

**Ethylene Producers' Committee Meeting  
Minutes – December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Following are the minutes of the December 9, 2021 meeting of the Ethylene Producers' Committee (EPC) held virtually.

Minutes prepared by Mark Whitney.

**1. Attendance**

Present – Richard Beleutz, Jake Berret, Daryl Bitting, Toby Darbonne, Bala Devakottai, Jeff Edwards, Dan Euhus, David Gent, Sanjeev Kapur, Aivars Krumins, Ravi Lal, Jennifer Port, Walter Postula, Richard Rolke, Micheal Smith, Michael Tallman, Yong Wang, Mark Whitney

Not present – Jose de Barros, Jeff Elam, KJ Han, Alex Michinel, Mark Schmidt, Tim Zygula, John Zylks

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 5]*

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

**2. Call To Order:**

Jake Berret called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm. Jake Berret 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 Jennifer Port

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

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

Jake Berret sent out the “final” minutes of the October 14, 2021 meeting on November 15, 2021. Sanjeev Kapur made a motion to approve, and Richard Rolke seconded. All approved.

**5. Treasurer's Report:**

Bala Devakottai presented the current EPC finances. Bala showed dues for the 25 EPC members for 2022 will be \$1050 each to maintain current level of expenditures and maintain current reserves. This was motioned and approved.

The Knowledge Management funds showed \$26K in a separate savings account and a balance of \$46K in the working account. This is based on a need to hold approximately \$50K in reserve if the EPC needs to rebuild our website if Omnibooks, our current website operator, were to cease operations. It was motioned and approved to move enough money from the working Knowledge Management fund to the savings account to have \$50K in the savings account. The Knowledge Management funds are sufficient for 2022 so the customary \$200 subscription fee for the website will be waived. Motioned and approved.

The financial report is given in **Attachment A4**.

**6. Committee Chair Report**

Mark Schmidt was absent and no additional information was received about the co-sponsoring a control session with the Fuel & Petrochemical Conference.

**7. Nominating Committee**

Jeremy Terro was nominated and approved as a member of the EPC main committee, replacing KJ Han of Lotte. Rick Beleutz will follow-up with Sasol regarding EPC membership.

See **Attachment A5 and A5a**

**8. 2022 Program Chair Report**

The program chair and Program Co-Chair reports were consolidated as **Attachment A6**. All sessions have sufficient papers.

There will be 11 sessions. All will be approximately three hours, except the Monday morning sessions which are two hours due to the AGILE keynote speaker. Industry 4.0 elected to have a single session.

After discussion, the following schedule was approved.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Morning	Ethylene Plant Maintenance & Reliability	Decarbonization/Circular Economy	Ethylene Plant General Environmental	Distillation Tutorial
	Ethylene Plant Rotating Equipment	Ethylene Plant Feedstock Contaminants	Industry 4.0 in Ethylene Production	
Afternoon	Panel Session – Energy Transition & Decarbonization – “Big Picture View”	Ethylene Plant Technology Fundamentals	Ethylene Plant Safety	
	Ethylene Plant Operations			

## 9. 2022 Program Co-Chair Report

Micheal Smith provided an update for the April 2022 EPC Conference. See **Attachment A6** for details.

The AIChE met with the Program Chair and Co-Chair earlier this week and discussed the 2021 AIChE November national meeting in Boston and how that might apply to the San Antonio conference in April. See **Attachment A6a-** regarding safety protocols.

The Speakers' dinner was discussed and the group agreed on a preliminary budget of \$17k. Motioned and approved.

While the conference is planned as face-to-face, there may still be a large number who cannot attend in person but would like to view the proceedings. The AIChE proposed that all sessions be recorded and available for those registered to view for 30 days. At that point the recordings would be removed, except for recordings approved by the presenters. This was discussed and some concerns were raised about the acceptance of this by all presenters.

Note that the AIChE is looking for someone from the EPC to take a role in their 2022 and 2023 Spring Conventions as the co-MPC (Main Program Chair) and then MPC. This is a chance to help shape the AIChE Spring conference. Talk to Walter, who held this position in the past. If interested, contact Micheal Smith or Mark Whitney.

## 10. Subcommittee Reports

**Safety** – (Jake Berret)  
Have 6 papers.

**Environmental** – (Richard Beleutz)

Have 5 papers (one presentation is double length).

**Operations** – (Richard Rolke)

Have 6 papers.

**Maintenance & Reliability** – (Sanjeev Kapur)

Has 3 papers plus a round table discussion.

**Technology & Fundamentals** – (Michael Tallman)

Has 6 papers for Fundamentals, 6 papers for Decarbonization/Circular Economy, 3 papers and a round table on Energy Transition & Decarbonization and 6 papers for the distillation tutorial.

**Industry 4.0** – (Richard Rolke)

Full session.

**Rotating Equipment** – (Mike Tallman)

Have 3 papers plus a panel.

**Feedstock** – (Mark Whitney)

Have 6 papers.

**11. Knowledge Management**

Sanjeev Kapur reported on the contract with the EEPC regarding a video they prepared on popcorn polymer. The conditions the EEPC has proposed are very onerous and likely are unworkable for the EPC. In a last attempt to work something out, Walter Postula will contact EEPC.

**12. Old Business**

Proposed meeting dates for next cycle:

June 16, 2022

August 11, 2022

October 13, 2022

December 8, 2022

January 26, 2023

March 12-16, 2023 EPC Conference is in Houston, TX.

**13. New Business:**

Low Temperature Safety Subcommittee (M. Smith) work is proceeding, and a paper will be presented at the conference.

#### **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 February 10, 2021 (virtual).

#### **2022 EPC Conference:**

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

#### **Future conferences:**

2023 Houston (March 12-16)

2024 New Orleans (March 24-28)

#### **15. Adjournment:**

Jake Berret adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

#### **ACTIONS SUMMARY**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>BY</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
Align EPC names and addresses on file at the bank and state.	Bala Devakottai	June 2021
Mark Whitney to report on length of 2022 EPC sessions and the EPC schedule.	Mark Whitney	Complete
Follow-up with Sasol regarding EPC membership.	Rick Beleutz	On Hold
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
EPC Schedule to be presented to AIChE and Session Chairs	Mark Whitney	January, 2022
Speaker guidelines to be circulated to sessions chairs to authors	Mark Whitney	January, 2022
Send welcome note to Jeremy Terro	Mark Schmidt	January 2022
Determine if EPC video on popcorn polymer safety could be made available to EPC	Walter Postula	February 2022
Develop recommendation to reduce bank fees.	Bala Devakottai	February 2022
Nominating committee reevaluate the need for Program Co-Chair Elect.	Richard Beleutz	February 2022
Send out dues to members	Mark Schmidt	February 2022

Clarify the recording of presentations for the EPC. Would presenters have the option of blocking recording of presentations? How would the recording be viewable for the month following the conference?	Mark Whitney/Micheal Smith	February 2022
Bala Devakottai to transfer \$50k to KM savings	Bala Devakottai	February 2022