

**Minutes of the Meeting of the South Texas Board of the Society of Plastics Engineers – 10/11/2022**

The SPE-STX Board of Directors meeting was held by video and phone conference.

<b>Participants</b>	
Iman Bahrani, President	Carl Baker, Member at Large
Preston McDaniel, Vice-President	Jason Ball, Member at Large
Richard Keeler, Treasurer	Donna Davis, Member at Large
Steve King, Membership	Dell Doyle, Member at Large
Steve Pontiff, Councilor	John Wagner, Member at Large
Tom Walsh, Secretary	Vassilios Galiatsatos, 2023 Polyolefins
David Hanson, Education Committee	

Opening: The Board meeting was called to order at 5:10 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Donna Davis moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. John Wagner seconded the motion. The motion passed without any dissents.

Councilor Report: Iman welcomed Steve Pontiff, our newly elected Councilor. Steve mentioned that he is receiving emails from SPE which he assumed are related to his new Councilor position.

Treasurers Report: Richard Keeler reported that there is a balance of \$176,850 in the checking account and \$119,169 in the savings account. David Hansen asked if there is an Internal Revenue Service limit on the amount of money the South Texas can hold as a non-profit organization. It was discussed that we appear to be below that limit from past discussions of that issue, but Richard will check on this.

Technical Programs:

- September Program: Dell Doyle reported that the Astros game event was successful.
- October Program: Dell reported Zachary Moore of ICIS has agreed to present a virtual talk for October. Between Janell’s vacation and Zach’s delay in proving his bio and presentation, we will not be able to publicize this program in a timely manner. This would have to be held the last week in October.
- November Program: Dell has contacted Jeff Applegate of Texas Injection Molding for a plant tour and in-person Section meeting. November 16<sup>th</sup> is the tentative date. It was proposed to schedule a Board meeting for 4:00 to 5:00 pm, the Section meeting from 5:00 to 6:00 pm and a tour from 6:00 to 6:30 or so. Providing dinner for the attendees was discussed but not decided.
- December Program: It was discussed to hold an in-person meeting at either Escalante’s restaurant in City Center or Pappasito’s Restaurant both located near (I-10 West and Beltway 8). It was suggested to hold this meeting on Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup> (5:30 to 7:30 pm). Iman also suggested Hungry’s Restaurant in Rice Village.

Membership: Steve King reported that our current membership is 245. Iman reported that the elimination of the required South Texas Membership fee of \$10 was approved by a Board vote in September. This was communicated to SPE Headquarters. SPE no longer has this requirement on

the website for membership in the South Texas Section. It was mentioned that in the past this fee was used to offset a \$600 liability insurance cost. This will now be invoiced by SPE to the South Texas Section.

Education Committee: David Hansen reported that the Education Committee will meet and discuss the proposed budget for education. He feels that a target base budget of \$50,000 will be developed to be presented to the Board.

Polyolefins Committee: Vassilios Galiatsatos reported the Polyolefins Committee met yesterday. Things are moving smoothly. Clifford Lee has the Plenary Session in good shape with four out of the five speakers confirmed. Publicity has sent out a call for papers. Donna Davis and Preston McDaniel are the Technical Program co-chairs. The tutorial session is completed. Richard Keeler is managing Sponsorships. Kevin Alexander is filling out the Exhibitor space. Renee Colyer is working to make sure the internet service should be able to manage virtual talks if we need to schedule any. Iman asked about Board members registering for the conference. Board members will need to register once registration is activated. Carl Baker stated that he intends to follow up with Shell management to see if they would participate in the Plenary Session. He stated it is unlikely as they are focused on getting the new plant fully operational.

New Business: Donna Davis reported that she and David Hansen and Preston McDaniel met and are discussing Alternative Education/Professional Development programs for the Section to sponsor. Two topics were mentioned:

1. Virtual Bioplastics Seminars (two three-hour sessions on two days)
2. An Entrepreneurship Workshop in 2023. This would be an in-person one week program and would require funding. Tom Walsh suggested contacting Dr Steve Bradley, Baylor University. He was teaching Entrepreneurship at Baylor and could be willing to participate in this program. Donna said she would follow up with him,

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on November 8th.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 PM.

Tom Walsh, Secretary