

Meeting Minutes

ASME CSRA Section, Region IV Executive Board Meeting, January 23, 2003 Held at the Godfather's Pizza, Aiken, SC

Chairman Kevin Lancaster called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM. Meeting attendees were as follows:

John Blair
Kevin Lancaster
Chip Tefft

Mike May
Kevin Smith

Secretary's Report -

Gary Driesen provided the minutes from the Executive Board Meeting held on October 31, 2002. A motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented was made and seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report -

Mike May reported that our ASME CSRA account balance is currently \$6,818.46.

Old Business -

Recent Events

1. There were 38 people that attended a plant tour of the BMW automobile fabrication plant in Greer, SC on Friday, November 1, 2002. The tour was jointly sponsored with the local chapter of AIChE.
2. An awards banquet was held on Saturday, November 2, 2002 at the Snug Restaurant in Augusta, GA. The guest speaker, Mr. George Clare from the Westinghouse Savannah River Co., traced the history of various technical contributions that have been made by engineers to society. In addition, several ASME CSRA Section members were presented with either a 25-year or 50-year membership award. (Note - In 2002, the CSRA Section had a total of 12 members who became eligible for these membership awards.)
3. There were 29 people that attended the luncheon meeting held at the Partridge Inn in Augusta, GA on November 22, 2002 and jointly sponsored by the CSRA Sections of ASCE and ASME. The guest speaker, Mr. Peter Slavovsky from Bechtel Savannah River, Inc., presented the topic 'Construction Specification Institute's 'Master Format' Specification Changes.'

CSRA Section By-Laws

The status of their revision was discussed. It was noted that Kevin Lancaster had received some suggestions from members. Mike May indicated his interest in collecting the comments to date and making the actual revisions to the By-Laws.

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New Business -

Request for Assistance from Bechtel Savannah River, Inc.

Bechtel Savannah River Incorporated sent a letter to the CSRA Section requesting financial and member support for a new program they are sponsoring in the Central Savannah River Area to heighten interest in engineering. This regional competition is to participate in the National Engineering Design Challenge (NEDC), an engineering and technology competition for high school students. The NEDC poses a problem that student teams, along with a coach and advising engineer, design, build, and demonstrate a working model as a prototype solution. This year, students are designing an inspection-friendly travel baggage set. Our NEDC event will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2003 at the University of South Carolina - Aiken Campus in Aiken, SC at 8:00 AM.

The Exec. Bd. Members discussed the request and decided to support the program with a financial commitment of \$500 via a motion that was made and approved. Chip Tefft agreed to communicate our support for this program to a representative from Bechtel.

Campaign to Contact Sen. Hollings

ASME National has requested everyone's support for the Math & Science Partnerships. The U.S. Senate is about to vote on funding for the Department of Education's pre-college Math & Science Partnership (MSP) program. While the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act authorized \$450 million for the partnerships, only \$12.5 million was appropriated last year. At least \$100 million is needed for each state to receive dedicated funding to improve pre-college Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) teaching and learning. CSRA Section members are encouraged to please call, fax or e-mail Senator Hollings, member of the Education Appropriations Subcommittee, and ask him to: "Please vote to increase funding to \$100 million for the Department of Education's Math & Science Partnership program".

Upcoming Events

The CSRA Section has scheduled a seminar at the University of South Carolina-Aiken on Saturday, February 15 beginning at 9:00 AM. The speaker is Mr. Daniel Wood, an engineering project manager from Westinghouse Savannah River Co. He will give a presentation titled "A Tour of Nuclear Reactors in Siberia and a Presentation on Professional Communications."

The next Executive Bd. meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 27, 2003 beginning at 5:30 PM at the Nancy Carson Library in North Augusta, SC.

Chairman Lancaster adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary E. Driesen
Section Secretary