

PSPE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER
STATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

27 September 2017

The PSPE Board of Director's (BoD) met on Saturday, September 16, in Pittsburgh to conduct the regular fall meeting on the last day of the Annual Conference. The meeting was attended by past presidents Timothy Ormiston (past) and John Nawn (Immediate past), newly elected officers as listed below and 7 of the 17 Chapter State Directors. There were several notable guests as well including Tim Austin, NSPE Immediate Past President and Abe El, Chapter Secretary and MathCounts Coordinator. The new PSPE officers are:

President	Joseph Boward PE, FNSPE
President-elect	Steven Novotny, PE
Secretary	David Briskey, PE
Treasurer	Nicole Wilson, PE
VP NE Region	Michael Basta, PE
VP SE Region	Susan Best, PE
VP Central Region	James DiLouie, PE (Absent)
VP SW Region	Jennifer Nolan-Kremm, PE
VP NW Region	Vince Borrelli, PE
PA Rep to NSPE House of Delegates	Susan Sprague, PE, FNSPE

The PSPE Executive Director, Jennifer Summers of Wanner Associates, will be issuing complete minutes in the near future which can be distributed. Following is a summary of highlights:

- 1) President Boward is setting up a committee to determine how PSPE can get the word out and energize professional engineers in the state about the attacks on the engineering license ongoing in the United States. To date, legislation has been created and in some states gone to a vote to do away with professional registrations all together, including engineers, in 23 states. In Indiana, the legislation passed both Houses of the Assembly but the legislation was vetoed by the governor (Pence). Much of the effort is led by the conservative group ALEC (The American Legislative Exchange Council) as a way to force the hands of state licensing boards to remove registration criteria as it is considered an impediment to more full employment.
- 2) State Director Jennifer Summers asked everyone to get out the word to support MathCounts as it is the Society's largest public outreach and support activity. She also reminded all to remember to register this month if not done so already.
- 3) John Wanner provided a legislative update. House Bill 1106 which makes changes to the engineer's registration act overwhelmingly passed to house and was sent to the senate for action. The changes result from a Commonwealth Court decision essentially determining that if a project does not include design, it is not considered the practice of engineering.

Also, budget negotiations in the house and senate have resulted in two very different funding bills. While the senate increased several taxes to generate income, the house rejected tax increases and is instead transferring funds from other state programs perceived as having unused monies. Hardest hit are environmental and development funds such as the Multi-Modal and Public Transportation Funds and environmental clean-up. It was recommended for all to contact elected representatives and voice concerns. It was also noted that the House funding does not solve the State's structural deficit issues and just passes the problem to next year.

- 4) Susan Sprague, Rep to the NSPE House of Delegates and PSPE Membership Committee Chair, reported on the new dues structure developed by "National". It has been understood that there are too many different dues structures in the Country (approximately 8,000 permutations of membership dues) which causes undue complexity and administration cost. Also, state and chapter reimbursements from National do not reflect the amount of effort National has to expend. As an example, PSPE pays for an executive director and has an active board and chapters (generally), so fewer resources are required from National. All states are not as active. So, the dues we all pay to National will be \$299.00 annually, but the revenue returned to each state will vary based on the effort required of National. PSPE voted for an integrated State and National dues structure and Pennsylvania will qualify for the highest return of revenue which is scheduled to be \$210 of the total \$299 dues. National will only receive \$89. This should result in an increase in PSPE membership revenue and help offset the costs of the services we provide.

The membership committee also presented drafts of four "elevator speeches" that can be used to promote the profession. They are geared towards a) licensed engineers protecting the seal, b) younger engineers as to why join, c) group presentation and d) student's free membership.

- 5) John Nawn, chair of the Legislative Action Committee, reported that the PSPE-PAC is severely underfunded and made a plea to the BoD to write checks as leaders of the group, and promote the chapter officers and members to do similarly. Mr. Nawn reported that \$940 for the PAC was raised at the Annual Conference. Checks should be made out to PSPE-PAC and mailed to the PSPE office. More information is on the website.
- 6) The treasurer, Nicole Wilson, reported that a transfer will be required soon from the Reserve Fund to the General Fund since the Society is again running a slight deficit. This has become a trend in the past years which should not continue. As previously stated, the NSPE integrated dues structure should help with increasing revenue. Purchase of license plates also directs monies to the General Fund.

Respectively Submitted,

Thomas J. Friese, PE
Philadelphia Chapter State Director

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