

## Ethylene Producers' Committee Meeting Minutes – September 10<sup>th</sup> 2020

Following are the minutes of the September 10, 2020 meeting of the Ethylene Producers' Committee (EPC) held virtually.

Minutes prepared by Mark Schmidt.

### 1. Attendance

Present – Richard Beleutz, Jake Berret, Daryl Bitting, Bala Devakottai, Jeff Elam, Dan Euhus, Sanjeev Kapur, Ravi Lal, Jennifer Port, Walter Postula, Richard Rolke, Mark Schmidt, Micheal Smith, Michael Tallman, Mark Whitney, Tim Zygula, and John Zylks

Not present – Toby Darbonne, Jeff Edwards, David Gent, KJ Han, Aivars Kruminis, Alex Michinel, Jeff Nichols,

The updated EPC member contact list appears in **Attachment A1**.

*[The contact list also includes attendance records since 2008. The attendance records are utilized by the Nominating committee in accordance with Bylaw Article III, Section 6]*

Members please check your information on the Contact Info sheet in Attachment A1 and send any/all updates to Mark Schmidt.

### 2. Call To Order:

Richard Beleutz called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Mark Schmidt read the Antitrust Statement:

“No activity of the Committee shall involve the exchange, collection or dissemination of information among competitors for the purpose of bringing about or attempting to bring about an understanding or agreement, written or oral, formal or informal, express or implied, among competitors with regard to costs, prices or pricing methods, terms or conditions of sale, distribution, production quotas or other limitations on either the timing or volume of production or sales, or allocation of territories or customers.”

The meeting agenda was published in advance and appears in **Attachment A2**.

### 3. Five Minutes on Safety:

Michael Tallman

The safety presentation appears in **Attachment A3**.

#### 4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Walter Postula sent out the “final” minutes of the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Sanjeev Kapur made a motion to approve and Walter Postula seconded. All approved.

#### 5. Treasurer’s Report:

Bala Devakottai presented the current EPC finances. The report is given in **Attachment A4**.

**ACTION:** Bala is working on a recommendation to reduce bank fees. He will present this at the October meeting.

**ACTION:** Bala to develop recommendation for 2021 dues given the change in operating costs. This will be presented at the December meeting.

#### 6. Nominating Committee

Two main items covered: election of new members and reelection of current member due to employment change, see **Attachment A5**.

Two potential new members were brought forward for consideration. Yong Wang from TechnipFMC and Jose de Barros from Lummus Technology. Their respective resumes are given in **Attachment A5**. The Nominating Committee interviewed each and recommended both for membership. Bylaws require unanimous approval. Each was independently voted upon and were approved (see **Attachment A6**).

**ACTION:** Rick will send welcome e-mails to new members informing of upcoming meetings and payment of member dues.

McDermott divested Lummus Technology which is the Ethylene technology licensor. Member Aivars Krumins, continued employment with McDermott and requested continuation of his membership on the committee. Unanimous approval is required per section 6 of the bylaws. A vote was taken and Aivars was approved (see **Attachment A6**).

**ACTION:** Rick will send will inform Aivars he is approved to continue on the committee.

#### 7. Feedback from the 2020 Virtual Conference

A open discussion was held regarding the virtual conference held in August. Generally positive comments on the conference, content of the presentations, and vFairs platform. Still some drawbacks to not holding the conference in person; primarily networking, sponsor interaction, work distractions, and a few scheduling issues. Jake Berret and Mark Schmidt recording specific suggestions for review with AIChE.

## **8. Chair Update – Thoughts for the 2021 Conference**

Richard Beleutz reviewed the not shortened schedule to the 2021 conference. AIChE has not determined if the next conference will be virtual or in person in Dallas as originally scheduled. **See Attachment A7.**

**ACTION:** Rick Beleutz (with Jake and Mark) to schedule meeting with AIChE to push for decision and/or criteria for decision for the 2021 conference.

## **9. Program Chair Report**

Jake Berret provided the update. Very few details for next year's conference. The timeline was presented. See **Attachment A8** for details.

