

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba held online on Thursday, May 13, 2021.

PRESENT: Jason Mann presiding; Cheryl Lashek; Katrine Levesque; Neil Klassen; Christina McDonald; Crystal Paculan; Jitendra Paliwal; John Sawatzky; Allan Silk; Ian Smallwood; Efrem Teklemariam; Shipra Verma; Michelle Wadelius

ALSO PRESENT: Grant Koropatnick; Fiona Hillier; Siobhan Burland Ross; Dawn Nedohin-Macek; Doug Bell; Mike Gregoire; Sharon Sankar; Scott Sarna; Lisa Stepnuk; Ian Wiebe

REGRETS: Linda Murphy; Izabela Witkowska

KNOWN OBSERVERS: Dave Ennis; Vicki Poirier; Vic Thielmann; Danielle Unett

21.03.1 CALL TO ORDER

President Jason Mann called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m.

21.03.2 TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Mann read the statement acknowledging the traditional lands on which Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba sits and to recognize Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba's commitment to Indigenous peoples and communities.

21.03.3 INTRODUCTIONS

President Mann welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the following guests for attending, Engineers Canada Director Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Geoscientist Canada Director Doug Bell, Ownership Linkage speaker Siobhan Burland Ross, Association management and observers. He noted regrets from both Councillor Murphy and Councillor Witkowska.

21.03.4 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President Mann reminded Council that he would be calling for verbal opposition to any motions rather than approvals to streamline the voting process.

He then asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was adopted as circulated.

21.03.5 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

President Mann asked Council if anyone had a conflict of interest to declare. Hearing none, Council was reminded that one could be declared at any time, for any item, on the agenda.

At 12:37 p.m. Councillor Lashek arrived.

Covid-19 Update: President Mann commented that Council and the Association were functioning well and noted his appreciation for everyone's dedication.

21.03.6 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 11, 2021

President Mann asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the meeting of March 11, 2021. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as circulated.

OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

21.03.7 01. OWNERHIP LINKAGE PRESENTATION – SIOBHAN BURLAND ROSS, P.ENG., ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS BRANCH, MB CONSERVATION & CLIMATE

At 12:40 p.m. President Mann introduced and welcomed Siobhan Burland Ross to the Council meeting.

Siobhan thanked Council for the opportunity to present. She spoke of the purpose of the Environmental Approvals Branch; to assess development proposals and issue approvals, develop policies and standards to protect human health and the environment and deliver provincial programs to prevent impacts to the environment. Most of their work was done under The Environment Act, with roles to play under The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act and The Public Health Act.

Siobhan reviewed some of the facilities that the branch assessed which included waste sites, manufacturing plants, food processing plants, manure storage facilities, and mines.

As a regulator, the Environmental Approvals Branch issued licences and it was the engineers in the branch that drafted them. Siobhan reviewed the Environmental Act Licensing (EAL) process principles which were developed to include public participation and assistance. She noted that each engineer in the Approvals Branch was assigned to a development so the public could contact them directly. As part of the process, the branch also worked with other government departments and collaborated with engineering consultants, specialists, and environmental groups.

At 12:47 p.m. Past President Paliwal arrived.

Siobhan ended her presentation by addressing the question, how can Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba support your organization. She suggested providing professional development and training opportunities for regulators and other bodies who review the work done by engineers.

The floor was opened to questions and comments.

At 12:55 p.m. President Mann thanked Siobhan Burland Ross for her presentation, and she left meeting.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

21.03.8 B1. CHAIR'S REPORT - PRESIDENT JASON MANN, P.GEO.

President Mann spoke to some of the highlights of his report which included preparation for the upcoming Engineers Canada meetings at the end of the month and an opportunity to dialogue with a major employer on the renewal process.

21.03.9 B2. ENGINEERS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT

President Mann invited Dawn Nedohin-Macek to speak to her report. Dawn spoke to some of the highlights which included: key links to visit, the May 28th board meeting and the May 29th annual meeting of members. Dawn also spoke of the status of Engineers Canada's sub-strategy on international mobility.

