fees. They are currently carrying as much surplus as they are allowed. They will drop the certificate of authority fee to \$100, and the P.E. license renewal will go from \$50 to \$35. To encourage licensees to keep current with rules and regulations, the board is including in its newsletter questions that the licensees can answer for CEU credit.

Nebraska PE, Roger Helgoth, P.E.

The board consists of four engineers, one of whom is an educator; three architects, one of whom is an educator; and one public member. Robert (Steve) Masters, P.E., is the board's new executive director. The board has a discipline-specific license: Civil and Structural. It has reduced fees for small businesses. Legislative Bill (LB) 23

is being proposed to clean up language and deal with CBT. The board has downsized the definition of engineering and simplified electronic seal language. It is undertaking new rulemaking to catch up with legislation, working on exemptions, and streamlining compliance review process. It is also increasing involvement with the University of Nebraska by hiring professors of practice, who are licensed professional engineers, to teach courses at the university. There is a public works exemption capped at \$109,000. Nebraska is a public power state that exempts electrical engineering practice with the utility. Some structural exemptions are set by the legislature and are inappropriate. For the past seven years, the board has had a recognition ceremony for new licensees. Strategic planning is under way. The board is dealing with the disclosure process on disciplinary action and criminal background checks and is a supporter of NCEES Enforcement Exchange.

Nebraska LS, James Hawks, L.S.

The report included discussion of the Land Surveyors Regulation Act. The Nebraska legislature is a unicameral Legislature, and the board has one more step to go through to get the law passed. The board is moving things out of the statutes and into rules and regulations so that things that need to be changed frequently will not require legislative action. Its new website is up and running. All of its documents for applicants are available online.

North Dakota, Candie Robinson

Robinson apologized for the lack of Ollie and Leena jokes. The North Dakota legislature meets for 80 days every two years. Its public works exemption is \$100,000 and was going to be raised to \$1,000,000, but that was recently defeated. The board is doing outreach to students in order to increase interest in engineering and surveying. The board is looking to improve customer service and will be accepting NCEES Records as compliance with the application requirements without further paperwork.

South Dakota, Dennis Micko, P.E.

The board has been dealing with two major issues: 1) relocation of the board offices due to snow damage and 2) its executive director resigned with short notice to take a job back in his home state of Mississippi. The position is vacant, and the board is taking applications. The board is exploring digital versus electronic seals. It is working on housekeeping issues and proposing to put in a separate bill. It has a number of complaints having to do with not reporting disciplinary actions on renewals or applications. The board has one complaint on its seventh year and it may go to the State Supreme Court. It has three new members and is working on a new version of the Guidelines for Building Officials.

Ohio, Dean Ringle, P.E., P.S.

The Ohio board is a five-member board comprised of engineers and surveyors and currently has two dual licensees on the board. It is working with the architects on the definition of incidental practice. In August 2014, it approved a program for the education of surveyors. The board is looking at CBT for the Ohio state-specific exam. It has had 790 applicants and many certificate-of-authority applicants. It has taken 48 disciplinary actions. The 200-year anniversary of the survey of the Michigan Meridian is coming up.

Wisconsin, Joseph Eberle, P.E.

The Wisconsin board is a joint board comprised of architects, engineers, surveyors, designers, and many other professions. This will be its first year conducting CPC audits. The board is still short an engineering member and a surveying member. It is working through the administrative rules to add retired or emeritus status. Right now, this will require a statute change. The PLS title act passed. The Wisconsin legislature passed a law allowing anyone to take the PS test. Board members may not talk to anyone regarding board matters without specific board action. No newsletter is allowed. Nobody is updating the website. It has no jurisdiction over unlicensed individuals. It is allowing digital seals and signatures in accordance with federal regulations; they must be encrypted. In Wisconsin, you cannot affix a seal or signature in CADD. There are many violations.

Invitation to the 2016 Central Zone interim meeting

Kevin Skibiski, P.E., P.L.S. (MO) and the Missouri board issued an invitation to Central Zone member boards to come to Kansas City for the 2016 Central Zone meeting. Visitor information and a video were presented.

NCEES treasurer—letter of endorsement

A handout for NCEES Treasurer (Gary Thompson) was presented. Gary Thompson made a pitch for his re-election at the annual meeting in August 2015.

Elections

Zone Secretary-Treasurer

Larry Graham, P.E., L.S., was the only nominee presented. Vincent Drnevich, Ph.D., P.E. (IN-PE) moved and Philip Corlew, P.E., P.L.S. (IL-PE) seconded to close the nominations. The motion passed. Graham was elected by acclamation.

NCEES Committee on Nominations

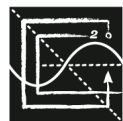
Marlee Walton, P.E., P.L.S., was the only nominee presented for representative, and Roger Helgoth, P.E., was the only nominee for alternate. They were elected by acclamation.

Other business

There was no new business.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at noon.



NCEES

*advancing licensure for
engineers and surveyors*

P.O. Box 1686, Clemson, SC 29633
NCEES.ORG