



NEW YORK SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Minutes of
Professional Engineers in Government
Held November 01, 2003

At Albany Marriott
Albany, N.Y.
Jim Galarneau, PE Presiding

Attendees:

James Galarneau, PE	Capital District	518-689-2610	galarnjr@sysadm.suny.edu
Laura Pellizzi,	Suffolk	631-632-3125	Laura.pellizzi@stonybrook.edu
Anne Garrity, PE	Capital District	518-689-2592	garritan@sysadm.suny.edu
John Przepiora, PE	Central	315-479-9 111	Jwp134@twcny.rr.com
Richard Lenz, PE	Nassau	516-496-7187	WIZ333333@aol.com
Gregory Gallagher, PE	Tri-County	518-583-8878 cell 914-584- 0154	gwgallagher@earthlink.net
Donald F. Brown, PE	Broome	607-773-1332	dfbrown@pronetisp.net
David A. Janover, PE	Suffolk	631-224-5450	islipdj@optonline.net
Tom Mitchell, PE	Monroe	585-872-4160	tmtchell@bergmannpc.com

1. **Agenda** was approved as presented.
2. **Minutes** of June 07, 2003 as amended were approved
3. **Escrow Account** was discussed. Currently PEG has \$3,480.30 on account.
4. **Communications**: No update
5. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - 5.1. **NICET Issues with the Fire Protection System Engineers (FPSE)- Jim handed out a one page correction to June minutes that Greg had prepared and forwarded within the past month after minutes had been distributed. The following was distributed and discussed by Greg: (Greg had to leave early and did not get to discuss all)**
 - SFPE supports NSPE qualifications of NICET and Codes of NYS Reference Standards required in the present editions for "Inspection, Testing and Maintenance". They will also be required for layout of PE designed fire protection systems in their next 2002 edition.

- NYS chapters of the SFPE is asking NYSSPE for support of the following:
 1. Proposing a two step process for NYS Building Code Administrative requirements as written in the National Model Codes and Reference Standards adopted by NYS Codes:
 - Step1: State Education Dept accepts a PE or RA to design fire protection systems if qualified in education and experience to NCEES Fire Protection Engineering standards of that system. Code compliant building drawings having FP systems (like all building systems) are required for Code Official plan review at application of permit. (Usually at this point FP contractors are not bided, thus there are no shop drawings nor complete product specifications.)
 - Step 2: PE/RA "approval marking" is required on all FP shop drawings and specifications submitted to Code Official for review prior to installation, which indicates conformance to the FP and building design .. These shop drawings and specifications are required minimally to be done by NICET Level III personnel, as required in the FP Reference Standards adopted in NYS Codes. This NICET Level III work must be done under the direction of PE stamped design documentation that establishes the engineering precedent through Design Delegation..
 - **ACTION: Get NYSSPE representatives on Code committees to present with SFPE the above concept.**
 2. There is a white paper on the use of NICET technicians versus PE/RA by Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE)
 - Layout (not design) work by NICET III can only be done after the Design Delegation of a PE/RA stamped design documentation which establishes the engineering precedent to be followed by NICET personnel.
 - No stamp on shop drawings done by NICET personnel, except for PE/RA who designed the system with their "approval markings". Or PE/RA stamp if done by PE/RA.
 - Need to define Certified Engineering Technician as NICET I, II, III, IV.
 - Design Delegation is acceptable for operation and maintenance, testing and inspection by NICET Level II personnel under NICET Level III supervision, provided a PE/RA defines the engineering precedent for operation, maintenance, testing & inspection at the time of design. .
 - **ACTION: Get NYSSPE representatives on Code committees to present with SFPE the above concept.**

3. There is a need to put NICET certification of FPE under State Department of Education vs. Department of State as Certified Engineering Technicians.
 - **ACTION: Educate NYSSPE and members to support SFPE's efforts which are consistent with NYSSPE protecting the public's life, safety and general welfare through eventual licensure.**
4. There is a NICET FP curriculum being developed at Polytechnic University with John Jay College in NYC, OCC in Syracuse and other educational institutions are being approached in NYS.

5.2. NYSERDA RFP 778

- Recent RFP sent out for engineering services but no mention of PE requirement. Paul has sent out a letter to NYSERDA to remind them of State Education Law and if they do not consider this could be a violation of Section 145.
- Paul further requested that all RFP's issued should have an addendum sent out to address the need for a PE requirement
- **ACTION: Paul Bowers was not at the meeting and Jim will follow up as to status.**

5.3. Civil Service- Jim G. indicated that a meeting was to take place so PEG could continue to participate in the revisions of job descriptions that may require a license if it suggest the practice of engineering. No meeting has been set. Civil service needs to be contacted to see if PEG may be of any further service in reviewing and commenting on job descriptions being rewritten.

- **ACTION: Jim Galarneau will contact Civil service to introduce self and offer PEG and NYSSPE to assist offer assistance as they may need.**

5.4. Federal Engineer Award-Paul Bowers was to propose at National that this award be changed to government engineer award. At National, this has been discussed and when all the states have implemented a government engineer award, National will follow suit.

5.5. PEPP 1984 Practice Manual-Peg has been asked to participate

- **ACTION: Jim Galarneau will contact Civil service to introduce self and offer PEG and NYSSPE to assist offer assistance as they may need.**

5.6. PEG Auxiliary Website- Future endeavor

6. New Business:

6.1. DOS Code Committee- Greg had earlier indicated that some of his issues may be prevented by having NYSSPE representatives on the committees.

- **ACTION: Jim will make contact with DOS to request consideration**



- 6.2. CPC Requirements- Later today there will be more to hear. From the government position, employees currently in the bargaining units are exempt if they have been employed prior to 2004 and do not actively practice outside of their government employment. After 2004, employees hired by government holding a license are required to have CPC credits.
- **ACTION: There may have value in establishing relationships with contacting government entities to advise them of the law and advise them how NYSSPE may assist them through Practicing Institute of Education.**
- 6.3. “Put Brakes in Fatalities Day” 2002-2003- No new efforts have been done to expand NY involvement.
- **ACTION: Jim will pursue interest in PEG members to pick the program up and work with it in 2004.**
- 6.4. 2003 NYS Government Engineer Award- Jim indicated that nominations will be requested in 2004.
- **ACTION: Volunteer will be solicited to help evaluate.**
- 6.5 “Engineering Your Way to Success” book-
- **ACTION: Jim will see if State HQ has copy to review.**
- 6.6. DEC SWPPP- Anne Garrity advised that there is a concern at the Capital District Chapter as to recent DEC Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) state requirements that require an examination of storm water quantity (i.e. limiting post-development runoff to pre-development levels). Additionally water quality is regulated both during and afterwards when a construction project of 1 acre or more might exist. These regulations may require, as written, municipalities to develop town wide plans.
- **ACTION: Jim will work with Anne to further define what role PEG may take in this issue.**

Next Board Meeting: The next meeting of the Board has been scheduled for Summer 2004

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Galarneau, PE

Cc: Headquarters (emailed)
Attendees (emailed)
PEG members (emailed)