

## SPE-STX Board Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2024

### Attendees:

Preston McDaniel

Dell Doyle

Clifford Lee

Jason Ball

John Wagner

Peter Lauzon

Iman Bahrani

Donna Davis

Steve Torchia

Carl Baker

Alisa Chen

Janell Helton (Section Coordinator)

### Quorum established at 5:08 PM

**Approval of July Minutes:** Motion to approve Donna Davis. Second: Jason Ball Minutes approved unanimously.

**Counselor report:** No report

**Programs Report:** Dell Doyle reported: Astros board/social is set for September 24, 2024. Board meeting will be from 5:30-6:00. Game ticket required for entry to part. Boardroom will be open at 5:15. Social time from 6:00-7:00. 40 tickets have been purchased and available to members for \$30. Each member may bring a plus 1. Dollar Dog night at the park. Game starts at 7:10 Astros vs Mariners. Email announcement scheduled for 8-14-2024. Emails will then go out weekly.

**Treasurer Report:** Peter Lauzon gave bank balances: \$347,607.81 Checking, \$119,191.28 Savings. Peter will be going to bank to get CD's. An upcoming deposit payment to the Galveston Convention Center will be paid in September for \$30,000.

**IPOC Report:** All committee members are in motion. Sponsorships are in place and Fernando is creating a pamphlet to send to potential sponsors. Kevin Alexander is working with Texas XPO on floorplan: The draft for exhibitor floorplan for 2025 includes. Key Items:

- 62 booth spaces (several additional booth spaces could be added should we sell out)
- 8 Meeting rooms (this is the # we had last year. Additional rooms can be added to the lounge area on the SW corner of the map.)
- NEW concept room in the rear of the hall. This would be for New Product Expo presentations. Room would be partially clear (1/2 wall) and no doorway so people can easily see what is going on and stop in if desired. I would suggest offering 30 minutes

time slots for exhibitors or sponsors could present anything they like about their latest/greatest products. No technical review required. These times & presentation would be listed in the conference agenda so people could potentially plan on attending if there is something they are specifically interested in.

Call for papers is planned to go out by months end. Donna Davis moves to approve 2026 contract with the GCC and Password. This will lock us in on their calendar. Only change on contract is a \$5 room rate increase. This will officially move the conference to a Monday-Thursday schedule. (Which previously has been board approved.) Date- February 23-26. 2026 Motion second: Peter Lauzon Motion passed unanimously.

**Education Report:** Preston McDaniel signed the endowment contract with U of H. Peter will be sending check.

### **New business:**

Clifford Lee sent email to all board members about returning conference to 3 person plenary sessions on first day of conference as opposed to the current set-up which has a key-note speaker daily. He provided a graphic:



Discussion ensued. It was determined this was a topic to be discussed by the IPOC Committee at the September meeting. Clifford would like the board to vote on this issue.

Peter Lauzon has spoken to Patrick Farray at International about funding for educational programs in the industry, primarily to establish programs for certification. This is in regards to Dell Doyle's proposal from the June & July meetings to develop technical classes at Texas Technology College to train people on fusion of PE Pipe. Pat is more than willing to talk about opportunity. This would allow for more chapters to establish business model. Piggybacking off Dell's proposed idea from July meeting for a long-term program for SPE International to manage. In regards to SPE-STX financial involvement, Preston McDaniel wants to see the education committee's proposed budget for next year.

**Membership chair replacement:** Steve King has resigned from the board and therefore we need a new membership chair. If anyone would like to volunteer or if you know of a good

candidate please give names to Preston McDaniel. Alise Chen inquired what the position entailed. Donna Davis suggested we build more recruitment into this position. Make it a marketing role. Place the duties on a committee rather than just one individual.

**Chapter Expansion Follow-up:** Preston proposed that expanding to all of Texas is an easy yes. Expanding to OK will not happen. LA has been shelved as well. We need to finish the expansion. Board elections are set for January 2025.

Preston McDaniel, as section president, can replace the board vacancy left when Steve King retired without a vote. If you know of a qualified & willing candidate send the name to Preston.

**Motion to conclude meeting at 6:07 PM.** Peter Lauzon made motion, seconded by Jason Ball. Unanimously approved.

**Next Meeting:** September 24<sup>th</sup> at Astros Game.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janell Helton

Section Coordinator

Code of Conduct:

- Exercise consideration and respect in your speech and actions.
- Attempt collaboration before conflict.
- Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech.
- Be mindful of your surroundings and of your fellow participants. Alert SPE staff if you notice a dangerous situation, someone in distress, or violations of this Code of Conduct, even if they seem inconsequential.
- While at an SPE event no participant should engage in harassment in any form.