



ISEE Western Canada



Chapter International Society of Explosives Engineers

Board of Directors Meeting

September 16, 2009

Held at the Pacific Blasting & Demolition Ltd. Boardroom, Burnaby, BC

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Regrets:</u>	
Rod Boulay	Gary Anderson	Dave McConnach
Corry Goumans	Lewis Clarke	Dale MacLean
Ron Elliott	Finn Conradsen	Daryl Mellquist
Stan Holtby	Chris Fahr	Shaun Norman
Dave Hudak	John Fairley	Mike Osoko
Gary Kreller	Daryl Fieber	Naresh Prasad
Terry Matts	Warren Fulton	Jerry Silva
Scott Parker	Marek Gomolka	Ed Taje
Rob Slivinski	Alastair Grogan	Troy Walker
Mike Stern	Len Henke	Ron Woolf
Andy Wells	Garry Heringer	Blaine Wright
Allan Zdunich	Paul Jeannotte	
	Doug Kittle	
	Jim Launay	
	Lori Lovelin	

1.0 Review of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Terry Matts opened the meeting and asked for a review of the minutes of the last Board of Directors meeting. He asked if there were any errors or omissions. Moved by Mike Stern, seconded by Andy Wells, that the minutes of the meeting be adopted as reviewed. Passed, unanimous.

2.0 Scholarship Plan

Terry Matts, Mike Stern, and Andy Wells comprise the Scholarship Committee.

Terry Matts reported that we had received several enquiries and 4 potential candidates for the “Dick Shaw Memorial Scholarship”. Two of the students were from the University of Regina. Mike Stern commented on the two submissions that were received. Both met the criteria for the scholarship, however, neither paper was deemed to be outstanding, warranting presentation at our AGM. Andy Wells suggested splitting the scholarship between the two proponents. Terry Matts agreed that neither paper was outstanding and he agreed with splitting the prize, but not inviting either of the candidates to present at the AGM. Moved by Terry Matts, seconded by Rob Slivinski that we split this year’s scholarship between the two winners. Passed, unanimous.

The “Dick Shaw Memorial Scholarship” is in addition to own Chapter Scholarship which is eligible to close relatives of members. The scholarship application is available on our Chapter web site at www.iseewest.org. Application for this scholarship is open until our upcoming AGM. So far, we have had no applicants for this year’s scholarship. Terry asked that we broadcast to our members the availability of this scholarship. Time is running out for this year.

3.0 Next Annual General Meeting

- The next Annual General Meeting is scheduled for October 23, 24, 25th, 2009 at the Best Western Vernon Lodge Hotel & Conference Centre in Vernon, BC.

- Information on the next AGM – Vernon 09 will be posted on our web site www.iseewest.org. Our official mailing address for mail-in applications is:
ISEE Western Canada Chapter
3183 Norland Avenue
Burnaby, BC
V5B 3A9

Attention: Lewis Clarke

The mail-in registration form will be able to be printed from the web site.

Conference fees will be the same as last year.

- **Level 1 Certificate Blaster Training Course** will be held at the next AGM on Thursday, October 22 and Friday morning, October 23rd, 2009. The registration fee for the course will be as follows:

Early Bird Rate (before Oct. 8th) \$250.00 per person

Rate after Oct. 8th \$295.00 per person.

- Terry Matts reported that manuals for the course have been ordered and received.

- Stan Holtby confirmed that he has booked a training room at the hotel for October 22 & 23rd. The room will hold 25-30 attendees.

- Ron Elliott, Alastair Grogan, and Gary Kreller have all offered to assist Terry Matts with the course. Gary will present on blasting regulations.
- Terry will ask each presenter to handle 2 course topics.
- Terry mentioned that the blasting course will finish at noon on Friday to accommodate those who wish to go on the field trip to visit the Tappen detonating cord plant or partake in writing their WorkSafe BC blaster certification or their Ministry of Mines blaster certification, both of which are scheduled for Friday afternoon.
- We need to post information on the Blaster Training Course on our web site.

Action Lewis Clarke.

- **Field Trip:**

Stan Holtby reported that attendees to the AGM can take part in morning and afternoon field trips to Orica's detonating cord manufacturing plant in Tappen, BC. The plant can handle 18 in the morning and 9 in the afternoon on a first come first served basis. Contact Stan Holtby to get your name on the list.

We need to make sure that the tour is advertised on our web site. **Action Lewis Clarke.**

Andy Wells wants to reserve two spots for the afternoon tour.

- **Blaster Certification Exams**

This year, it will be possible to write blaster certification exams at the AGM on Friday afternoon. Both WorkSafe BC and the BC Ministry of Mines have offered to have this service available to our members. The standard requirements for sitting blaster certification exams apply. You will need to bring log books from blasting that you have carried out, a reference letter from your employer, the exam fee, and fulfill any other requirements. Check with and register with WorkSafe BC or the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources before coming to the conference.

