

IEEE Milwaukee Section 2005 Meeting Minutes

Minutes of IEEE Executive Meeting
September 8th, 2005
At Friday's Sports Grill in Miller Park

Attendees:

Section Officers: Bob Molthen, Brian Cunningham, Tom Smith, Elizabeth Whiting

Chapter Chairs: Larry Hause (EMBS & PACE), Val Werner (Power), Howard Haugstad (Communication & Signal Processing), Ram Bhatia (Industrial Apps.)

Section Directors and Other Chairs: Mark Juds, Bill Henning,

Members: Sheetal Shah

Chapter Chairs Excused: Edina Bajrektarevic (Young) (WIE), Hue Tran (Control Systems), Shri Joshi (AM.IM.Ed.MTT)

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Bob Molthen.

Bob Molthen stated that the minutes from the April meeting were unaccounted for so they could not be approved. He then moved the discussion on to the treasury report.

Brian Cunningham reported that our L-50 was rejected because Wachovia Bank made an error So now our bank account does not match the figures they came up with and the IEEE Nationals is inquiring why. Brian stated that we had no idea and were never notified of a difference until now, but there is a \$200 difference.

Val Werner asked if we were \$200 over or under.

Brian Cunningham reported that it was in our favor and added that IEEE Nationals was asking for the statements from when we cashed our CDs.

Tom Smith stated that he had the account balanced at the beginning of the year.

Brian Cunningham agreed and said he discovered the mismatch last year and thought he had resolved the issue then. Brian said he would go back and review the numbers again because he believes Wachovia is using an older, incorrect number from last year and he's not sure why they went back to that figure when both sides matched after they came up with new figures.

Bob Molthen inquired about the deadline for receiving our rebate.

Brian Cunningham stated that we met the original deadline so we do not need to worry. The problem now is getting the filing corrected; he added that it's the "cash on hand" figures which are in dispute.

Val Werner asked if **Brian Cunningham** would call IEEE and resolve this issue.

Brian Cunningham agreed that he would sort it out and send out an email notification of resolution.

Bob Molthen asks for **Tom Smith's** treasury report.

Tom Smith hands out the summary of our treasury and states that we are doing very well and overall, not spending all that much. So far this year we have only spent money on mailings/newsletters, section meetings, and past meetings.

Brian Cunningham inquired about the EMBS conference.

Tom Smith reported that we made \$2400 at that conference and that the EMC chapter earned approx. \$6000 at their conference.

Bob Molthen reported that the group is still low on funds and that we should continue to restrict unnecessary spending, but since we have chapters with abundances, if money is needed we can borrow from them until we receive our rebate (~\$9000).

Brian Cunningham added that the rebate should come fast once all issues are resolved.

Tom Smith state that each chapter has about \$400 except WIE because they've been using their funds each year for their projects.

Bob Molthen commented on the fact that we have already put a \$500 down-payment for the Domes for our holiday party so the outlook for the budget for the rest of the year looks good and it does not appear that we will need to cash any more CDs.

Bob Molthen introduces **Ram Bhatia** as the new chair of our Industrial Applications chapter.

Discussion ensues about what a chapter chair does and about holding meetings and getting speakers for section meetings and the like.

Brian Cunningham reminds all chairs to send in their L-31s after holding a meeting and to check online with IEEE nationals to make sure the meeting was logged.

Bob Molthen and **Tom Smith** both stated that they receive emails that tell which chapters' meetings have been recorded.

Bob Molthen motions that we give \$400 to the new chapter for it to get started.

The motion is passed.

Sheetal Shah states she may know several candidates to serve as speakers at our section meetings and inquires about what type of speaker we are looking for and if we could possibly send out a survey to find what topics our members would be interested in attending a meeting about.

Brian Cunningham states we need our speakers to draw in crowds.

Larry Hause includes that we need student involvement.

Val Werner adds that in the past we've held seminars and suggests that we send out a survey by email.

break to order dinner

Tom Smith starts discussion back up by stating that Dr. Meyer never cashed our \$2000 check from last year given to him for the holiday party and inquires if he should contact Dr. Meyer regarding this since our budget reflects this money as spent.

Val Werner says yes he should.

Brian Cunningham adds that the check probably bounced if it was through Wachovia.

Bob Molthen moves the discussion to **Larry Hause** and the EMBS conference.

Larry Hause reported that 88 people attended the 29th conference and it was well-received by students all day long. He is planning the 30th conference for the third week in April 2006 and the focus will be on sensors.

Val Werner inquires about the cost involved in the conference.

Larry Hause states that they charge members \$80 and students \$25 and those fees generally cover all costs, however, this year they had external sponsors so they actually made money. The whole conference is about \$1500 to run.

Bob Molthen switches the topic of conversation to the October 5th meeting and states that so far only one chapter has scheduled to hold a meeting. He also stated that he is in the process of contacting a person from Johnson's Control to speak during dinner on that company's impact on Milwaukee or a specific product they produce, but has not heard back from anyone there yet.

Brian Cunningham states that Engineers Without Borders has a representative here in Milwaukee who might be willing to talk during dinner about what they do. He informs the group that Engineers Without Borders is a group mostly of students and retirees who travel around the world assisting in projects of various types.

Bob Molthen asks group if we want to postpone the meeting till later to try and get more chapters to hold meetings with speakers.

Brian Cunningham states again that he knows of another speaker from Siemens, but that person cannot make the October 5th date.

Val Werner suggests we move the meeting to November 8th or 10th (Tues. or Thurs.).