### **9A. Program Co-Chair Report**

Mark Whitney provided the update. Commitments from restaurants for the speaker's dinner and the Networking Lunch cannot be made at this time given the uncertainty of the COVID restrictions. See **Attachment A9** for details.

## **10. Break**

### **11. Subcommittee Reports**

**Safety** – (Jake Berret) First meeting set for 9/17. Assume one session.

**Environmental** – (Richard Beleutz) Met 9/10, One session. Chair & Co-Chair determined, 5 potential papers.

**Operations** – (Richard Rolke) First meeting will be 10/1.

**Maintenance & Reliability** – (Sanjeev Kapur) No update, 2 or 3 abstracts from 2020.

**Technology & Fundamentals** – (Michael Tallman) Three sessions focused on the following topics:

Fundamentals –

Tutorial for Distillation

Start Up / Commissioning Issues for Large Crackers (potential joint with operations committee)

**Industry 4.0** – (Richard Rolke) Expect interest in one session. No meeting yet.

**Rotating Equipment** – (Mike Tallman) – First meeting held. Expect to have normal 2 sessions, Session Chair & Co-Chair will remain the same. Some discussion for topics/authors.

**Feedstock** – (Mark Whitney) No meeting yet, Mark just agreed to join subcommittee during the meeting.

## 12. Knowledge Management

A few papers and presentations are not submitted yet. Working to get this in and enable the upload to Omnipress.

Sanjeev Kapur informed the group that Steve Coleman's Ethylene Decomposition and Dane Grenoble's NOx learning modules are ready to upload.

**ACTION:** Rick Beleutz to send letter of appreciation to Steve & Dan for their work.

**ACTION:** Mike Tallman to arrange for access to the EPC Omnipress site for Steve and Dan

The KM committee is looking for someone (a retiree) to help produce a tutorial on Butadiene Popcorn Polymer. And they are also looking for ideas for future tutorial topics.

## 13. Old Business

No old business discussed.

## 14. New Business:

No new business discussed.

## 15. Review Action Items List

Action item list with new actions.

See action item summary listed on the table at the end of this document.

### Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be virtual, starting at 5:30 pm, October 15, 2020

Future Meeting dates (virtual or in person at the Double Tree Hotel in Houston, TX, with social beginning at 5:30 pm.)

December 10, 2020

February 11, 2021

### **2021 EPC Conference:**

Hilton Anatole - Dallas, TX

Conference April 18-22, 2021

Future conferences:

2022 San Antonio

2023 Houston

2024 New Orleans

**16. Adjournment:**

Richard Beleutz adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

## ACTIONS SUMMARY

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>BY</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
Provide comment to Aivars regarding EPC Timeline issued in December, fill in blanks (if known)	All	June 2020
Richard Rolke will follow-up with AIChE to get legal advice on how to deal with future requests from CSB or other parties outside of the EPC.	Richard Rolke	June 2020
Review the desire for sponsors at this reception for future conferences at the first committee meeting after the 2020 Conference.	Richard Beleutz	June 2020
Jake to draft a response to AIChE with the agreed upon WI-Fi sponsor clauses.	Jake Berret	March 2020
Bala will purchase a project for the next meeting	Bala Devakottai	June 2020
Bala will continue the follow-up with aligning the EPC names and addresses on file at the bank and state	Bala Devakottai	June 2020
All members to provide Mike Tallman with a 2 <sup>nd</sup> responsible person for your company contact for the OmniBooks site	All	June 2020
Develop recommendation to reduce bank fees	Bala Devakottai	October 2020
Develop recommendation for 2021 dues	Bala Devakottai	December 2020
Welcome new and continuing members	Rick Beleutz	October 2020
Press AIChE for 2021 siting decision	Rick Beleutz	December 2020
Send letter of appreciation for tutorials	Rick Beleutz	December 2020
Arrange for access to the EPC Omnipress site for Steve Coleman and Dan Grenoble	Michael Tallman	December 2020