PSPE VISION

PSPE is the recognized voice and advocate of all Professional Engineers who are licensed in Pennsylvania.

PSPE MISSION

Promote and defend the interests of Pennsylvania’s Professional Engineers.

I. Call to order – President Harve Hnatiuk, P.E. F.NSPE

President Hnatiuk called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

II. Roll call of the Executive Committee – Secretary Joseph F. Boward, PE

A. The attached roll call sheet indicates attendance: a quorum (minimum five members in accordance with Bylaw 9, Section 3) was present.

B. Also Present:
   PSPE Executive Director – John D. Wanner, CAE
   PSPE Deputy Executive Director – Jennifer Summers

III. Additional Agenda Items and/or Revisions – None.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. March 22, 2007, Teleconference Meeting – The first sentence of Minutes Item VIII.C should be removed and replaced with “One-hundred-sixty-six students and 82 coaches are expected at the competition.” Motion to approve corrected minutes by President-Elect Bernstein and seconded by Vice President Bradshaw. Motion passed.

V. Financial Reports

A. Treasurer’s Report – John Nawn, P.E. – The treasurer’s report was provided in the meeting booklet. Administrative expenses are at about 25 percent of the annual budget to date, and 33 percent of the budget has been expended thus far overall. Total dues collection to date is about $116,000, much of which was the offset advance provided by NSPE. Dues income is considered “strong” at this point. If dues track as they had in the past, November and December collections should provide the bulk of the annual dues. However, due to changes in NSPE administration of dues, the dues timing for this year will likely deviate from past history. The treasurer’s report has been filed for audit.

B. Reserve Fund Report – Michel Sadaka, P.E. – Vice President Sadaka was not available to present the written report included in the meeting booklet. Report filed for audit.

VI. Report of the President – Harve Hnatiuk, P.E., F. NSPE

A. Committee Roster Update – Faruq Ahmed joined the Communications Committee. President Hnatiuk encouraged the Executive Committee to speak to PSPE members about becoming involved in committees.
VII. Report of the NSPE House of Delegates (HoD) Representative – Harve Hnatiuk, P.E., F. NSPE

A. NSPE Convention, July 26-30, 2007 – Denver, CO – Harve Hnatiuk, P.E., F. NSPE, will participate as the PSPE HoD Representative and Leonard Bernstein, P.E., will attend as the PSPE President. Last year, HoD representatives were provided with some level of per diem from NSPE, alleviating some of the expense burden for state societies participating in the HoD. The Executive Committee agreed that John Bradshaw, P.E., the incoming PSPE President-Elect, should attend the NSPE Convention, and PSPE will reimburse his attendance expenses. Vice President Bradshaw indicated that he would consult his calendar and let the committee know if he is able to attend the convention. The scheduled surgery for President-Elect Bernstein may preclude his attendance. Executive Director Wanner will be attending the convention, and PA/PEPP will be represented.

The possibility that NSPE may eliminate credit card payment plan for dues payment was discussed.

The proposed NSPE Unified Dues, whereby State and Chapters would no longer be permitted to have their own dues structures, was discussed. Unified dues would reduce dues flexibility, which would be a negative consequence. The Executive Committee consensus is that Unified dues would negatively affect PSPE and many of our chapters. PSPE dues would likely increase under a Unified Dues structure, as PSPE currently has one of the lowest dues structures; New Jersey has the highest dues. Hence, states with currently lower dues structures would effectively subsidize states with higher expense/dues structures. It is believed by some that the Unified Dues proposal is intended to eliminate dues variations at the chapter level. However, chapters in different areas of the state also have varying standards of living, giving rise to variable dues from chapter to chapter. Unified Dues would detrimentally affect many chapters. Indications are that the Unified Dues initiative is only at the strategic level of discussion at this time. Past President Garman moved that the PSPE Executive Committee notify NSPE that we are opposed to the Unified Dues initiative. Motion seconded by Treasurer Nawn; motion passed unanimously. Executive Director will draft a letter to NSPE at the direction of the Executive Committee.

The Affiliate Member resolution to NSPE was discussed. At one time, the Future Directions Task Force had considered an “Academy” where non PEs could be members of NSPE; the proposed Affiliate Member status appears to be a similar concept. At that time, the Task Force decided that NSPE should only represent PEs and EITs. Historically, PSPE has been opposed to Chapter-only membership. Other than Sustaining Associates – firms that pay dues – PSPE is opposed to state-only membership. Florida has state-only members now, so that the introduction of an Affiliate Member level would nicely accommodate their structure. Page 40 of the meeting booklet summarizes current member categories. From the Executive Committee interpretation of the proposed membership model, it appears that states can define Affiliate Members however they desire. As Affiliate Members would not be required to pay NSPE dues, they would unfairly burden NSPE PE members funding NSPE. It was decided that PSPE should monitor this issue and be prepared to take a stand when it is appropriate. As of now, the PSPE Executive Committee is opposed to this resolution as currently presented.

