



Chapter Meeting July 26, 2011  
Ottetail, MN

### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### Call to Order and Determination of Quorum:

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chapter President, Emily Fischer. A quorum of 1/10 of the member companies was determined.

#### Introductions:

Self introductions were made by all in attendance.

#### Secretary's Report, Approval of the March 14, 2011 Chapter Minutes:

Emily Fischer noted that the minutes of the chapter are posted on the chapter website by Dean Erickson. The March 14, 2011 chapter minutes were emailed to the membership and any corrections, additions, or comments were asked for. Rick Shomion presented a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion received a second and was unanimously passed. Blake Balzart informed the chapter that National is in the process of getting the Chapter's website area brought current.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Ken Russell reported that he had taken over the Treasurer's office from Gary Clark and found that all aspects of the Treasurer's office were in good order. The Treasurer's Report detailed checkbook activity from February 23, 2011. Income thru June 30, 2011 was \$17,888.56. Expenses from February 23, 2011 thru June 30, 2011 amounted to \$10,493.55. Ken Russell noted that the Chapter has a \$3,000.00 payment for the Rural Roadway Safety Workshop due in the near future. An Annual view of the 2010 income and expenses and a six month view of the 2011 income and expenses were also provided for chapter information. Ryan Otte made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report after there were no questions or comments offered. Troy Gilbertson Seconded the Motion and the Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.

#### National Report:

Blake Balzart presented a powerpoint to the chapter. USDOT Funding, Member Recruitment, Government Relations, The ATSSA Radio Tour, The June 29, 2010 HSIP Report, National Training, and the National TSD program were presented and discussed. The Midyear meeting will be August 24-26<sup>th</sup> in Louisville, KY. National asked that the Chapter's membership committee work with Blake to improve the chapter membership. Marko Vojcanin volunteered to lead the membership committee and work with Blake. The chapter discussed what action National ATSSA is taking on the "Distracted Drivers"

issues. Blake said National is not pushing a specific legislation but is educating the public on this important issue.

#### CHAPTER REPORTS:

Board Report: President Emily Fischer introduced the Board of Directors to the chapter. Emily informed the chapter that the Board has had to spend a large portion of time working with National ATSSA to bring our bylaws into closer conformance with the National Chapter Bylaw Guidelines. The Board has presented the proposed changes to the chapter with a do pass recommendation. Emily requested that each voting member review the email sent to them with the proposed bylaw change. The members are then asked to email Emily if they accept or reject the proposed changes to the Bylaws. Two Thirds of the eligible chapter voting membership must approve changes to the Bylaws. National ATSSA has also been insisting that the Northland Chapter sign a Chapter Affiliation Agreement. Emily noted that the Bylaw work should be finished prior to addressing the Chapter Affiliation Agreement. The Chapter Board has already reviewed and suggested some modifications to the Chapter Affiliation Agreement so it fits with the Chapter's proposed bylaws. The Chapter Affiliation Agreement is to be signed by the Chapter President. Marko Vojcanin made a motion that the Board of Director's be given approval to decide on what is necessary to finish the Chapter Affiliation Agreement once the Bylaws have been voted upon by the chapter. The motion was seconded By Ryan Otte and passed unanimously.

#### Poster Contest:

Rick Shomion gave a report of the Poster Contest winners this past Spring. Rick Challenged the chapter to get out and speak to the Schools. The Illinois Chapter's successful Poster Contest program was discussed. Complete details of the Northland Poster Contest are on the website at: <http://www.nothlandatssa.com/Poster.html>.

#### TERRA:

Emily Fischer is the Chapters representative with the Transportation Engineering and Road Research Alliance (TERRA). TERRA is looking for research ideas/topics. Any Chapter members who are interested in attending a meeting are asked to contact Emily. <http://ww.terreroadalliance.org>.

#### Minnesota County Engineering Association(MCEA):

No report was presented.

