



# American Institute of Chemical Engineers Dallas Section

## **DALLAS SECTION AIChE JUNE 26, 2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

A Dallas Section AIChE Executive Committee and General Meeting were held on June 26, 2018 at the Two Guys From Italy Restaurant in Dallas, TX.

### **A) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The attendees were as follows:

Chair:	Jason Ballengee
Vice Chair	James Muhitch
Secretary:	Frederic S. Eisen
Treasurer	Fernando J. Aguirre
Director:	Andrew S. Moore
Director:	Julia Tossetti
Past Chair:	Donald B. Miller

Director James K. W. McCreary was absent and gave his proxy to Director Julia Tossetti. The Secretary determined a quorum was present.

- 1) June Elections – The election slate was finalized.
- 2) New Graduate Dues – The Board approved a program to waive the first year Section dues for new chemical engineer graduates.
- 3) Future Programs – Some potential speakers for next season were discussed. The TBPE will be contacted for an ethics speaker in November or October.
- 4) Treasurer's Report – Nothing unusual to report. Cash flow from Home Office is caught up and back to normal. \$11,387 is in the bank.
- 5) Meeting Minutes – Minutes of the April 24, 2018 General and Executive Committee Meeting were approved.

### **B) GENERAL MEETING**

Attendance at the General Meeting was 21.

The Chair made some brief welcoming remarks and the Treasurer gave his report as discussed above. The annual officer election was conducted. The Secretary determined that a quorum was present. Since there were no contested positions, all candidates were elected by acclamation. The results were as follows;

Chair; Andrew S. Moore  
Vice Chair: Julia Tossetti  
Secretary: Fernando J. Aguirre  
Treasurer: David Brower  
Directors: Jim Clay, James Muhitch, and Richard Thut

The new Past Chair (not requiring election) is Jason Ballengee

The speaker for the evening was Dr. Robert L. Zeller III. Rob is currently the Director of Technology at Occidental Chemical Corporation responsible for division capital investment, research and development, process technology and stewardship programs for the world's leading manufacturer of Chloro-Vinyl products. At the meeting we learned he was just promoted to Vice president. In 2017, Rob was recognized by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) by being awarded the Management Award for his leadership and innovation in Operational Excellence.

The manufacture of chlorine and caustic soda, vinyl chloride monomer, and polyvinyl chloride involves handling highly hazardous chemicals. Operational Excellence is essential in helping a facility or a company reduce safety and environmental incidents, improve reliability and product quality, and reduce overall manufacturing costs. A brief review of Chloro-Vinyls technology was included in the presentation. The general principles, systems and tools for sustainable Operational Excellence in a manufacturing environment, including how to integrate R&D resources into the Operational Excellence process, was covered. A number of "Best Practices," specific to commodity chemical manufacturing but broadly applicable to any industry, were highlighted. Past incidents where Operational Excellence would have prevented the incident was woven into the presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.

Fred Eisen, Secretary

7/3/18