Bob Molthen reports that Jim wanted to tie the Senior recruitment into the section meeting.

Tom Smith states that we should also have signing up for the holiday party set for December 4th at this meeting.

Ram Bhatia states that he would like to start his group as well at the section meeting.

Bob Molthen takes a count of six chapters willing to hold meetings if the date is changed. He states that mail notifications should be mailed by Oct. 5th and that bios of speakers and summaries of the meetings should be sent to **Chuck Rhorer** to be posted on our website by Sept. 26th.

Val Werner reminds group that we need to get availability of rooms at MSOE so we can finalize the date.

It is agreed upon that it should be held at MSOE again because they give us a better rate than any of the hotels downtown.

Bob Molthen brings up the discussion of the location of our slide projectors which were found by **Bill Henning**.

Bill Henning adds that he found out that Dr. Akadan had them in Marquette's storage room.

Bob Molthen informs the group that **Dr. Shri Joshi** will now keep them.

Brian Cunningham asks if our banner was ever found.

Bob Molthen informs the group that the old banner is lost, but that **Jim Blaha** ordered us a new one for \$40.

Bob Molthen informs the group that we do have the Domes reserved for December 4th for the holiday party, but has nothing much more to report on that because **Glen and Sylvia Wrate** are handling that and neither are present. Bob hands discussion over to **Tom Smith** to speak on behalf of **Jim Blaha**.

Tom Smith reports that **Jim Blaha** has put aside \$500 to Comedy Sports for entertainment for our holiday party. He adds that Jim is planning to hold another EMC conference scheduled for March 28th, 2006 at the Four Points Sheraton and it will last all day. If any other chapters wish to participate please contact Jim. **Jim Blaha** will be representing our section at Sections Congress and giving a speech on getting members and other involved in IEEE on October 14-17.

Bob Molthen makes a side note that **Edina Bajrektarevic** was also planning on attending Section's Congress if we could fund her, but, unfortunately, we cannot.

Tom Smith continues on with his report and asks group to help get ideas for Jim's speech by responding to these particular questions:

*How do we get people to join IEEE?

Val Werner states that their company may pay their dues.

Brian Cunningham states that you receive good benefits (insurance).

Bob Molthen states to have student representatives promoting at the student level.

*How do we make it easier to find volunteers?

Howard Haugstad suggests putting notices throughout building at work; promoting IEEE at the office.

*How can we encourage people to continue volunteering?

Larry Hause claims always recognize them.

Howard Haugstad suggests giving rewards.

*How can we increase the value of our section to our members?

Brian Cunningham says by having speakers with interesting topics.

Howard Haugstad states by having better planning and by publicizing the meetings and sticking to planned events – following through.

Brian Cunningham suggests sponsoring different events.

Howard Haugstad reminds him of the Brewer's game event we sponsored a few years ago that cost us a lot.

Tom Smith thanks the group for their thoughts and continues with his report from Jim. He states that Jim is planning on presenting his new senior membership push at the holiday party and if he needs funds that the section doesn't have he'll use the EMC funds. Tom also reported that the roster is finalized and will be sent around for everyone's approval.

Bob Molthen moves the discussion to the New Items and comments on the issue of listing job postings on our website. He states as long as you are an IEEE member and a member of our section, you may post job listings.

Bob Molthen congratulates the WIE chapter for receiving the runner-up award for outstanding chapters from IEEE Nationals. He hands the discussion over to **Liz Whiting**.

Liz Whiting informs the group of WIE's plans for next year's robotics project. She states that the chapter is currently working with Discovery World Museum to lead a project during National Engineer's Week next year. The project will be smaller than it has been in previous years (no longer a robot, but a simple circuit, possibly a noise-maker or simply lighting an LED) but by using Discovery World the group will present to about 300 children rather than just two classrooms. The group's goal is to get individuals interested in Electrical Engineering at a younger age so the more children we can present to, the better.

Bob Molthen reports that the magnetics chapter is up 14 members, the PM chapter is up by 1 member, the student chapter is up by 15 members, and the LF group is up by 1 member. He then asks if anyone knows if we have, in the past, paid dues to the Engineers and Scientists of Milwaukee group because they are sending us an invoice for \$450 for membership dues. He adds that it possibly could be the charge for our table at the EMBS conference since we have not paid that yet, but wants to know if this should be paid.

Tom Smith states that it might be important to pay the dues so that they continue to invite us to the conference.

Val Werner adds that it is important to stay involved with other societies in the city.

The group does not recall ever having to pay this due in the past.

Bob Molthen agrees to look into the issue and refuse to pay the due, but inquire about our bill for our table at the conference this year which we have not received.

Bob Molthen states that the Computer Chapter is holding a presentation – chair is **Jon Saffar** - on September 27th and for more information contact Jon or go to the website www.expoproductionsinc.com.

Bob Molthen Reminded the group to start thinking about section chair nominations and suggests **Jim Blaha** as Vice Chair, **Tom Smith** as Treasurer, **Liz Whiting** as Secretary, and **Glen Wrate**, **Jon Saffar**, or **Howard Haugstad** as Section Chair. We will make the ballot for the next meeting.

Bob Molthen Reports that of all the L-31s recognized by IEEE Nationals, WIE has held enough meetings to guarantee us our rebates, **Dr. Joshi** has one meeting accounted for, and **Mark Juds** also has one meeting accounted for. He also stated that since the section meeting will no longer be on October 5th that we should hold our next executive meeting on that day and he will send out an email notification regarding the change.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08PM.