CoPS Meeting 6/28/09 – Minutes
San Antonio, Texas

George Pearson – Vice President of CoPS
Wayne Jones – Academics
Mike Hayslip – Construction
Bob Coffey – Consultants
Bruce Rottner – Engineering
Judy Freeman – Environmental
Frank Baker – Fire Protection
Mark Shirley – Healthcare
Eric Stager – Industrial Hygiene
Jack Fearing – International
Chris Gates – Management
Michael Coleman - Manufacturing
Mike O’Toole – Mining
Lamar Hutchinson – Oil and Gas
Fred Fanning – Public Sector
Mark Oldham – RM/I
Frank D’Ambrosio - Transportation
Tim Fisher – Staff
Rennie Heath – Staff

The meeting was called to order by VP George Pearson at 7:35 AM. There were several visitors for this meeting including: Brownie Peterson, Jeff Camplin, Cindy Lewis, Terry Wigfall, Leslie Batterson, David Bascom, Pam Perrich, Stuart Wood, Walt Beattie, Pam Ferrante, Ashok Galaparti, Mike Parker, Jim Newberry, and David Natalizia, Howard Hughes, Edwin Yap, and Maureen Johnson.

Two items were added to the agenda: discussion of the future of the House of Delegates (HOD) meeting and a presentation by Jon Schwerman, Manager, E-Commerce Marketing.
Minutes of the June 5, 2009 CoPS Conference Call meeting were approved. Motion by Eric Stager, second by Michael Coleman – unanimous.

A discussion ensued concerning the how the HOD meetings should be conducted. Three options were presented by VP Pearson:

- Option 1 was to eliminate the annual House of Delegates meeting and go strictly to an e-ballot process on all issues to go before the delegates. This option would provide for greater member voice, greater participation and cost savings. The potential downsides include the fact that it decreases the opportunity for delegates to address the Board of Directors in person and it would require a Bylaws amendment.

- Option 2 was to restructure the agenda of the annual HOD meeting to remove all non-governance issues from the meeting and require them to be addressed elsewhere. This option would eliminate fears about the loss of checks and balance, and create a much shorter meeting. However, it would not save chapters or the society expenses nor does it address the issue of proxies. It also would not provide a mechanism for debate on the profession.

- Option 3 was to make no change to the HOD. This would not address the noted problems and limitations, nor reduce the expense to chapters and the Society.

After a considerable discussion, Mr. Coleman moved that the Council vote to have VP Pearson report that CoPS approves Option 3: moving all non-governance issues out of the HOD meeting and putting them elsewhere in the PDC program. But, the Council noted it would not be in favor of doing away with an HoD related event(s) at the PDC. Mr. Oldham seconded the motion – 13 approved, 1 nay vote, and 2 abstentions. However, the Council also noted that it would like to see other electronic approaches for the HOD.

VP Pearson reviewed the Board of Directors meeting that occurred June 27, 2009.

Ms. Heath reviewed the CoPS-related events that would take place at the PDC.

Mr. Schwerman presented an update of various social networking options under discussion by the Board of Directors for communication purposes.

VP Pearson then introduced new Senior Vice President, Terrie Norris.

Due to the short time of this meeting, the practice specialties each gave a brief report of their respective activities.
During these reports, PDC Chairperson, Diana Stegall, joined the meeting to introduce a concept of having practice specialties present poster sessions during future PDCs. The consensus of the Council was that it was an interesting concept that needed more of a framework.

Mr. Gates opened a discussion of the Self-Evaluation Performance Matrix. Mr. Fearing and Mr. Shirley had presented options for changes concerning the number of words necessary for practice specialty newsletters to the Matrix. Mr. Gates noted that due to the limited time, he would present these options for an e-mail vote. However, Mr. Gates moved that the Awards and Honors cycle start with the PDC. Mr. Coleman seconded – unanimous.

Body of Knowledge Committee Chair, Jeff Camplin, reported on the progress of the BOK project.

Mr. Fisher presented the report of the Standards Development Committee.

Discussion ensued concerning the acceptance of a Utilities Branch. Both the Management and Construction practice specialties said they would be willing to sponsor a Utilities Branch. A motion was made by Mr. Oldham that the Utilities Branch be approved and be sponsored by the Construction Practice Specialty. Mr. Rottner seconded – unanimous.

The Council also approved the creation of an Agricultural Branch in concept, but the names of interested participants needed to be submitted. Once the list is submitted CoPS staff will send a communiqué asking the Council for final approval of the branch.

The final agenda item was the election of a Council Vice Chair. Dr. Jones moved that Mr. Stager be re-elected as Vice Chair. Ms. Freeman seconded – 15 approved, 1 nay vote.

VP Pearson adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM.