

**North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**April 5-6, 2001**  
**Holiday Inn- Grand Forks**

Lon Aune opened the joint meeting with the North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers and North Dakota Consulting Engineers Council at 8:30 a.m. He thanked the members of the Annual meeting committee for their efforts.

Dignitaries present were Mr. Tim Burke, Manager of Marketing and Communications for the Grand forks Airport (on behalf of Grand Forks Mayor Brown) and East Grand Forks Mayor Linde. Both welcomed NDSPE and NDCEC to Grand Forks and East Grand Forks. Also present were Don Edwards, NSPE North Central Vice President, and Brian Eckel from Saskatchewan.

**Legislative Lobbyist Report-** a representative from the committee was not present to report. A written report submitted by Ron Rebenitsch is attached. The report highlights the following bills:

1. SB 2355- Restraint of Business Contracts. NDSPE opposed the bill and it was defeated in the Senate.
2. SB 2186- Continuing Education, NDSPE supported the bill but it received a committee 7 to 0 "Do Not Pass" recommendation, and was not passed on the floor.

**ND State Board Of Registration-** Cliff Keller, Executive Secretary for the Board of Registration written report is attached. The board processed over 400 applications in 2000. The scores on the PE exam averaged 91%. The average grade received ranges about 7 to 10% above the national average, which speaks well of NDSU and UND for their Engineering programs. The PE Civil exam has been changed to multiple choice. The Mechanical, Electrical, and Structural exams include essay questions. The Mechanical and Electrical exam will be converted to multiple choice in the next couple of years. The cost of the exam is \$110 and may increase to \$250 or more due to conversion to computer testing. Cliff suggested employers should encourage their employees to take the exam as soon as they are ready. ND currently has 2250 registered professional engineers and 64 dual registrants. The board is responsible for carrying out disciplinary action; there was one formal hearing during the past year. Several issues are under discussion such as the correct presentation of PE status on business cards when the engineer who has an in-state address holds a PE registration outside of the state of ND. Another concern involves what type of a degree may be considered an "engineering related degree". A bill was passed that will require the Board of Registration to develop a "fast track" application and approval system for out of state engineers seeking professional registration. Cliff recognized the members of the Board of registration, Dr. James Jorgenson, Dr. Lawrence Woodbury, Dr. Monte Phillips, Gary Arman and Rolly Ackerman.

Dr. James Jorgenson, Vice-Chairman of the Board introduced the following issues:

1. cautioned against the use of electronic signature
2. illegal to solicit yourself in other states when not registered in those states
3. conflict of interest amongst sister organizations (e.g. "Design & Construction" firms)

**NDSPE National Representative-** Don Edwards, North Central Region Vice President spoke on behalf of NDSPE. Don extended thanks for being invited to attend the Annual Meeting. Don stated that Art Dewitt would follow him after the summer meeting in Detroit. Karen Pederson is the junior Vice President for the North Central Region.

**NDCEC National Representative-** Don Indvik, President of NDCEC spoke on behalf of NDCEC. NDCEC meets 2 times a year, and occasionally hosts a seminar for continuing education. There are 30 member firms in ND. Within the next couple of years, the American Consulting of Engineers Council will change its name to American Council of Engineering Companies due to the negative connotation of "consultant".

**Canadian Representative-** Brian Eckel from Sasketewan spoke on behalf of Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Providence of Sasketewan (APEGS). The membership totals 5100. APEGS is actively involved in continuing education programs, and image building. The theme for Engineer week was "24-7-365". The association also handles complaints and processes exams. Some national issues that APEGS is concerned with are software engineering and secondary liability insurance program.

**Election of Officers-**NDSPE President Steve Smith announced the following nominees of officers:

President	Dean Wieland	Chapter 1
President-Elect	Roger Kluck	Chapter 2
Vice President	Don Andersen	Chapter 4
National Director	Lon Drevecky	Chapter 2

**Thomas Little moved that a unanimous ballot be cast for the slate of officers for 2001-2002 as presented by the Nominations Committee. Motion seconded by Lon Aune and carried.**

Technical Sessions followed:

- a. "Wind Energy and Economic Development in the Midwest" by Mr. Jay Haley, EAPC Architects and Engineers
- b. Grand Forks Waste Water Treatment Facility by Mr. Jim West, KBM Inc.

The joint meeting recessed at noon. Tours were held following the luncheon.

Steve Smith, President, reconvened the NDSPE Annual meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 6, 2001.

