



Engineering Minnesota's Future

MGEC Board Meeting

March 27, 2017

	Present		Present
President Julie Groetsch	X	Director Ken Hansen	X
Vice President Steve Kordosky	X	Director Gene Hicks	X
Past Pres. Mohammad Dehdashti	X	Director Cindy Dittberner	X
Secretary Jerry Kotzenmacher		Director Rachel Broughton	X
Treasurer Linda Heath	X	Director Bruce Johnson	X
Director Jeff Cremin		Director Scott Knowles	X
Director Blake Nelson	X	Executive Director Dana Wheeler	X
Director Derrick Dasenbrock	Phone	Robert Haag, Labor Relations Consult	X

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 3:47 p.m. by President Julie Groetsch.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Director Ken Hanson to approve the agenda, 2nd by Vice President Steve Kordosky. Motion passed by voice vote.
3. **Presidents Report – Julie Groetsch**
 Photographer on site today at 4:30 p.m. for individual photos.

Legislative Committee Report-MGEC Contract has not been approved. Currently tied to Paid Parental Leave. Legislative committee members are meeting with Legislators to garner support to attach the Contract to another Bill for action.

Hired Lobbyist from the Rotunda Group to lobby on behalf of MGEC. Dana has tried to get a meeting with the Governor's staff but has not been successful. Dana has asked that the Rotunda Group assist in getting a meeting with the Governor's staff and get the MGEC Contract on the floor.

Dana will send a message to all of the House and Senate members in regard to our Contract.

Legislative Committee is working to push all of our members to contact their Legislator.

Email from Carolyn Trevis outlines two bills that have been added to the Omnibus bill that caps the number of FTE's in executive branch agencies, reducing the number of State employees by 3,000-6,000 and sets a Salary limit for FY's 2018-2019.

A motion was made by Director Scott Knowles to approve hiring the Rotunda Group to lobby on behalf of MGEC through June 30th at a cost of \$5,000, 2nd by Director Cindy Dittberner, motion approved by voice vote.

NASHTU is April 24-26th, President Julie Groetsch, Director Blake Nelson, Secretary Jerry Kotzenmacher and Executive Director Dana Wheeler will attend. The four will meet prior to NASHTU.

Lunch meetings have been held at District 8, Metro and two at Central Office. Meeting at Maplewood on May 2nd from 11:30 -1:00, working with District 1 to set up a meeting. Director Cindy Dittberner will set up a meeting in District 2, Director Ken Hansen will set up a meeting in District 3-Baxter and invite DNR. ~~Two additional meetings have been set up with Metro on April 30 and May 4.~~ Majority of discussion focus on the 2015-2017 contract and the difficulty getting it passed. Also discussed is the Right to Work Legislation to make members aware as well as contract bargaining with insurance proposals and health savings accounts requested. Julie and Dana have dates available for on-site meetings; April 6,18,19,20th and May 10, 11, 15,16,17th.

4. Executive Directors report – Dana Wheeler

Pensions – currently there is no legislation, most likely won't see action until after Easter.

The Pension Work Group comprised of public sector unions sent a letter thanking the Governor for supporting our Pensions.

Comp study-Dana sent an e-mail asking about the status of data analysis.

Loss of flex time for Military Affairs- Loss for all employees, including supervisors.

April's board meeting has been moved to Mays 1st, so there will be 2 board meetings in May.

5. Secretary's report – Linda Heath (filling in for Jerry Kotzenmacher)

Motion to approve February 27th, 2017 board meeting minutes was made by Vice President Steve Kordosky, 2nd by Director Ken Hansen. The February 27th, 2017 board meeting minutes were approved by voice vote.

6. Treasurer's Report – Linda Heath

Auditor's report needs action from Executive Committee, will be brought back to Board at the May 1st meeting.

7. Vice Presidents Report – Steve Kordosky

No report

8. Past President Report – Mohammad Dehdashti

No report

9. **MPCA:** No report. Director Scott Knowles has requested an on-site meeting with members at the 520 Lafayette location. Scott will also talk with DNR for scheduling an on-site meeting.
10. **DNR:** No report.
11. **PCA –** No report

Round Robin-

Director Cindy Dittberner- there are two MGEC Members in D-2 who are planning to retire but they are not sure they should retire before or after June 30th due to uncertainty of MGEC Contract.

A request was made to hold an Ethics class in Bemidji. Executive Director Dana Wheeler stated past instructor is not available for 2017, wait until 2018. President Julie Groetsch stated that Rick Morey, retired Land Surveyor, has a good Ethics class and may be available to provide the training.

Director Gene Hicks-Discussion on t-shirts for new members, greeters. A selection of shirt choices should be made available and should also be open to those interested in buying an MGEC shirt.

President Julie Groetsch requested that all Board members contact your legislator and have another MGEC member do the same. Executive Director Dana Wheeler will create talking points and post them on the website.

Executive Director Dana Wheeler stated that for one member who converted her Comp Time to Deferred Comp that the back-pay did not convert.

Vice President Steve Kordosky is looking for a member who has Curt Daudt as a Legislator.

12. **Adjourn:** A motion was made to adjourn by Director Scott Knowles, 2nd by Director Blake Nelson. Passed by voice vote at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Heath
Treasurer

Dana Wheeler
Executive Director