- **Spouse Program**

The spouse program will feature a winery tour to the Gray Monk Estate Winery on Saturday morning, October 24th. We will be car pooling to the winery. The tour will leave from the hotel lobby at 10:30AM arriving at the winery at 11:00 AM, with return at approximately 2:00 PM. There is a charge of \$5.00 per person for the tour. Lunch at the winery is extra and seating is limited. Theresa MacLean has asked that we include on the AGM registration form, who wishes to attend the tour, so that she can make proper arrangements for lunch reservations. For further information, contact Theresa MacLean. Her email contact is jocksblasting@telus.net

- **Registration**

Registration for the conference will be held Friday afternoon from 5:00-7:00 PM. The registration desk will also be open on Saturday from 7:00-8:00 AM.

We will need 3 lap top computers to be available. **Action Ron Elliott, Terry Matts, and Andy Wells.**

Bernice Elliott and Barb Holtby have offered to work on registration again this year. We need to ask if Kathleen Moffat will help out again this year. **Action Stan Holtby.**

We will hold a pre-conference work bee on Monday October 19th at 5:00PM at the Pacific Blasting conference room to assemble pre-registered conference attendee packages. Please volunteer to help with this.

· **Welcome Wine & Cheese Reception**

Friday evening from 7:00-9:00 PM will feature a wine and cheese reception. We are looking for a sponsor for this event.

· **Technical Sessions / Conference Papers**

Terry Matts, as Chairman of this committee, gave an update on progress to date: Schedule for Technical Presentations – Saturday October 24.

- 8:00 Welcoming address – Terry Matts
- 8:15-9:00 **“Battling IED’s in Afghanistan”** by Bill McAuley, Senior Inspector, NRCanada, Calgary
- 9:00-9:30 **“Impact of the Olympic Games on the Explosives Industry”** by Rod Boulay, Explosives Regulatory Division, and Doug Kittle, Transport Canada.
- 9:30-10:00 Coffee Break
- 10:00-10:45 **“Highwall Slot Blasting for Gold Recovery at the Dome Mine, Timmins, ON”** by Ron Woolf and Corry Goumans, Pacific Blasting & Demolition Ltd.
- 10:45-11:30 **“Avalanche Control – Latest Techniques and Regulatory Challenges”**, Doug Wilson and John Buffery,
- 11:30-1:00 Lunch and Trade Show
- 1:00-1:30 **“Seismic Blasting in the Canadian Arctic North of Ellesmere Island”**, Lloyd Litwin, University of Saskatchewan.
- 1:30-2:00 **“Hazard Removal at Clayton Falls”**, Terry Matts, Pete Abrahamse, and Dale MacLean.
- 2:00-2:30 **“Use of Drilling Fluids in Collaring of Blast Holes”**, Allan Zdunich, Pinnacle Drilling Products Inc.
- 2:30-3:00 Coffee Break
- 3:00-3:30 **“Drilling & Blasting at the Syncrude Mine”**, Jamie Crysedale, Gridiron Blasting
- 3:30-4:00 **“Blasting Through Sloping Coal Seams at Western Canada Coal”**, Jennifer Graham
- 4:00-4:30 **“Cap Scatter, Timing, and a Good Blast”**, Mark Grigons, Maxxam Explosives

Dave Hudak asked if we can make any papers available for download from our web site.

· **Banquet**

The Annual Banquet will be held from 6:30 – 8:00 PM.

Corry Goumans has contacted Kevin Hachmeister from the Crazy Horse Memorial who has agreed to act as our keynote speaker for the banquet. He will do a fascinating presentation on “**Drilling & Blasting for the Crazy Horse Monument Carving**”.

· **Casino Night**

The Banquet is to be followed by a “Casino Night” where everyone will be given \$50,000 in Casino money. Participants can use this money or their winnings to purchase tickets to be used for the drawing for door prizes. Theresa MacLean has raised concerns that it will be very difficult to get suppliers to donate door prizes for the Casino event this year. Moved by Ron Elliott, seconded by Terry Matts, that we donate \$1000 of chapter funds towards the purchase of door prizes. Passed unanimous. Stan Holtby has offered to look after organizing the door prizes for this activity. **Action Stan Holtby.** Terry Matts has 3 Blaster’s Calculators that he has programmed with blasting programs and will offer these as door prizes.

Moved by Terry Matts, seconded by Ron Elliott that we hold a 50/50 fund raiser with all proceeds to go to the Crazy Horse Memorial, passed unanimous.

Moved by Corry Goumans, seconded by Terry Matts that the Chapter cover Kevin Hachmeister’s air fare and hotel costs to come to the conference. Passed unanimous.

· **Sunday Activities:**

7:30 – 8:30	Video Roundup (bring your videos of your blasting projects)
8:30 – 9:30	Seismograph Workshop – Alastair Grogan, Davey Bickford
9:30 -10:15	WorkSafeBC “New Direction for Blasting Code” – Scott Parker, WorkSafe BC
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 – 11:15	“Emergency Response Action Plans” – Josée Boudreau, Transport Canada
11:15 – 12:00	Annual General Meeting & election of officers
12:00	Grand Prize Draw (sponsored by Orica Canada)
11:00-12:00	Annual General Meeting & election of officers for the coming year.
	Closing – Grand Prize Draw – we need a sponsor for this.

