

**SPE-STX Board Meeting February 10, 2026
Minutes**

Attendees

Baker, Carl	X	Impelman, Ryan	✓
Ball, Jason	✓	Lee, Clifford	X
Bahrani, Iman	✓	Liu, Yangwei	✓
Cevallos-Candau, Fernando	✓	McDaniel, Preston	✓
Chen, Alisa	✓	Padilla, Angela	✓
Davis, Donna	✓	Sherman, Robert	✓
Doyle, Dell	✓	Sanketh, Kumar	✓
Helton, Janell (non-voting)	✓	Torchia, Steve	X
Hansen, David	✓		

Agenda: See Attachment 1

Quorum established at 5:00 P.M. (Central Time).

Approval of minutes : The minutes were approved unanimously.

Welcome and Introductions (All): Current Board members introduced themselves to Iman Bahrani, who is returning to the board as a member.

Counselor Report (Kumar Sanketh):

- Due to the current process of merger with PLASTICS, the SPE Council meetings are suspended until the end of the year. The current Council no longer has veto power and a new set of rules is coming after the merger.

IPOC update (Preston McDaniel)

- The preparations for the conference are all on track
 - Some presentations for the Technical Program need to be uploaded
 - As of February 10, there were 727 people registered; 65 exhibitors and 16 sponsors.
- Hotels are almost full
- All exhibition booths are sold as well as the conference rooms
- Sponsorships on track, most sponsorship opportunities sold, except for the Welcome Reception
- The program is full and published, We have a good line-up for the plenary sessions and the tutorial session.
- Patrick Farley, CEO of SPE international, send a letter indicating that all SPE pogos used in the conference must also include wording indicating that the conference is organized by the South Texas Section. He wanted the change to be effective immediately. Thanks to Janell's and to Preston's for prompt action, all logos were changed in all the electronic digital media as well as the printed material (which had not gone to the printers)
- Related to the above discussion, the South Texas board discussed the need for more specific written rules for

complimentary registrations, including personnel from the SPE International.

Education Report (David Hansen):

- Presentation at Rice University, scheduled for January 27th, was suspended due to inclement weather
 - A new date for the presentation is proposed for the week of March 23, pending discussion with Rice University.
- David Hansen is coordinating with all the advisors at the supported student chapters to get attendance lists for students participating in the IPOC.
 - 42 students from the 9 universities we support have been invited.
 - 7 students belonging to other SPE student chapters have been invited as well.

Treasurer Report (Donna Davis):

- We currently have \$458,047.61 in our checking account. We retain \$403,313.97 in the CD.
- The checking account funds support the IPOC, the student activities, section operations, and local section meetings.
- As previously discussed, we had to register "South Texas Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers" as a "foreign nonprofit corporation" in Texas because we operate in Texas. (The banker pointed this out.) When we applied to tax exempt status, they asked for our nonprofit certificate and require it to be newer than 4 years old. We are a 501(c)(3) based on the status of SPE, Inc. when we were incorporated. Our documentation still reflects that. However, we could not get a copy of a certificate newer than 4 years old. Our IRS returns surely support our claim of 501(c)(3), we need to formalize that status.
 - **Motion by Donna Davis:** I move that the South Texas Section apply for 501(c)(3) status to support our tax exemption status in the state of Texas. This would involve some time and \$600 in application fees. Seconded by David Hansen. **Motion carries unanimously.**
- Similarly, in reviewing our annual reports for the corporation with the Connecticut Secretary of State (we are registered in Connecticut), we realized they are not up to date and contain spurious information. Consequently, the section needs to take ownership for filing our annual report. (We already file our own IRS returns directly.)
 - **Motion By Donna Davis:** I move that the South Texas Section board approve funds for Northwest Registered Agent to represent us with the CT Secretary of State to maintain our annual report and any other required documentation. The annual cost currently is \$175/year plus incidental charges likely not to exceed \$75/year. Seconded by Dale Doyle. **Motion carries unanimously**

Membership Report (Yangwei Liu):

- 493 members (+11), 428 active, 65 expired, will remind 19 who will expire by the end of February. LinkedIn page: 727 followers (+7).
- Thank you everyone for re-posting and liking. Let's keep the good work and continue to grow.

Section Activities and Education (Dell Doyle)

- Astros/in person board meeting in Houston.
 - **Motion by Dale Doyle:** I move to allocate \$2,500 for expenses related to buying 40 tickets for the Astros Game, plus snacks during the board meeting ahead of the game. The moneys would come from the section activities budget. Seconded by Iman Bahrani. **Motion carries unanimously**

New Business

- Dale Doyle proposed that we start an informal breakfast meeting for the board and interested members, the breakfast would be partially subsidized by the the South Texas Section, from its activities budget.
- After discussion, a first meeting will be scheduled by Dale on Thursday April 2.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 (Central Time)

Next Meeting: March 10, 2026

Respectfully submitted by:

J. Fernando Cevallos-Candau
Secretary

Agenda

2/10/2026 SPE-STX Board Meeting

1. Welcome, Iman
2. Approve minutes.
3. Councilor report.
4. IPOC update
 - a. Logo problem
 - b. How can we add to conference attendance going forward in a down industry?
5. Rice Presentation March
 - a. April Presentation?
6. Education Committee
7. Treasurer's report.
 - a. Change to our reporting
8. Membership report.
9. Move Iman's Board role to expire in 2029.
10. Change Bylaws to add one student Board member.
11. New Business.
12. Adjourn.