**President's Report-** Steve Smith's written report is attached to these minutes. He highlighted what changes have occurred with NSPE, the downsize of the NSPE Board of Directors from 80 to 23. NDSPE's representation at the national level is through Regional Vice Presidents. NDSPE is amending the constitution to reflect the elimination of our National Director and changes made to the membership classes. Senate Bill 2186-Continuing Education was defeated on the floor. A website is being developed by Kevin Nelson. Membership has remained steady for the last five years. NDSPE is in the process of scheduling a "road show" with NSPE's membership expert Annette Petrick. Steve concluded with thanking the membership for entrusting him to serve as president. Steve also extended thank yous to Ron Rebenitsch, legislative chair, Ray Rolshoven, constitution & bylaws chair, Dean Wieland, Kevin Nelson, Mary Nelson, all committee chairs and committee members, and the Board of Directors.

**President Elect's Report-** Dean Wieland's written report is attached to these minutes. Dean attended the NSPE winter meeting held in Anchorage, Alaska in February. The highlights of the meeting were as follows:

1. Leadership training-interactive workshop with Annette Petrick
2. NSPE Professional Resources for Engineers-pamphlet which offers NSPE products and services
3. American Engineering Campaign- 3 year program to increase the understanding and appreciation of the role of the Engineer in improving the quality of life.
4. NSPE Road Show- Annette Petrick has developed a detailed plan for recruitment and revitalizing membership.
5. NSPE Strategic plan- each state is requested to prepare a strategic plan.
6. Steinman Award- a \$10,000 award to be awarded to a graduate engineering student from the North Central Region in 2001. There have not been any applicants.

Dean expressed his enthusiasm to serve as NDSPE President for 2001-2002. He thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve as President-Elect. Dean thanked Steve Smith for his leadership.

**Membership Committee Report-** Chairman, Dean Wieland's written report is attached to these minutes. Dean reported membership through March 2001, as follows:

PE's	177
Associates	100
Students	54

Dean is actively planning a 1½-day "road show" with Annette Petrick.

**Executive Secretary's Report** – Mary Nelson's written report is attached to these minutes. Mary reported NDSPE's account balances, checking account: \$568.66, savings account: \$15,747.21, Certificate of Deposit: \$7454.66. Total net worth is \$23,770.53 as of 4/3/01. Mary Nelson stated that currently NDSPE has the checking and savings at US Banks and a CD at BNC. The checking does not earn interest and the savings earns 1%.

BNC offers interest of 1% on checking and based on the market and the amount in the savings account could earn approximately 3%. Mary will move all funds to BNC.

Membership as of 3/16/01 consisted of 177 PE members, 100 Associate members, and 54 student members totaling 331.

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report** – Mary Nelson distributed the minutes from the 2000 Annual Meeting held March 30-April 1, in Minot.

**Tom Little moved that the minutes of the 2000 Annual Meeting of NDSPE be approved as presented. Motion seconded by Dean Wieland and carried.**

Kevin Nelson, Secretary/Treasurer pointed out the following items on the financial report:

- a. Revenue higher than anticipated due to the timing of receiving dues from NSPE
- b. bottom line slightly misleading because of when expenditures are submitted
- c. National meeting expenses less than planned because 1 meeting was attended
- d. National dues structure has changed to allow membership in one practice section

**Nomination Committee Report** – Chairman, Jeff LeDoux's written report is attached to these minutes. The nominations committee submitted the following candidates for nomination to elected offices for NDSPE in 2001-2002:

President	Dean Wieland	Chapter 1
President Elect	Roger Kluck	Chapter 2
Vice President	Don Andersen	Chapter 4
Secretary-Treasurer	Kevin Nelson	Chapter 3

The officers were installed at the Banquet on the evening of Thursday, April 5, 2001.

The nomination Committee also submitted a list of candidates for nomination to the Governor for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2001, on the North Dakota Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors as follows:

Monte Phillips	Chapter 1 (completes term on 6/30/01)
Bruce Nelson	Chapter 3
Gene Jackson	Chapter 3

Harvey Gullicks spoke on behalf of Monte Phillips expressing thanks to NDSPE for the honor, support and privilege to serve on the Board of Registration.

Kevin Nelson spoke on behalf of Bruce Nelson expressing his acceptance of the nomination.

President Smith directed that two secret ballots be taken to determine the order in which the candidates are submitted to the Governor for appointment to the Board of Registration.

The ballots determined that the nominees would be submitted to the Governor as follows:

1. Monte Phillips
2. Bruce Nelson
3. Gene Jackson

NDSPE needs to provide one person to serve on the NSPE nomination committee as a representative of the North Central Region in Orlando, Florida, July 26-30, 2002. The committee member from the North Central Region is determined by an alphabetical rotation, ND is next in the rotation; it will be another 7 years until someone from ND will serve on the committee. The responsibilities are as follows:

1. Attending NSPE meetings
2. Responsible for interviewing and selecting candidates for President-Elect or Treasurer.

Dean Wieland nominated Steve Smith to serve on the committee. Tom Atkinson nominated Roger Kluck as an alternate.

