

**North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers
Board of Directors Meeting
February 24, 2005 – Teleconference Call**

1. **Call to Order** – The Board of Directors of NDSPE met via teleconference on February 24, 2005 at 4:30 p.m. President Gary Doerr called the meeting to order. Present by city were:

Bismarck: Gary Doerr, Kevin Nelson, Dale Heglund, Scott Zainhofsky,
Thomas Little, Cliff Keller and Mary Nelson
Fargo: Don Andersen, Otto Helweg, and Gregg Thielman
Grand Forks: Bruce Dockter and Brian Weiss

The Secretary declared that a quorum was present.

2. **Introductions**
3. **Adoption of the Agenda –**

Otto Helweg moved that the agenda, as presented be adopted. Motion was seconded by Kevin Nelson and carried.

4. **Approval of Minutes** – the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held October 16, 2004 in Carrington were distributed via mail and reviewed.

Otto Helweg moved that the minutes be approved as distributed. Motion was seconded by Kevin Nelson and carried.

5. **Old Business-**

a. NSPE Winter Meeting Recap- Bruce Dockter, President-elect, commented that the NSPE is still prepared to support a different program if they can't decide on a suitable arrangement with Mathcounts. The proposed governance by the Future Directions Task Force will benefit the bigger states.

Gregg Thielman, Vice President, commented that the leadership training and the summit were very informative. NSPE has canned presentations available for the chapters to use. Gregg also commented that the proposed governance could impact ND.

- i. **NSPE Proposed New Governance-**Kevin Nelson, North Central Regional Vice President, stated that he voted himself out of his position as Regional Vice President, NSPE will eliminate the regions under the new governance. The governance will be called the House of Delegates with one representative from each state (53 delegates). The Board of Directors will consist of 16 Directors. Another proposed change is to cut down on the number of face-to-face meeting and rely on technology. Under the new governance the larger states will have a weighted vote, which is very detrimental to small states like ND, SD, WY and DE. The idea exchange sessions will be continued at the summer meeting.

- ii. **Six Month Free Membership-** this a program that NSPE is offering to all states. NSPE offered the program to select states for a period of time and the outcome revealed that 84% of the individuals that participated subsequently joined NSPE. The membership is free for six months and after six months an invoice is sent out and that is the anniversary date of membership renewal.

Thomas Little moved to adopt the six-month free membership program. Motion carried by Gregg Thielman and carried.

b. North Central Regional Meeting Recap- Kevin Nelson, North Central Region Vice President reported that 2 states in the region are experiencing membership growth, 1 state stayed the same and the rest of the states are declining. The biggest focus is on showing benefits of membership for members and prospective members.

The next regional teleconference is scheduled for March 9, 2005. Everyone is welcome to sit in on it. A regional meeting will be held in Chicago during the NSPE summer meeting followed by a teleconference late in the summer. The Missouri chapter will host the Annual Regional meeting in conjunction with their annual shrimp feed in Springfield Missouri. There will be technical sessions offered at the Annual Regional meeting.

c. Awards committee update- President Gary Doerr is still working with the committee members as to who will be the chairman. Gary will notify everyone who to send the names of the award nominees to.

6. New Business-

a. 2005 Annual Meeting Planning Update- the annual meeting will be held in Fargo, April 7-9, 2005 at the Radisson. Dain Miller will e-mail a draft agenda to Kevin Nelson to publish on the website. Tom Little suggested to communicate with the Board of Registration as to whether or not the continuing education are acceptable. The Rainmaker group and a bond attorney, Scott Wegner of Cook Wegner & Wike PLLP are the speakers for the continuing education sessions, which would be considered non-technical category with the Board of Registration.

b. Newsletter Timeline- the newsletter needs to be sent to the general membership by mid-March. Don Andersen requested newsletter articles be sent to him by March 1 and would appreciate information from each chapter from the E-week banquets, award winners and pictures. The newsletter is sent out by mail and is also posted on the website.

c. Chapter 1 or 4 member to serve on Legislative Committee- President Doerr has contacted both chapters to see if someone is interested in serving on the legislative committee. Don Andersen recommended Dick Anderson from Chapter

4 and will send Dick's e-mail address to Gary. Bruce Dockter recommended Dean Wieland for Chapter 1 and will discuss it with Dean.

d. Nominations Committee Update- Chairman Don Andersen reported that the committee has decided on three nominees for the Board of Registration. The three nominees are Kevin Nelson, Chapter 3, Brian Poykko, Chapter 1 and Wayne Reitz, Chapter 4. Scott Zainhofsky commented he would try to serve as Membership Director considering his relocation to Devils Lake. The committee does not have individual to nominate as Vice President. The list of nominees will be published in the newsletter without a nominee for Vice President and accept nominations from the floor at the annual meeting.

e. Membership update- Scott Zainhofsky reported that there have been a couple of teleconferences with NSPE. NSPE is working a state-specific membership application for ND and a few other state-specific brochures for ND. Scott also commented he has been working on an Enterprise membership program with the Department of Transportation. Scott also has visited BSC and handed out applications and approached the visit with emphasis of the students continuing their education at one of the universities. Scott reported that the students seemed interested.

f. Life Membership Candidates- Walter Abbott, Richard Anderson, Jerome Borgen, Kent Horton, Harley Swenson, Lloyd Thompson are the individuals who are eligible for life membership. Life members no longer pay dues. Life membership is an honorary membership status offered to long time members of the society.

Thomas Little moved to submit the following names for life membership: Walter Abbott, Richard Anderson, Jerome Borgen, Kent Horton, Harley Swenson, and Lloyd Thompson. Motion seconded by Dale Heglund.

Discussion followed that it is an honor to be given this status and NDSPE needs to honor those that are eligible. Although with the increase of membership falling into this category new members will need to be recruited to replace them. A letter is sent from NSPE to tell the individuals of their life member status. Some states are approaching these members for support.

No further discussion, motion carried.

7. **Other Business-** Kevin Nelson sent an e-mail to the Board of Directors on Feb 15th, 2005 regarding Lego Robotics Contest Sponsorship request. Responses by the Board were both to support it and some to tread lightly. Bruce Dockter commented that we have a line item in the budget for JETS to cover plaques and Mathcounts for them to use the funds at their discretion. Dale Heglund suggested that the NDSPE move forward with some monetary amount. Chapter 3 approved a donation of \$250. Otto Helweg recommended a matching type of grant, the state match what each chapter contributes.

Otto Helweg moved that NDPSE support dollar for dollar chapter contributions to the Lego Robotics Sponsorship. Motion seconded by Kevin Nelson.

Nate Weisenburger commented that Chapter 1 declined to support the Lego Robotics sponsorship.

Otto Helweg amended the motion to include a cap amount. Kevin Nelson seconded the amended motion.

Kevin Nelson recommended the cap of \$500.

Otto Helweg accepted the friendly amendment of \$500. No further discussion, motion carried.

Reseller's agreement was sent out with the minutes to the Board of Directors.

Kevin Nelson moved to table this item until the next Board of Directors meeting. Motion seconded by Tom Little and carried.

Cliff Keller, Executive Secretary for the Board of Registration commented about what has been happening at the Board of Registration and the new process of registering for the exam. The Board welcomes not having to deal with the liabilities involved with the exams but regrets not having the contact with those taking the exams.

8. Adjourn-

Tom Little moved the NDSPE Board of Directors meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Cliff Keller and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary B. Nelson
Executive Secretary

Er. Kevin G. Nelson, P.E.
Secretary-Treasurer

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