At 1:04 p.m. Doug Bell arrived.

21.03.10 B3. GEOSCIENTISTS CANADA ANNUAL REPORT

President Mann invited Doug Bell to speak to his report. Doug spoke to some of the highlights which included: finalization of the statement for Equity Diversity and Inclusivity, completion of the 2020 year-end audit, and the position statement on the licensing and practice of geoscientists.

Doug also noted that he put his name forward for the position of treasurer on Geoscientists Canada Executive Committee.

At 1:16 p.m. Dawn Nedohin-Macek and Doug Bell left the meeting.

21.03.11 B4. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

President Mann invited Councillor Christina McDonald, Chair of the Finance Committee, to speak to the report.

Christina spoke of the motion made by Council, asking the Finance Committee to consider setting aside available funds for the Governance Review. She reported that the Finance Committee passed a motion at its April 14th meeting which created a restricted reserve fund for this purpose.

At 1:20 p.m. Councillor Teklemariam arrived.

President Mann acknowledge Council's receipt of the reports and thanked the authors.

CONSENT AGENDA

21.03.12 Council approved the Consent Agenda items with the adoption of the agenda.

C1. APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Council received a list of applications approved by the Registration Committee between March 1, 2021 and April 30, 2021.

Grant Koropatnick spoke to the list and noted that of the 101 new registrations, 16% were women. Council then discussed how the report could document those who did not identify themselves as male or female, and how the Association planned to address the need to provide more affirming categories for self identification.

C2. APPOINTMENT TO THE REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Council approves the appointment of Kenneth Mills, CET to the Registration Committee for a two-year term.

COUNCIL EDUCATION

21.03.13 D1. EVALUATION OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

President Mann asked if there were any questions, comments, or discussions on the evaluations. Hearing none, he continued to the next agenda item.

GOVERNANCE

21.03.14 G1. PREPARING AND PUBLISHING OF PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Council referred to Decision Background memo from Grant Koropatnick dated May 13, 2021.

It was MOVED by Efreem Teklemariam and SECONDED by Christina McDonald that Council asks the By-law Task Group to develop a by-law proposal which will empower the Investigation Committee, as a committee of Council, to approve practice guidelines.

Grant Koropatnick referred to the existing By-law 15.3.5, which empowered the Investigation Committee to prepare and publish practice notes. He then invited Mike Gregoire, Director of Professional Standards to provide the background information.

Council provided to the councillors on the By-law Task Group some additional suggestions for reporting their work on the by-law proposal.

After a brief discussion, President Mann called the question and Council voted on the motion

CARRIED

21.03.15

G2. BACK-DOORING PREVENTION POLICY

Council referred to Decision Background memo from Grant Koropatnick dated May 13, 2021.

It was MOVED by Michelle Wadelius and SECONDED by Christina McDonald that Council adopts the policy whereby engineers and geoscientists are strongly encouraged to apply and be firstly licensed to practice in the province where they live and work, and secondly, if their work takes effect in another province, shall apply to that province for licensure.

Grant Koropatnick gave some background information and commented that while the requirements were the same in every province, there was a perception that some jurisdictions provided an easier path to licensure. Legal counsel advised that the proposed policy was not inconsistent with the Act and by-laws, but it would not be supported by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which was why it was stated as “strongly encouraged” and not required.

President Mann concluded the discussion by saying Council needed to be comfortable with this policy, knowing that it would not be enforceable.

Hearing no further comments, President Mann called the question and Council voted on the motion

CARRIED

21.03.16

G3. GP-8.7 POLICY REVISION

Council referred to Decision Background memo from Grant Koropatnick dated May 13, 2021.

It was MOVED by Christina McDonald and SECONDED by Katrine Levesque that Council approves the removal of clause 1.4 from policy GP-8.7 Ownership Linkage Committee.

CARRIED

21.03.17

G4. REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS LIST

Council considered a memo from Grant Koropatnick dated May 13, 2021 and the cumulative outstanding action list from Council meetings after March 11, 2021.