VIII. Report of the Executive Director – John Wanner, CAE

A. MATHCOUNTS State Competition Report – Jen Summers – The Chapter coordinators and team coaches reported a well run competition. The 2007 regional mathletes totaled 2770, considerably higher than the past. Ms. Summers summarized the top teams and competitors presented in the meeting booklet. Also included in the booklet are the results of the MATHCOUNTS headlines tracked by Joe Bremner. On Friday evening before the MATHCOUNTS competition, Messiah College administered a model automobile building competition for the students. Penn State and Drexel both expressed an interest in sponsoring events at future competitions. The media is most interested in the Countdown Round, but they can’t really report on it. The questions can’t be broadcasted, as other state competitions have yet to occur. It was suggested that the PSPE MATHCOUNTS committee include a member of the Public Relations committee, which develops outlets of publicity for our organization.
IX. Legislative Report – John Wanner, CAE

A. Relevant Legislation – UCC Bill – exempting certain residential construction requirements – is still being considered. Although it does not appear to have much importance to PSPE in its present form, we should keep an eye on it.

There are no plans to move the Home Inspectors Bill, which would not allow PEs to perform home inspections based solely on the PE status.

The problems between the Governor and the proposed state budget remain unresolved. The MATHCOUNTS and engineering equipment line items must be negotiated back into the budget. Budget approval has a June 30, 2007, deadline, but it is unlikely to be passed by then.

The Registration Board assigned developing continuing education requirements to a subcommittee, which has already returned to the Board with some problems. Before the Registration Board finalizes the continuing education regulatory package, it will reach out to PSPE for assessment. The Board is having problems determining how to pre-approve providers of educational seminars/courses without the process becoming too onerous.

There are on-going debates in the legislature regarding transportation funding. The Governor has eight to nine taxes that he wants passed, which the legislature doesn’t want to see passed. However, most believe that some level of transportation funding will be approved. Political and relationship dynamics between the Governor, Senate and House are creating barriers to moving funding and budget discussions along. It has been predicted that last year’s budget will be passed.

Discussion ensued regarding HR 1023/ S 777 that would repeal the three percent tax withholding law for goods and services, especially with respect to contracting services, provided to the U.S. government. Although this bill passed, it won’t take effect until 2011, so there remains time to modify or repeal it.

B. PAC Report – A written report was included in the meeting booklet. The balance in the account is $798.38 as of March 31, 2007. Contributions since January 1, 2007, amount to $412.50. The list of payments from the account was summarized by Executive Director Wanner.

X. Old Business

A. Committee/Task Force Reports

1. 2007 Conference – Len Bernstein, P.E., F. NSPE – The written proposed Conference Schedule included in the meeting booklet was reviewed. Post cards directing PSPE members to the website to register for the Conference will be mailed on April 20, 2007. Ms. Summers requested that the Executive Committee invite colleagues to the Conference. The Conference Committee is seeking volunteers to aid in event logistics. The Executive Committee asked Ms. Summers to prepare a list of job descriptions and requirements for the Conference Committee. The Conference brochure was reviewed and discussed. Modifications to the brochure were suggested. Conference advertisements and sponsorships are important if PSPE is to see a profit. Due to President Elect Bernstein’s surgical and recuperation schedule, he may be unable to attend the Conference.

2. 2008 Conference – John Bradshaw, P.E. – The Conference is scheduled for June 5-7, 2008. The 2008 Conference Committee is attempting to engage Dick Thornburg to speak at the Saturday evening banquet. Consultations with Mr. Thornburg’s aid, Susan Hill, revealed that it is too early to schedule. Ms. Hill asked if PSPE will pay for Mr. Thornburg’s expenses and if there will be an honorarium. By the fall of this year, Mr. Thornburg can be booked for 2008. Ms. Hill suggested that the speech topic be about transportation and/or education. Executive Wanner reminded the Executive Committee that there may still exist some tension between Mr. Thornburg, a former Pennsylvania Governor,
and PSPE based on past history. Reasonable honorarium amounts were discussed. Mike Poletti, P.E., of the Lincoln Chapter agreed to Chair the 2008 Conference Committee.

3. **Membership** – John Bradshaw, P.E. – The next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2007. Vice President Bradshaw reviewed the membership statistics on Page 39 of the meeting booklet. The Membership Committee has instituted teleconference meetings with Chapter Membership Committee Chairs.

4. **Public Relations** – Frank Stanton, P.E. – Vice President Stanton discussed the recent radio campaign and the small increase in hits to the PSPE web site. The intent is to conduct a similar radio campaign next year, possibly expanding on it. It was suggested that the Public Relations Committee investigate publicizing PSPE in college/university newspapers. It was also suggested that the Committee develop a plan to include MATHCOUNTS in public relations. Discussion ensued having a woman narrator for future radio ad campaigns.