**Jeff LeDoux moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot of Steve Smith as the member of the NSPE nomination committee from the North Central Region and Roger Kluck serve as an alternate. Motion seconded by Ted Englestad and carried.**

**Manitoba Report** – David Ennis from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of Manitoba (APEGM) reported their Association has been concerned with the following:

- a. Secondary liability insurance for everyone registered
- b. The use of the term software engineering used by the academic community
- c. Mutual Recognition Agreement

David thanked Chapter 1 for inviting him to the Annual Meeting and extended an invitation to Dean Wieland to attend APEGM Annual Meeting on October 12-13, 2001.

**Education Foundation report-** Tom Atkinson reported that the Education Foundation Board met the morning of Friday, April 6, 2001. Most of the contributions are received at the Annual Meeting. A contributors recognition will be implemented on the NDSPE website. The categories are as follows: Platinum- \$10,000 or more, silver- \$6,000-10,000, bronze- \$750-6,000. The Foundation plans to send thank-yous to those who have contributed. Tom Atkinson closed his report by asking for donations for the Education Foundation from the general membership.

Attached to these minutes are the financial reports for the Education Foundation.

**Chapter 1 Report** - Bruce Dockter reported on behalf of Chapter 1. The Chapter held meetings monthly and involved the planning of the Annual Meeting. The Chapter had a change in officers within the year. Scott Zainhofsky replaced Tim Hendricks as president due to Tim relocating out of state. Boyd Johnson took on the responsibility of secretary/ treasurer. Chapter 1 hosted the Mathcounts competition and awarded plaques to the top competitors.

**Chapter 2 Report-** no report

**Chapter 3 Report-** no report

**Chapter 4 Report** –Dave Rudolph, Chapter 4 President reported that Chapter 4 has continued to support education with the following:

- a. awarding 3 scholarships to NDSU students
- b. hosting the Mathcounts and toothpick bridge presentation
- c. donating \$250 to NDSU Civil Engineering students for the concrete canoe competition

Chapter 4 has had an increase of members from 88 to 96. A written report is attached to these minutes.

**Awards Committee** – Steve Smith stated that the awards were presented at the banquet on Thursday, April 5, 2001 as follows:

2000 Young Engineer of the Year Award	C. Gregg Thielman, P.E., Chapter 4
Outstanding Design Award for 2000	CPS, Ltd., Grand Forks for the Reconstruction of 42nd Street, Grand Forks, ND
Elwin F. Chandler Award	Dr. James L. Jorgenson

**Budget Committee Report-** Bruce Dockter, Budget committee chair, presented the proposed two-year budget for 2001-2002 and 2002-2003. The committee recommends the following:

1. Approval of the 2001-2003 budget
2. Investigate a process to improve the identification and validation of current membership and non-paying members.
3. Eliminate the “practice sections” line for the budget.
4. Authorization to open a new checking and savings account at BNC in Bismarck, ND.
5. Eliminate the fiscal budget line item “personal dues refund”.
6. Prepare and execute a formal contract between Executive Secretary and NDSPE.
7. Increase Executive Secretary salary to \$3500 annually.

8. Investigate the establishment of a defined record retention program.
9. Create a formal audit procedure to be followed by the Budget committee.

Jeff LeDoux inquired about the increase of membership dues. The dues increase will be addressed with the Constitution and Bylaws report.

A written report is attached to these minutes.

**Jeff LeDoux moved that the proposed budget for 2000-2001 be approved as presented. Motion seconded by Roger Kluck and carried.**

**Legislative Committee Report-** Wayne Larson presented the report on behalf of Chairman Ron Rebenitsch. The two legislative bills in 2001 that were identified as having significant potential to affect the engineering profession were:

1. SB 2355- Restraint of Business Contracts. A bill was proposed to restrict an individuals' employment opportunities. NDSPE opposed the bill and it was defeated in the Senate.
2. SB 2186- Continuing Education. This bill enabled legislation for continuing education for Engineers and Land Surveyors. NDSPE supported the bill which received a committee recommendation of "do not pass", with a 7-0 vote and was not passed on the floor.

A written report is attached to these minutes.

**Education Committee Report-** Chairman, Richard Anderson written report is attached to these minutes. President Steve Smith presented the report. The report touched on the positive aspects of the engineering programs that NDSU and UND provide. Both have program advisory committees and college advisory committees. The students continue to develop professionally through the student chapters and competitions.