Updates on the following items were provided,

- Appeal Panel 20.12 – completed May 4th.
- Appeal Panel 13.01 – almost complete.

21.03.18 G5. PLANNING AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Council considered a memo from President Mann dated May 13, 2021 and the proposed agenda for the next Council meeting on June 10, 2021.

Monitoring reports will be prepared for:

GP-8.1	Nominating Committee	Jitendra Paliwal
GP-8.11	Audit Committee	Cheryl Lashek
GP-8.13	Finance Committee	Efrem Teklemariam
E-1	Individuals who are Practising are Registered and Licensed	Grant Koropatnick
EL-3	Financial Condition	Grant Koropatnick

At 2:50 p.m. Council took a break

At 3:05 p.m. Council returned from break

President Mann moved that the meeting go in camera for the purposes of discussing private and confidential matters about an individual, labour relations, investigations, discipline, appeals, litigation or potential litigation.

At 3:05 p.m. Council went in camera

At 4:17 p.m. Council came out of camera

EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS AND ENDS

21.03.22 M1. E-3 UNQUALIFIED PERSONS DO NOT PRACTICE - KOROPATNICK
Review of Monitoring Report by Grant Koropatnick dated May 13, 2021.

21.03.23 M2. EL-2 TREATMENT OF STAFF - KOROPATNICK
Review of Monitoring Report by Grant Koropatnick dated May 13, 2021.

21.03.24 M3. EL-5 INTERACTIONS WITH MEMBERS - KOROPATNICK
Review of Monitoring Report by Grant Koropatnick dated May 13, 2021.

It was MOVED by Allan Silk and SECONDED by Christina McDonald that Council accepts the reasonable interpretation of the policy statements and approves these reports.

CARRIED

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE

21.03.25 P1. GP-8.2 PAST PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE - PALIWAL

Monitoring Report by Past President dated May 13, 2021.

It was MOVED by Jitendra Paliwal and SECONDED by Allan Silk that Council approves this monitoring report.

CARRIED

At 4:34 p.m. Past President Paliwal left meeting

21.03.26 P2. GP-8.4 DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE - PACULAN

Monitoring Report by Councillor Paculan dated May 13, 2021.

It was MOVED by Crystal Paculan and SECONDED by Michelle Wadelius that Council approves this monitoring report.

CARRIED

21.03.27 P3. GP-8.5 INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE - SILK

Monitoring Report by Vice President Silk dated May 13, 2021.

Vice President Allan Silk noted that the committee and Council were not presently compliant with clause 4.3 and that the term of office for the Chair be renewed for another year.

It was MOVED by Allan Silk and SECONDED by Christina McDonald that Council appoint Dr. Jay Doering as Chair of the Investigation Committee for another year.

Council discussed the renewal of term and President Mann called the question.

CARRIED

Councillor Verma – ABSTAINED

Councillor Levesque and Councillor Smallwood – OPPOSED

It was MOVED by Allan Silk and SECONDED by Michelle Wadelius that Council approves this monitoring report.

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

21.03.28 COUNCIL RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ITEMS:

- N1. Membership statistics as at April 30, 2021
- N2. Financial Summary as at March 31, 2021
- N3. 2021 Spring Member Engagement Session
- N4. ECL Steering Committee Meeting, January 26, 2021
- N5. 2021 Virtual Earth Ring Ceremony
- N6. Letter to Engineering Employer - Boeing
- N7. Construction accident resulting in two deaths

SELF-EVALUATION

21.03.29 V1. EVALUATION PAGE FOR THIS MEETING

President Mann asked for councillors to fill out and submit the evaluation form for today's meeting.

FYI 'NICE TO KNOW' INFORMATION

21.03.30 F1. MEET DEAN MARCIA FRIESEN, PhD, P.Eng., FEC

ADJOURNMENT

21.03.31 The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

The next Council meeting will be Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 12:30 p.m.

Jason Mann, P.Ge.
President

Grant Koropatnick, P.Eng., FEC
CEO & Registrar