George Pearson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and took attendance. Lamar Hutchinson, Acting Administrator of the Oil and Gas Practice Specialty, was unable to attend the meeting.

The April 17, 2009 meeting minutes were amended to show that Bruce Rottner did not attend the call.
Michael Coleman had questions about the CoPS booth schedule and its potential conflicts with the HoD meeting. During the CoPS meeting, Michael wants to talk about ways to better survey the Manufacturing Practice Specialty membership. Mike O’Toole mentioned that he has a presentation at 2:00 on Tuesday. George Pearson asked when he would be finished on Tuesday night because he will be attending the foundation dinner at 7:00. Tim suggested that anyone who has scheduling conflicts should contact Rennie.

Rennie said that everyone should have a list/schedule of roundtables and advisory committee meetings and confirmed that 183 people will attend the CoPS awards luncheon. Tim reminded everyone to register for the CoPS awards luncheon in advance.

Tim and Rennie said that the CoPS breakfast buffet will be ready at 7:00 a.m., and the meeting will start between 7:15-7:30 a.m. A full agenda is scheduled, and the meeting should conclude by 10:30. Anyone who cannot attend the HoD meeting should notify Tim, Rennie or Dolores Kopp as soon as possible. Tim confirmed that PA systems have been ordered for the CoPS meeting.

Tim announced that the International Practice Specialty advisory committee will be invited to the international reception.

Tim and Rennie went over additional PDC items. Tim explained the new booth setup for this year and mentioned his and Rennie’s skit for Service Center Theater.

Bob Coffey recommended that CoPS still display hardcopy newsletters in the booth. Michael Coleman said Ken Wengert will bring Manufacturing Practice Specialty brochures for the booth.

Tim reminded everyone that to get reimbursed for their expenses, they must attend the HOD and CoPS meetings.

Jack Fearing asked when the list of prospective practice specialty members would come out for planning purposes. Rennie said the list would be available during the week of June 8, 2009. George Pearson said that practice specialty membership is just below 21,000.

Chris Gates said the matrix award cycle dates would not be resolved by PDC and would probably be resolved by the fall. Chris asked the Council to approve the April 2, 2009 matrix, cycle length (from PDC thru the second week of April) and white paper. He will have a revised awards procedure by PDC.

Rennie said the new editorial schedule should be available by PDC.

Mark Shirley wanted to know the difference between items 2 and 3 in matrix. Chris Gates said that if he wanted to change the criteria, he could. Chris and Rennie explained how to score newsletter content. Chris said Item 3 could be raised to 12,000 words. Tim further explained the scale and suggested that the criteria be reworded. CoPS will discuss this issue at PDC. Voting on the matrix scale will occur at a later date.

Judy Freeman discussed the proposed agriculture branch. She and Terry Wilkinson have talked about it for the last three years. The Environmental Practice Specialty wants to sponsor the agriculture branch, not the utilities branch. Tim received positive member feedback about the proposed agriculture branch and is surprised at the level of interest. Many are willing to participate. Judy will gather 100 names and propose the agriculture branch.

Bob Coffey said many are interested in a utilities branch. Tim will work with Terry Wilkinson and NIOSH to solicit more potential members for the branch.
Bob is editorial director for a utilities magazine. He said that utilities people went to NSC, but NSC lost its enthusiasm for utilities. Participation has declined in NSC’s utility division. Electrical people belong to EEI, but utility people are left out. Without NSC participation, many utility people feel adrift. Bob thinks it would be a good opportunity for ASSE to start a utilities branch, and he suggested that we reach out further to dissatisfied NSC members.

George Pearson explained how he and Tim have reached out to another group to gauge their interest in a utilities branch. Tim said feedback on a proposed utilities branch has been positive. Bob suggested that CoPS resurvey the membership to try to collect 100 members.

Rennie mentioned that at PDC, people always ask if ASSE has a group for utilities. She said branch sign-up sheets would be available in the CoPS booth at PDC.

Tim said 246 people have expressed interest in joining a utilities branch. Survey results indicate that the Construction Practice Specialty is the preferred sponsor of the utilities branch.

**Utilities Branch Sponsoring Practice Specialty:**

- Construction Practice Specialty: 30%
- Management: 26%
- Public Sector: 24%

The proposed utilities branch will be discussed further at PDC.

NSC sent letter about divisions saying it would not really support them. Bob Coffey said NSC is following more of a Red Cross model.

Tim suggested that in pursuing new practice specialties and branches, we consider areas with no competition. Bob Coffey recommended that we create a taskforce for this and mentioned a partnership with SHRM. Rennie suggested Tuesday evening at PDC, but George Pearson said Tuesday would not work for him because he must attend the foundation reception.

Leslie Batterson said she was chair of NSC’s food and beverage committee at one time and would be willing to work with the taskforce.

A potential health physicists branch will also be discussed at the Industrial Hygiene Practice Specialty advisory committee meeting during PDC. George Pearson mentioned that health physicist issues exist in the wireless communications industry.

Eric Stager asked that staff run a list of ASSE members who are CHPs.

Tim and Rennie reminded everyone to submit their 2010 concurrent session proposals.

George participated in a CoC call. During the call, the Council reviewed three main strategic initiatives (global growth, advancing the profession, etc.). The Body of Knowledge was reinforced as a strategic goal for CoC.

Leadership education and training initiatives were also discussed during the CoC call. These include setting up technical tracks for chapter and administrator areas within the Society. For example, to be a chapter president or practice specialty administrator, you would need to participate in training, education, etc.
CoPS will support this by providing educational resources. Jack Fearing said the International Practice Specialty (IPS) could support global growth initiative.

Chris Gates said that CoPS has issued materials to all international members who are not members of IPS.

George adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rennie Heath, Manager, Practice Specialties