

**American Society of Civil Engineers
Illinois Section
Environmental Engineering & Water Resources Technical Group**

September 9, 2008, Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Catherine Hurley, Chair	MWH
Graig Neville, Vice Chair	Manhard
Heather Henneman, Secretary	Black & Veatch
Thera Baldauf, Past Chair	MWH
Pat Lach, Past Chair	Hey & Associates
Arun Heer	HDR
Sandy Homola	V3
Mandeera Wagle	CDM
Renee Clore	CH2M Hill
Matt Miller	HNTB
Chetan Kale	EDI, Inc
John Norton	MWH
Kristi Root	Greeley & Hanson
Katie Kukielka	CTE AECOM
Adam Hacker	HDR
Amir Zamani	RME

1. Call to Order

Catherine Hurley called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The August minutes were presented and approved with a corrected spelling of Renee Clore's name in Section 6.4 of the minutes.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report for August 2008 was presented and approved after some discussion. There is one CD maturing this year; and one maturing in 2009. We will review the budget during the October meeting. The voided checks for the HEC-RAS course were lost en route and new checks written. It was recommended that for future courses, the checks to cover expenses like the instructor and room be sent directly to the provider of that service.

4. Old Business

- 4.1. EE&WR Web Page – Catherine recommended members check out the website: http://www.isasce.org/web/technical/ee_wr.html. Thanks to Pat Lach for his work on the web page. EE&WR is open to suggestions for improving the web site. Pat will be updating the site after this meeting.
- 4.2. Illinois Report Card – Water Portion. Heather noted that she and Tatiana Hernandez are on a committee to assess the Illinois drinking water infrastructure. The National ASCE is updating its 2005 infrastructure report and should publish their findings in early 2009. The Illinois Section ASCE is evaluating infrastructure in the State, and various subcommittees have been assigned to look at bridges, drinking water, wastewater, transit, etc. The process will consist of collecting data on drinking water infrastructure condition, performance, funding, capacity and need. Then the subcommittee will recommend a grade for the drinking water

infrastructure. That grade will be reviewed by a panel of experts. The goal is to have a grade finalized by February or March of 2009. The subcommittee met in August and will meet again September 15.

4.3. UIC Student Chapter Update

4.3.1. Speakers for UIC Bi-Weekly Lunch Seminars. Katie Owens asked for volunteer speakers during the August 2008 meeting. The presentations are held from 1-2 PM, so would require a weekday time commitment. Catherine stated that UIC has a standing request for additional volunteers. John Norton and Graig Neville both volunteered to speak.

4.3.2. EE&WR Support for Golf Outing. Catherine reported that the student chapter at UIC wants to raise money. In the past several years, students have approached EE&WR for funding, and we provided a donation in early 2008. Now the chapter is hoping to raise money by hosting a golf outing. They had asked for upfront funding from EE&WR that would then be reimbursed from the golf outing proceeds. Per EE&WR suggestion the UIC student chapter approached the Illinois Section ASCE for funding. It was decided the student chapter will not host a 2008 golf outing; however, they may attend the EE&WR November 2008 meeting to request funding such that they can plan a fundraiser in 2009. This request would replace their usual spring request for funding.

4.4. HEC-RAS – Arun Heer stated that the HEC-RAS course went well. It was a good course for entry and mid-level users. The instructor was good, as was the location. We lost \$900 on the course. There is a possibility that we could use the room free in the future as long as it is coordinated with professors. We could potentially exchange the room for a few free student attendance passes. Graig suggested that we also consider a reduced course fee for students.

4.5. Other Old Business – (1) Pat reported that USB drives with a printed ASCE logo range in price from \$5-20 per drive, depending on storage capacity and number of units ordered, as well as the company providing the drives. The USB drives are an alternative to CDs for providing course or workshop participants with material. (2) Catherine noted that Liquid Assets was discussed at the August meeting. Catherine and Thera Baldauf attended the Illinois Section meeting and learned more about it. Liquid Assets is the name of a public outreach campaign coordinated with Penn State. Illinois Section ASCE does not currently have a public outreach or student outreach committee. If anyone is interested in setting up and leading such a committee, they could take the lead.