**Publications Committee-** Don Andersen, chairman, reported that the *Professional Engineer* is published and distributed twice a year. The cost per issue is approximately \$1.36. The publication is available on the NDSPE website. A written report is attached to these minutes.

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 10:45 for a break, followed by a Technical Session "Project Management Software" by Ms. Gretchen Schatz, Computer Land and the noon luncheon.

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The Annual Meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

**National Director's Report** – Lon Drevecky's written report is attached to these minutes. Lon highlighted the following items:

- a. Elimination of the National Director's position as a result of "Right Sizing". The vote was 100% in favor of the reorganization of NSPE Board of Directors.
- b. North Central Region has drafted governance guidelines that outlines how two directors will be named to represent the region.
- c. "Image" program for the engineering community was possible due to NSPE's budget surplus of \$307,200.
- d. The NSPE Annual Convention Development task force proposed a plan to reduce the length of Annual Meetings and make meeting more profitable.
- e. Proposal of a new and revised Education/Licensure Model was well received. The P.E. exam would be based only on Ethics and Professional Practice issues. The EIT test would be waived for persons with a 4-year ABET/EAC B.S. degree plus an advanced degree in Engineering.

Lon expressed he has enjoyed serving as the National Director for NDSPE.

**Public Relations Committee-** President Steve Smith will contact Chairman Gary Doer to write an article listing the award recipients and state officers to be submitted to the Chapter Presidents who will then have it submitted into the local newspaper.

**Mathcounts Report-** A written report by Michael Gunsch is attached to these minutes. His report highlighted the following:

- a. The program is in a good financial position with a balance of \$1,840.96 in the National Custodial Account and \$8,834.40 in checking and savings.
- b. State Coordinator Terry Ragan resigned and relocated to Rochester, MN. Linda Oster from KLJ in Bismarck will replace Terry.
- c. A request for a formal resolution is passed by NDSPE to recognize Terry Ragan's service to MATHCOUNTS.

**Alan Traecholt moved to forward a resolution of thanks for service as MATHCOUNTS Coordinator to Terry Ragan. Motion seconded by Thomas Little and carried.**

**Constitution, Bylaws and Ethics Committee Report-** Kevin Nelson presented the report on behalf of Chairman Ray Rolshoven (written report attached). The proposed amendments were printed in the *Professional Engineer* prior to the meeting. The proposed amendments to the Constitution are as follows:

- a. NDSPE membership classes to be in compliance with NSPE membership classes
- b. Elimination the National Director as a state officer

The bylaw changes made at the 2000 Annual meeting were as follows:

- a. Members of the Board of Directors shall designate a proxy if not able to attend a Board of Directors meeting.
- b. The awards committee shall submit their report to the Executive Committee at least 14 days before the Annual meeting.

**Kevin Nelson moved to adopt the proposed amendments to the Constitution. Motion seconded by Dean Wieland and carried.**

1. Thomas Little suggested deleting the sentence “Application for status as a Licensed Life Member may be made personally, by the Member’s Chapter, or by the State Society” from paragraph a.2.3 of the Constitution and adding it to the end of paragraph a.2.

**Thomas Little moved to amend the previous motion. Motion seconded by Kevin Nelson, question called and carried.**

**Harvey Kadramas moved to adopt the Constitution as amended. Motion seconded by Thomas Little and carried.**

Kevin Nelson stated under bylaw 14 section A. the phrase “North Dakota Society of Professional Surveyors” will be deleted since the Land Surveyors have formed a Society of their own.

**Kevin Nelson moved to adopt the proposed amendments to the Bylaws. Motion seconded by Tom Little and carried.**

President Steve Smith thanked Brian Eckel from the Saskatchewan Society, and David Ennis from the Manitoba Society for their attendance at the North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers. Steve also thanked Lon Aune, the members of Chapter 1 and Bob Petersen for coordinating and hosting a very successful joint meeting.

Dave Rudolph announced 2002 Annual Meeting will be held at the Doublewood Inn in Fargo the first part of April. South Dakota and North Dakota usually hold their Annual Meeting the same weekend, an effort will be made to plan the meetings opposite of one another.

Tom Little mentioned the idea of possibly holding an Annual Meeting at the convention center at Four Bears Casino and a tour of the Four Bears Bridge project.

**Tom Little moved that the 2001 Annual Meeting of the North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers be adjourned. Motion seconded by Wayne Larson and carried.**

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM on Friday, April 6, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_(original signed)\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary B. Nelson  
Executive Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_(original signed)\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin G. Nelson, P.E.  
Secretary-Treasurer

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