5. **Publications** – Harve Hnatiuk, P.E., F.NSPE – President Hnatiuk, Ms. Summers and Zeyn Uzman, P.E., met yesterday to discuss this new committee. At that meeting, after reviewing the PSPE demographics, it was decided that young engineers would be targeted. There are currently 239 young engineers. A plan is being developed to provide continuing education opportunities that would appeal to young engineers, such as offering on-line or downloadable courses from PSPE via our web site. It was suggested that meeting minutes be e-mailed to all PSPE members. E-mailing all PSPE members about upcoming Board and General Membership meetings was also discussed. President Hnatiuk directed Executive Director Wanner to blast e-mail PSPE members about the Board and General membership meetings at the upcoming Conference.

6. **Title Pursuit Task Force** – Michel Sadaka, P.E. – Vice President Sadaka was not available to discuss the Task Force. Executive Wanner reported that he and Vice President Sadaka are working on the letter to be submitted to Municipal Supervisors.

7. **Young Engineers** – David McCullough, P.E. – The Thursday evening program for young engineers at the Country Club during the Conference is set. The Reading Express Dance team will be at that event.

8. **Practice Divisions** – PEPP remains active. As the NSPE representative, PEI presented the science awards at the Delaware Valley Science Fair. It was suggested that PSPE evaluations at science fairs, and similar events, be accompanied by cards including information about PSPE, including our web address, to be sure competitors know that PSPE reviewed their projects.

9. **By-Laws** – No report.

10. **Awards** – John Bradshaw, P.E. – There are three candidates for the Engineer of the Year award and five for the Young Engineer of the Year. Two nominees, Harrisburg and Beaver County Chapters, were received for the Chapter Communications award. The awardees will be selected by April 30, 2007. The awards will be presented at the June 2, 2007, Conference Banquet.

   a. **NSPE Fellows** – Three PSPE members were chosen to be Fellows: John E. Kampmeyer, P.E., Thomas M. Maheady, P.E., and Donn R. Zang, P.E. PSPE submitted five applicants, the maximum allowed this year. It was decided that PSPE should continue to submit applicants in accordance with their submittal eligibility every year.

11. **Conference Planning Task Force**

   a. **Beyond 2008** – Rick Aulenbach, P.E., John Nawn, P.E., and Amy Daiute, P.E., are members of this committee.

B. **ASCE/PSPE Legislative Day, May 8, 2007 – John Wanner, CAE** – Executive Director participated in a teleconference meeting yesterday with ASCE. On April 27, 2007, Treasurer Nawn and Vice President Bradshaw will attend a meeting with the Pennsylvania Secretary to discuss the ASCE PA Report Card regarding the state infrastructure. Discussion ensued regarding ASCE organization of Legislative Day. The PSPE banner will be displayed at the event. Executive Director Wanner and
PSPE President Hnatiuk will be speaking at the event. The Executive Committee discussed having PSPE take on the role as the umbrella organization for this event in the future.

XI. New Business

A. Lincoln Chapter MATHCOUNTS – Jennifer Summers – The Lincoln Chapter will be submitting a letter regarding advancement policy in the MATHCOUNTS competition.

B. Videoconferencing – Walter Poplawski, P.E. – Vice President Poplawski asked what the Executive Committee members’ feelings are regarding videoconferencing in the future for our potential use. Vice President Poplawski discussed his limited experience with this technology via a Penn State course; they contracted the service to private companies that provide it. The Executive Committee discussed using the technology for Board of Director Meetings. To use videoconferencing, the technology must be available at each site, so each Board Director must have it at his/her site. Discussion ensued about having nodes in various areas around the state (i.e. in Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, etc.). It was pointed out that we must first conclude why some Chapters don’t attend the Board meetings, and would such technology mitigate the current attendance situation. Also discussed possibility of webinar technology usage. Further discussion regarding this topic is planned.

C. DGS Advisory Committee – Walter Poplawski, P.E. – The DGS Advisory Committee is not moving the Contract draft in the direction expected. Final draft is including issues that PEs would not want to see in such a contract. It is possible that ACEC and AIA would tell its members not to participate in DGS Contracts, unless the draft can be modified.

XII. Upcoming Executive Committee Meetings

A. Next Meeting – May 31, 2007, 8:30 AM at the Inn at Reading

XIII. Closing Comments – Harve Hnatiuk, P.E., F. NSPE – President Hnatiuk thanked the Executive Committee for a job well done during the past year.

XIV. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by President Elect Bernstein and seconded by Treasurer Nawn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH F. BOWARD, P.E.
Secretary