The following were proposed as a possible slate of officers for election at the AGM:

President – Rob Slivinski

Vice President – Andy Wells

Treasurer – Lewis Clarke
Secretary – (Ron looking for a volunteer to replace him)
Web Master – Jeff Blackmore (Pinnacle Drilling Products Inc.)

· **Conference Theme:**

We will hold a contest to select a name for our annual AGM and have a prize for the winner. We should post a notice regarding the contest on our web page. **Action Lewis Clarke.** We need to set up forms and have a box set up at the conference in Vernon for entries. Judging of entries will take place at the Vernon conference. **Action Ron Elliott & Lewis Clarke.**

· **Fund Raiser:**

We will be selling golf shirts with the ISEE Western Canada Chapter logo as a fund raiser. We have asked Stan Holtby search for the best deal and follow up on this. **Action Stan Holtby.**

· **Trade Show Booths**

There is room for a maximum of 15 trade show booths. Fee for trade show booths is \$300 which includes one delegate registration, a really great deal. Chris Fahr is looking after the trade show. Notices have been going out to suppliers and we have already had confirmations from a number of suppliers who will be exhibiting, more to come.

The following have responded positively so far:

- International Society of Explosives Engineers
- Thunderbird Mining Systems
- Rothenbuhler Engineering
- Mag Guard Monitoring
- Davey Bickford
- RS Technical

Trade show booths can be set up on Friday afternoon.

· **Sponsorships**

Sponsors are a big reason that our AGM is so successful each year. So far, the following companies have agreed to sponsor events:

Orica Canada – grand prize drawing

Western Grater \$500.00

Pinnacle Drilling Products Inc. \$500.00

Metro Blasting Inc. \$500.00

Pacific Blasting & Demolition Ltd. \$500.00

Thunderbird Mining Systems \$250.00

· **Special Conference Room Rate:**

Lewis Clarke has negotiated a special conference room rate with the Best Western Vernon Lodge & Conference Centre. The early bird room rates are as follows: Courtyard view rooms - \$94.00 + tax, outward facing rooms \$89.00 + tax. This room block will be held for up to 3 weeks before the conference. After

October 2nd, the room rates will increase to full rate, so book early to avoid disappointment. Be sure to mention that you are with the ISEE Western Canada Chapter. Phone number for the hotel is (250) 545-3385, or you can book toll free at 1-800-780-7234.

6.0 New Business

- Rod Boulay mentioned that NR Canada – Explosives Regulatory Division, Transport Canada and the RCMP will be holding meetings with industry reps. regarding arrangements for security with the Olympics. Meetings will be held in Squamish on October 7 and Burnaby on October 8th.
- Rod Boulay mentioned that the Plain Language Regulations had gone to the Canada Gazette I for consultations. They are with the Justice Department now. No news on when they will be implemented. Explosives Security Card with background checks is still in the system. Explosives Security Plan – this is a voluntary program and companies can register with them.
- Scott Parker, WorkSafe BC gave the following update. There is no scheduled regulatory review of the blasting regulations planned; however, they are looking at changes to the coding system. The Board can not set best practices standards, but they recognize a need for this within the blasting industry. Scott recommends that draft standards be submitted to the ISEE for their review. WorkSafe BC can provide draft standards for review and comments. The provinces of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick have guidelines in place.
- Scott mentioned that reciprocity agreements are now in place between British Columbia and Alberta regarding Blaster Certification. This applies to both construction and mining. Blasters must still apply to the authority having jurisdiction. This not only applies to honouring blaster certification, but also applies to someone who has had his ticket pulled for violations.
- Enform is a company who is carrying our blaster training for the use of Implor connectors for joining power lines.
- As of May 1st, TILMA (Trade Investment Labour Mobility Agreement) came into effect, an agreement at the provincial level to allow inter-provincial trade practices. This currently applies to BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan.
- Gary Kreller mentioned that Alberta has seismic blasting and perforating blasting certification, but no construction blasting ticket. Alberta does however have mine blasting certification.

- A discussion was held regarding the need for blaster training in the province and how the ISEE can help. Rod Boulay asked if the ISEE Certificate Program is available as a video training program. Ron Elliott responded that yes, this is available on line. Scott mentioned that there are 3560 blasters in the province of BC including those with mine blasting certification. Approximately 500 of these would be avalanche blasters. Scott recognizes the need for blaster training. Corry Goumans mentioned that Washington State requires blasters to show proof of 8 hours of formalized blaster training when you go to renew your blaster certification. If BC instigated something similar, there could be a big demand for the ISEE Certificate training program.
- Terry Matts reported that he will be away on a trip to South Africa from Sept 25th to October 18th. He can be contacted by email.

7.0 Adjournment

Moved by Corry Goumans, seconded by Gary Kreller, that the meeting be adjourned. Passed unanimous.

Next meeting of the Board of Directors will be determined at the AGM.