



Structural Engineers Association of Montana Meeting Minutes

Date: November 3, 2005

Location: Joint Engineer's Conference, Helena, MT

- 1.0 Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Carol Pivonka at 9:05 pm.
- 2.0 Role Call:** 12 members attended the meeting (see the attached sign up sheet).
- 3.0 Review/approval of Minutes from 03-03-05 meeting:** The minutes from the March 3, 2005 meeting held at the Spring Engineering Festival were approved.
- 4.0 Review of Action Items:** The following list of open action items were carried over from previous meetings:

➤ **Action Item 1**

Assignment: Greg Benjamin and Jason Hicks

Recruit local liaisons for Building Code Committee and work with Dan VanLuchene to develop a building codes issues forum on the website.

➤ **Action Item 2**

Assignment: SEAMT Board and Directors

Establish a policy for how membership information can be shared and protected and develop the framework for member privileges on the website and other SEAMT information.

➤ **Action Item 3**

Assignment: Lance Redinger/Kevin Feldman

Contact Tim Lloyd at the State Building Codes Bureau to check into the possibility of SEAMT's involvement with the Building Codes Advisory Council. Kevin will also solicit for volunteers within SEAMT to serve on the council if it appears that we may propose someone for this position.

- 5.0 Treasurer's Report:** Janna Moser reported we have \$3755.73 in our SEAMT account from dues and sponsorships. We have expended \$938.77 for our delegates attendance at the NCSEA national conference and \$900 for dues to the NCSEA (\$12 per member).

6.0 Committee Reports:

✚ **Structural Engineers Emergency Response (SEER) Committee**
Chairperson: Dave Roberts (not in attendance)

Local Community Representatives: Billings – Lance Redinger, Missoula – Dave Roberts

Committee Description: Develop the framework and volunteer organization necessary to respond to local, state, or national emergency situations requiring structural engineering evaluations and assessments.

Report: Due to a lack of adequate time to devote to this committee, Neil Poulsen requested his removal as chairperson for this committee. Dave Roberts volunteered to lead the committee for 2006. Carol reported that we have made progress in letting State and local disaster and emergency services know of our organization but there is still a need to become better organized and trained. Dave Roberts has volunteered to chair the committee and lead this effort.

Building Code Committee

Co-Chairpersons: Greg Benjamin, Jason Hicks (not present)

Committee Description: Facilitate discussions of building code questions and issues amongst membership and development of consensus opinions to assist local building enforcement agencies.

Report: Greg reported that the committee had fielded several calls from building officials in Helena and Bozeman. There was a general discussion of how they could share this information with the membership through a “code issues” forum on our website (see previously identified action item).

Government Relations Committee

Chairperson: Kevin Feldman (not present)

Committee Description: Encourage and support governmental actions (legislation, administrative rules, and professional registration) that provide protection of the general public and enhancement of the structural engineering profession within Montana.

Report: no report

Membership Committee

Chairperson: Alfred Hendrickson (not present)

Committee Description: Promote and maintain membership of SEAMT.

Report: Carol reported that we currently have 76 individual members and 6 corporate members. Notices for the 2006 membership dues will need to be sent out in January.

Action Item 4

Assignment: **Carol Pivonka**

Contact Alfred Hendrickson and discuss the schedule for sending out notices.

Continuing Education Committee

Chairperson: open

Committee Description: Provide opportunities for continuing education of SEAMT membership and, when requested, suggestions for technical presentations at statewide conferences.

Report: no report

Information Committee

Chairperson: Carol Pivonka

Committee Description: Development of a quarterly newsletter, press releases, advertisements, etc., to support the objectives and efforts of SEAMT.

Report: Due to a lack of time, Ken Penney requested his removal from the chairperson position on this committee.

- 7.0 2006 SEAMT Officers and Director Nominations:** Carol reported that the following were the current nominations for the SEAMT officer and director positions:

President – Matt Schmidt

Vice President – Jesse Fortune

Secretary – Kurt Keith

Treasurer – Jana Moser

Directors (4 total required) – Alfred Hendrickson, Greg Benjamin, Matt Schmidt

The slate of nominations is due in December. Carol will forward another request for nominations and then direct the Secretary to develop the ballot for distribution to the membership.

- 8.0 NCSEA Delegate Report:** Lance reported that the national NCSEA was very impressive. The main focus of the meeting was strategic planning for the future of NCSEA. No votes were taken this year. There is a national advocacy/media relations committee being formed to provide outreach to the general public. If any SEAMT members are interested, please contact Lance. Lance also reported on the structural certification and uniform practice acts that are a hot topic nation wide. Lance plans to write up a report of his understandings on this issue for SEAMT's membership. Next year's NCSEA meeting is in Salt Lake City. Carol asked if anyone else was interested in serving as our delegate for next year. It was decided to leave the delegate selection open until our spring meeting.

➤ **Action Item 5**

Assignment: Lance Redinger

Write up NCSEA delegate report with information on national trends in structural certification and uniform practice act.

- 9.0 Open Forum and Discussion:** It was discussed that the meeting time of 9:00 pm was too late and most likely affected the turn out this year. It was understood that the JEC committee scheduled our meeting so late because of an understanding that many SEAMT members may want to attend the ASCE meeting earlier in the evening. When asked how many SEAMT members attended ASCE, it was believed that no one was in attendance. It was agreed by our meeting's attendees that we need to establish an earlier meeting time or set up our own meeting outside of the JEC.

- 10.0 Meeting Closure:** With no further discussion brought forward, the meeting was closed at 10:05 pm.