5. Seminars and Courses

5.1. EPA-SWMM – Mandeera Wagle reported that there are 11 people signed up so far. This is the break even number. There is still room for more participants. Mandeera will provide the registration checks to Heather at the end of the course.

5.2. Pumps Seminar – No report available.

5.3. APWA / SAME Joint Seminar – Sandy Homola reported that the event will likely take place in spring 2009. They are looking to EE&WR for speaker suggestions. They will host the meeting and will finance the seminar, as well as receive any profits.

5.4. SAME North Branch Joint Seminar – Catherine reported that a lunch seminar will

be held Thursday, October 9, at the Highland Park Country Club. The topic will be Sustainability/ Carbon Footprint presented by Dr. John Norton, MWH. The cost of the seminar is \$35.

- 5.5. HSPF – Graig Neville will get an outline and general cost estimate from Erik Louks, who has offered to teach an HSPF course. The course will require three to four days of instruction. Catherine reported that no one had specifically responded to the HSPF teaser question.
- 5.6. Recarga – No report available.
- 5.7. Other New Courses. In the interest of time Catherine suggested additional new courses discussion be postponed until the October meeting. (1) Pat Lach reported that he had attended the national ASCE Unsteady HEC-RAS course. He noted a lack of organization, in particular with regard to registration. Lunch was not included in the course cost, and the hotel was poorly located. Although the instructors and materials were good, the materials had not been updated for the current version of the HEC-RAS model. Pat wondered why the courses cost as much as they do. (2) Heather suggested trying to obtain the ASCE 2009 national training schedule to assist EE&WR with course planning for 2009.

6. New Business

- 6.1. Illinois Section Meeting – Catherine reported that the Annual Illinois Section Meeting will be held on October 21 at the Harold Washington Library. SGT Brian Anderson is the keynote speaker. He is an Iraq War veteran and amputee and will be speaking about overcoming adversity. The EE&WR technical group will buy a table for 10. Heather will send an email invitation to the most frequent EE&WR meeting attendees. However, for those whose company will be sponsoring a table, it is suggested that EE&WR members sit with their own company. Awards will be presented at the meeting. There are a number of ASCE Annual Dinner sponsorship options available for consulting firms. See the newsletter and Illinois Section website for details.
- 6.2. September Social Activity – EE&WR will host a bowling outing at Ten Pin on Thursday, September 25. The bowling and snacks will be paid for by EE&WR. Ten Pin is located at 330 North State Street in Chicago, and the event starts at 6:00 PM.
- 6.3. Secretary Nominees – Every September a new EE&WR board member is selected to begin their term in October. The new board member will rotate through all four offices. Arun Heer was nominated and approved as secretary. Graig Neville will be the next Chair, Tatiana Hernandez the next Vice-Chair, and Heather Henneman the next Treasurer. Pat asked about Tatiana's out of town absence through December 2008 and whether this might be detrimental to the EE&WR workload. Catherine noted that Tatiana might be able to participate in the meetings by telephone conference. She also will confirm that Tatiana will be back in Chicago in January 2009.
- 6.4. EE&WR Subcommittees – Catherine asked for volunteers for two subcommittees. The first is the Student Outreach subcommittee which will be responsible for scholarships, Future Cities, and other activities involving current student ASCE members or future members. Renee Clore, Sandy Homola, and Katie Kukielka volunteered to form the subcommittee. Catherine also asked EE&WR to consider forming a Public Outreach subcommittee. The subcommittee could develop their own mission statement to determine what types of activities they would sponsor or

promote.

- 6.5. Other New Business – (1) Both Thera Baldauf and Pat Lach have been selected as Directors for the Illinois Section ASCE. They sit on the Illinois Section Board for two years beginning October 2008. Thera will again chair the ASCE Awards Committee. (2) There is a volunteer opportunity coming up for Illinois River Days. This is a statewide event. (3) EE&WR will soon set the date for the Holiday Dinner at Greek Islands. (4) John Norton noted that the EPA Draft period for public review of the Federal requirements regarding carbon dioxide geologic sequestration is ongoing and closes in November. The document is available for review on the EPA website.

7. Adjourn

Catherine adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm.