

**New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers  
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, February 24, 2005  
Radisson Hotel – Center of New Hampshire  
Coolidge Banquet Room**

**Meeting attendees**

John Alger P.E.	Dan Hudson P.E.
Robert Couture P.E.	Roch Larochelle P.E.
Joe Ducharme P.E.	Ben Pratt P.E.
Larry Dwyer P.E.	Paul Schmidt P.E.

Paul Schmidt called the meeting to order at 4:20 pm. A summary of the items discussed is presented below.

**Review of previous Board of Director's Meeting Minutes**

**January 2005 Meeting Minutes:** Roch Larochelle presented the January 2005 Board of Director's meeting minutes and presented a few editorial comments that had been previously received. The board members had no additional comments. Dan Hudson motioned to accept the minutes as amended and Larry Dwyer seconded the motion. The January 2005 Board of Director's meeting minutes were accepted as amended.

**November 2004 Meeting Minutes:** Matt Purcell had made the November 2004 meeting minutes available to the board members prior to the meeting by e-mail. Paul Schmidt asked for any comments on these meeting minutes. The board members had no comments. Dan Hudson motioned to accept the minutes and Roch Larochelle seconded the motion. The November 2004 Board of Director's meeting minutes were accepted as presented.

**Treasurer's Report**

Prior to the meeting, Paul Schmidt made available information (via e-mail) that contained information on the recent activity and current balances for various NHSPE related accounts. A summary of the current balances shown for these account is listed below:

- General Ledger (checkbook) balance as of February 9, 2005 was \$14,939.23
- MATHCOUNTS Educational Fund balance as of February 9, 2005 was \$3,466.21
- Scholarship Educational Fund balance as of February 9, 2005 was \$3,656.03

Paul Schmidt opened a general discussion of the treasurer's report which included discussion of the following items:

- Paul Schmidt specifically asked board members to review the account summaries to make sure that any activities that they were aware of (expenses or reimbursements) were captured. The goal is to reconstitute the budget based on recent past financial activities.
- Paul Schmidt, Larry Dwyer, and Dave Eckman had met recently to discuss the status of the treasurer's position as well as updating and maintaining the financial account information for NHSPE related accounts. Larry Dwyer stated his willingness to take over the treasurer's duties in the April 2005 time frame. The board will discuss the specifics of a possible turnover of the treasurer's responsibilities at the March 2005 board of director's meeting.
- In the future, it may be desirable to allocate the proceeds of any dinner meeting raffles to other activities such as MATHCOUNTS or the Math and Science teacher's awards program in addition to the scholarship fund. For the time being, all raffle proceeds will continue to go to the scholarship fund.
- A need exists for more aggressive fundraising in support of MATHCOUNTS.
- The plan is to finalize at the March 2005 board of director's meeting the number and amount of scholarships that will be awarded this year. This will allow for the amount of raffle money to be raised at the Engineer's Week banquet to be incorporated into this decision.

At the end of the discussion, John Alger motioned to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Roch Larochelle seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

### **April New PE Dinner**

NHSPE is still looking for a speaker for the upcoming new PE dinner in April 2005. To coordinate the date of the dinner with the NH PE board, the possible date available are April 26, 27, or 28. Joe Ducharme suggested a date of April 27 based on board members input. The following actions were agreed to:

ACTION: Joe Ducharme will contact the NH PE board to confirm/finalize the date for the April new PE dinner as April 27.

ACTION: Paul Schmidt will contact the Engineer of the Year (Woody Fogg P.E.) and Young Engineer of the Year (Tom French P.E.) to inquire as to their availability and willingness to speak at the new PE dinner.

## **NHSPE Annual Meeting**

It has been confirmed that NSPE president Bobby Price P.E. will be the speaker for the NHSPE Annual meeting on June 6, 2005. The meeting is planned to be held in the Dartmouth area and will be a joint meeting with the Vermont Society of Professional Engineers.

## **MATHCOUNTS**

Ben Pratt reported that approximately 125 participants (individual students, alternates, and teachers) are expected for the NH state MATHCOUNTS competition to be held on March 12 at Plymouth State (snow date of March 26). The number of participants is approximately the same as last year. Ben asked for any NHSPE volunteers able to help with the scoring to be at the school no later than 9:30 am.

Ben asked the board members for recommendations about his incorporation into the MATHCOUNTS program of private corporation gift certificates awards. A company (popular with MATHCOUNTS) that provides math problem material has provided gift certificates to be awarded to each of the four students who will represent NH at the national MATCOUNTS competition. The gift certificates can be used for purchases of the company's products. Ben asked for the board members input regarding if these certificates should awarded as part of the state competition activities and awards or should be made available to the students later once the competition was over. In the discussion that followed, board members felt that the decision on this item could be left up to Ben in his capacity as state MATHCOUNTS coordinator.

## **NHSPE Scholarship Report**

Larry Dwyer reported that mailings have gone out to local schools and guidance councilors. Scholarship applications are due by April 1. The review of applications will be made by the committee (Larry Dwyer, Roch Larochelle, and Joe Ducharme) in the April 1 to April 15 time frame.

Approximately \$2250 has been received in support of the scholarships and thank you letters will be mailed out later this month to donors. As previously noted, Larry agreed to the following action:

**ACTION:** Larry Dwyer will come to the March 2005 board of director's meeting with a recommendation on the amount and number of scholarships to be awarded.

## **Legislative Update**

Paul Schmidt updated the board on his actions on behalf of NHSPE in support of HB 629 which proposes to change the penalties in the PE law (in addition to surveyors, architects, and several others) for unlicensed practice. John Alger reported that after legislative activity earlier this month including a subcommittee meeting and hearing, the legislature did not support HB 629. John expects that this legislation will not proceed.

## **Observer Report**

Dan Hudson reported that the next OBSERVER issue will be in April. At the next board meeting in early March, specific assignments for articles will be finalized. Joe Ducharme stated that it was desirable to combine the NHSPE ballots for the upcoming year with the OBSERVER mailing. The time line should allow for the ballots to be combined with the OBSERVER since the NHSPE annual meeting for this year will be on June 6 and the requirement is to have the ballot information mailed 30 days prior.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the NHSPE Board of Directors will take place the week of March 14. The meeting location will be the H. L. Turner Group offices in Concord.

**ACTION:** Paul Schmidt will send an e-mail out to the board members to determine their availability for a board meeting the week of March 14. Once this input is received, Paul will set the date for the March meeting.

## **Meeting Adjourned**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Roch Larochelle and seconded by Joe Ducharme. The meeting was adjourned by Paul Schmidt at 5:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Couture P.E.  
NHSPE State Director