#### TPAR, ADA in Work Zones:

Ken Johnson, MNDOT Pavement Marking and Work Zone Engineer gave a brief report on the moving forward activities of MNDOT to have added guidelines for TPAR in the Field Manual, working with design engineers to have TPAR in the scoping of projects and get it into the plans. Ted Ulven from Ken's department attended productive TPAR meetings with CalTRANS.

#### ATSSA Mid-Year Meeting:

Emily Fischer will not be able to attend the mid-year meeting in Louisville. Various Chapter members will report back on the activities of Mid-year. Virgil Muscha volunteered to sit in on the Chapter President's meeting if it did not conflict with his other committee meetings.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Curt Larson Golf Outing:

Rick Shomion started off by thanking the sponsors for this year's Curt Larson Golf Outing. There were 14 sponsors! The foundation received \$1,500.00 last year and this year is projected to be over \$2,500.00. Curt's family was in attendance this year. Rick asked if anyone had any suggestions to better improve next years event. He also invited anyone to contact him if they would like to get involved with the event.

#### 2012 How To Conference:

Jeff Wilken is the 2012 Northland Chapter How To Chairman. Rick West is the 2012 Co-Chair. The committee had productive Monday July 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. General Assembly speakers and breakout topics/speakers were assigned. The committee has set a goal to have registration out one month earlier this year.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

##### MN Shutdown:

Rick Shomion stated that MNDOT is open and getting back up to speed. Rick and others made the comment that they appreciated the managements effort to boost morral during this event.

##### Chad Weatherman:

Chad informed the group that he had been to the NACE convention where a band was provided for the entertainment. Chad felt that consideration should be given for a large event for the 20<sup>th</sup> Aniverary of the Northland How To. Chad stated that an entertainment event after the social would keep people in the hotel, promote networking, and potentially grow the event if attendees bring their significant others to the event. Discusseion was held by the membership. Chad Weatherman asked for a motion to spend up to \$5,000.00 for a band like the Johnny Holm Band. Chad would work with National and the hotel to see if this would fit into the Tuesday evening after the social. Chad would also pursue corporate sponsors to defray the cost of the event. Ryan Otte made a motion for the prior points and Rick Shomion seconded the motion. The motion was votedon and passed unanimously.

##### Rural Road Safety Improvement Training Partnership:

Gary Berreth, NDLTAP, gave an update on the upcoming Rural Raod Safety through Maintenance Operations Workshop via video-conference. The Workshop will be October 13, 2011, from 9:00 am to 12:00. The conference is being put on in partnerships with MNLTAP, SRF, NDSU Learning Center, MCEA, MNDOT, and NDDOT. The video-conference will be provided at sites in MN, ND, SD, WY, and Iowa. The workshop adresses maintenance safety topics such as; Obstructions in Roadway, Shoulder Drop-

Off, Signs and Pavement Markings, Work Zone Safety, Vegetation Control, Roadside Hazards-Clear Zone, Drainage, and Winter Maintenance. The advertising will be coming out in the next couple of weeks to include the video conference presentation sites.

A copy of the past workshop presentation is available on the LRRB website at:

<http://www.lrrb.org/PDF/2010RIC03.pdf>.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Emily Fischer thanked the nominating committee of Tim Marthe, Marko Vojcanin, and Scott Janke for coming up with a solid group of candidates. The nominating committee put the following names forward to the chapter for their consideration:

Chad Weatherman: current board member (1 term completed), 3M

Dean Erickson: current board member (1 term completed), AAA Striping

Tim Lewis: Highway Technologies

Tim McChesney: Century Fence

Chad Weatherman and Dean Erickson were reelected by written ballot.

Emily Fischer informed the Chapter that next summer a president elect and one board member will be elected. The nominating committee will be formed at the March meeting.

#### Round Robin:

-The Tri State Task Force for Paint has not made any progress to date. Tim Marthe, Virgil Muscha, and Tom Wood discussed moving this work forward with the group. Ken Johnson, MNDOT, noted that the industry needs to take the lead on this and that the states are interested in this.

-The 2012 summer meeting will again be the third week of July at Thumper Pond.

-The Chapters next meeting will be at the March How To, Monday March 12, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.