

## Ethylene Producers' Committee Meeting Minutes – February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Following are the minutes of the February 11, 2021 meeting of the Ethylene Producers' Committee (EPC) held virtually.

Minutes prepared by Mark Schmidt.

### 1. Attendance

Present – Richard Beleutz, Jake Berret, Daryl Bitting, Jose de Barros, Bala Devakottai, Jeff Edwards, Jeff Elam, Dan Euhus, David Gent, KJ Han, Sanjeev Kapur, Aivars Krumins, Ravi Lal, Alex Michinel, Jennifer Port, Walter Postula, Richard Rolke, Mark Schmidt, Micheal Smith, Michael Tallman, Yong Wang, Mark Whitney, Tim Zygula, John Zylks,

Not present – Toby Darbonne, 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 5:30 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:

By Sanjeev Kapur

The safety presentation “Right Tools for the Job” appears in **Attachment A3**.

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

Mark Schmidt sent out the “final” minutes of the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Sanjeev Kapur made a motion to approve and Micheal Smith seconded. All approved.

#### 5. Treasurer's Report:

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

#### 6. Nominating Committee

Nominating committee conducted elections of 2021-2022 officers.

Per committee rules the following offices succeed automatically:

Richard Beleutz to Past Committee Chair

Mark Schmidt to Committee Chair

Mark Whitney to Program Chair

The following elections were held using Menti.com

Treasurer – Bala Devakottai, Nominated, Vote was 19-0 for, elected.

Committee Vice Chair – Jake Berret, Nominated, Vote was 22-0 for, elected.

Program Co-Chair – Micheal Smith, Nominated, Vote was 20-0 for, elected.

Practice has been to also name a Program Co-Chair Elect position to follow the elected Program Co-Chair. This is not required in the by-laws. With the reduction in duties of the Program Co-Chair position, this practice may not be needed.

**ACTION:** Nominating committee reevaluate the need for Program Co-Chair Elect.

The Nominating Committee presentation is in **Attachment A5**. The vote results are presented in **Attachment A6**.

Two producers not on the committee:

Formosa Huntsman – Have not shown interest, will keep in contact.

Howard Energy Partners (Javelina plant) Mark Whitney will make contact, John Zylks can provide contact information.

#### 7. 2021 Conference Planning/Status

Keynote speaker has been moved to Wednesday morning. Lyondell Exec. VP Ken Lane, topic: sustainability. This keynote is at an open time for the whole conference.

## 8. Program Chair/ Co-chair Report

Jake Berret presented the schedule for the conference. One lone topic with one paper on Friday. This paper related to rotating equipment and there may be an opportunity to move the Friday paper into one of the other sessions. Sessions will have two 75-minute (or 80 minute) meeting sub-sessions. Talks are limited to 25 minutes for sessions with 3 or less presentations in a sub-session. For sub-sessions with 4 papers, talks will be limited to 20 minutes.

AIChE & EPC also desired to hold a Technical Discussion Event. It was decided that EPC would hold such a discussion focused on Green House Gases & Climate Change. Aivars Krumins and Sanjeev Kapur agreed to host the session.

AIChE will soon send detailed information for presenters & session Chairs/Co-chairs. Recorded presentations will be due to AIChE on 3/22. AIChE also has a new networking platform, a demo should be available by 2/19.

See **Attachment A7** for details.

## 9. Break

## 10. Subcommittee Reports

**Safety** – (Jake Berret) One session. 6 papers, feel good about all, session is full.

**Environmental** – (Richard Beleutz) One session. Have 5 papers now, one new as of last meeting. Need to get new paper information to AIChE ASAP

**Operations** – (Richard Rolke) 6 solid papers, committee meets 3/11 to review papers and presentations.

**Maintenance & Reliability** – (Sanjeev Kapur) 7 papers, will present 3 and 4 papers in the sub-sessions.

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

Fundamentals – 6 papers for the session, transferred 2 (operations & AIChE)

Start Up / Commissioning Issues for Large Crackers – 5 papers, good session no presentations in hand.

Tutorial for Distillation – Dropped or deferred to 2022 due to virtual meeting format.

**Industry 4.0** – (Richard Rolke) 6 papers full session, looking good.

**Rotating Equipment** – (Mike Tallman) – 7 papers for 2 sessions, 6 papers for Rotating, 1 paper for reliability. Will meet to discuss combining into one session.

**Feedstock** – (Mark Whitney) 7 papers. Looks good.

#### 11. **Knowledge Management**

Working to get the Website information updated with current officers, current member information, etc.

**ACTION:** Jake to remind the session chairs and co-chairs about the process to collect papers and presentations for input into Omnipress.

#### 12. **Old Business**

##### **Speaker Recognition**

Rick Beleutz presented options for speaker recognition in **Attachment A8**. The committee recommended gift cards as a more universally acceptable and easier item to manage.

**ACTION:** Rick Beleutz to arrange for Amazon gift cards for the speakers for 2020 and 2021. Jake Berret to assist with the list of speakers from 2020. Bala Devakottai to assist with determining best way to 'finance' the gift card purchases.

#### 13. **New Business:**

No new business discussed.

#### 14. **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 is 5:30 pm June 17, 2021, virtual.

##### **2021 EPC Conference:**

Virtual (Dallas)

Conference April 18-22, 2021

Meeting dates for the 2021-2022 Conference Cycle:

6/17/2021	Virtual
8/12/2021	Virtual
10/14/2021	Virtual ?

12/9/2021          In Person ?  
2/10/2022          In Person ?

Conference: April 10-14, 2022, San Antonio, Tx.

Future conferences:

2023      Houston

2024      New Orleans

**15. Adjournment:**

Richard Beleutz adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

## ACTIONS SUMMARY

ITEM	BY	WHEN
Align EPC names and addresses on file at the bank and state.	Bala Devakottai	June 2021
Recognize speakers (both 2020 and 2021 conferences) with Gift Cards.	Richard Beleutz	June 2021
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	December 2021
Work with AIChE to agree upon WI-Fi sponsor clauses for 2022. (Not needed until meeting is in person)	Micheal Smith	December 2021
Bala will purchase a projector for the next in person meeting.	Bala Devakottai	December 2021
Develop recommendation to reduce bank fees.	Bala Devakottai	February 2022
Nominating committee reevaluate the need for Program Co-Chair Elect.	Richard Beleutz	February 2022
Remind session chairs and co-chairs about the process to collect papers and presentations for input into Omnipress.	Jake Berret	April 2021