



STATE ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION

SEA View

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From the President

Dear Members:

As you will read in this issue's newsletter minutes covering the last meeting of the Board of Directors, I am now President of SEA and am also covering duties of the First Vice-President for the next couple of months.

It is not constructive to debate the leadership issue on a personal level or to point fingers. SEA must continue to deal with issues that affect us. Your Association places a high value on representative governance, shared decision making and accountability. It is the way SEA has always operated and the Board wants to continue to operate that way.

SEA is our collective voice. All of us want the Association to succeed, not only on behalf of our members but on behalf of the citizens we serve.

Inevitably there will be disagreements and tensions from time to time. They shouldn't be construed as questioning hard work or good intentions. Even some of the Board members who voted at June's meeting in favor of the motion that resulted in her resignation recognized Sharon 's hard work, and openly thanked her for her efforts. And so do I.

We take our SEA responsibilities seriously. The Board works hard, meeting monthly to make decisions collectively, and to chart a course best suiting the interests of the people we represent.

Beyond that: Officers are term-limited. So we need to encourage a continuing supply of fresh faces. Elections are coming up. So is the annual meeting. Both give us a chance to compare notes, re-energize ourselves and begin anew.

If you know someone who'd make a great SEA officer, please let us know and please encourage them to throw their hat in the ring. And if you haven't thought about it, consider your own skills and experience. Maybe you have a contribution to make.

The other key issue as we round out summer is to get the contract into final form. It's been a frustrating process, and there have been loose ends, but we are determined to wrap this up and get everyone the final language, and any answers you need. This contract affects every one of us.

More important, work must now begin on the next contract. We will only succeed to the extent that members contribute their ideas, commenting not only about what the contract should contain, but how best to attain it.



Democracy only works when people get involved. Asking questions and debating policy are the way it gets done. But it starts by volunteering your time.

Please note that because of tight scheduling, the upcoming election and other considerations, we have chosen to move up the next Board meeting to August 5. The special election newsletter will appear around the beginning of August.

Respectfully,
Nichole Lysne

**Update on the 2003-'05
and 2005-'07 Contracts**

Eight members of the SEA bargaining team met on Wednesday, July 5, 2006 to review the latest drafts of the 2003-2005 and 2005-2007 agreements. The team of eight found a few items that will be discussed with OSER by our attorney, Willie Haus, and a couple bargaining team members.

These draft contracts are as of mid July located on the SEA website. Members will be provided with hard copies of the 2005-2007 contracts once they are printed. An electronic copy or a link to the OSER site will be provided so members can look at both the contracts electronically.

**Up Next: Statewide SEA
Officer Elections in August**
Nominations open to July 21

All five SEA Executive Board positions are up for election next month. The Nominating Committee is currently seeking candidates for the offices.

The offices of our Executive Board are President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer. The duties of each officer are specified in our By-Laws (available on our website.) So far, some of the current officers have expressed an interest in continuing to serve on the Executive Board, along with a couple of new candidates.

A special August election newsletter will be sent to the membership introducing the candidates provided by the Nominating Committee. The newsletter will also appear on the SEA website.

Anyone interested in running for one of the offices is encouraged to contact Ross Johnson of the Nominating Committee at B174@charter.net as soon as possible.

Candidate profiles for the special election newsletter are due by July 21.



Please consider submitting your photo portrait as well. You may mail or email your submissions to the SEA office in Madison. Staff will seek to add late arrivals to the electronic version of the election newsletter, but we make no promises.

Basics to keep in mind:

A candidate for office shall be a member of the Association for at least one year prior to nomination. No one may run for more than one office at any election. Candidates cannot be affiliated with any other bargaining unit.

A member may also seek candidacy for office by submitting to the Nominating Committee a nominating petition. The petition must be signed by that member and 25 other members, no later than 20 days prior to the close of balloting. If qualified, the name of a member so nominated will be added to the ballots.

The close of balloting will be the last day of August.

Legislative Update
By Dave Bohnsack, Second Vice President
dbbohnsack.sea@charter.net

State Budget Surplus Expected

Governor Doyle announced that the State of Wisconsin will finish the 2006 fiscal year with a budget surplus of \$12 million. He claims that this is the third consecutive year the state will end in the black. To his credit, he inherited a \$3.2 billion deficit when he took office three years ago. To end in a surplus, the governor claims to have cut taxes, created over 170,000 new jobs, cut \$670 million in state overhead over four years, sold 1,000 state vehicles and eight state airplanes, eliminated 1,500 state cell phones, and eliminated nearly 4,000 state employee positions.

Governor Doyle used one-time funding sources, increased borrowing, and other accounting tricks to show a balanced budget. In fact his most recent budget increased state spending by 10%. The reality is the state budget deficit is between \$1.6 billion and \$2.6 billion.

There is a way for the state to solve its financial problems. It is to follow the existing laws. The state Constitution says if the Legislature has a budget deficit, it is required to raise taxes to balance the budget. A deficit is unconstitutional and illegal in Wisconsin. If the Legislature would follow the law by having a way to pay for all spending provisions before they are allowed in the budget, the state would not be in this mess every year. Existing provisions need to be cut or taxes must be increased. If our leaders cannot make the tough decisions, it is time to replace them. And of course, the governor needs to be limited in the use of the veto pen.

Eye on Financial Relationships

The state Ethics Board recently launched a new on-line index called "Eye on Financial Relationships". The site's information comes from statements of economic interest filed each year by about 2,100 state officials, including lawmakers, agency leaders and judges. State law requires the filings so the public can check for conflicts of interest between officials' public duty and private finances. The new web index does not provide complete copies of the records but helps pinpoint officials' financial interests through searches by office or agency and by the name of a business or investment.



In the past, the only way to get the information was to request paper copies of the statements. By law, anyone who examines the paper statements must disclose their name and pay \$1 for a copy. The requestor's name is forwarded to the official whose forms are being sought. Some advocates of open government say this requirement has been a deterrent to public scrutiny. Wisconsin is one of five states that contacts lawmakers when members of the public inspect their statements of economic interests. In Wisconsin, lawmakers receive an e-mail with the name of the person inspecting the forms and who, if anyone, they represent. A bill introduced in the state Legislature this year would have eliminated the notification requirement. The bill failed to come up for a vote.

To review information about financial interests of Wisconsin lawmakers and other state officials, go to www.ethics.state.wi.us and click on "Eye on Financial Relationships". To get a complete copy of a statement of economic interest, fill out a formal request and direct it to the state Ethics Board. Forms are available at the board's office or on-line and can be faxed or mailed. The board charges \$1 per statement for copies. The Ethics Board's address is 44 E. Mifflin St., Suite 601 Madison, WI 53703. Phone: (608) 266-8123. Fax: (608) 264-9319. Or, email via the board's website.

State Labor Activist Runs for Governor

When state voters go to the polls in November, they'll of course have the two main party candidates to choose between, but also the usual array of third-party candidates. And one of them is one of us -- or at least he's kindred.

The Green Party candidate for governor is Nelson Eisman, who served as a Wisconsin state public employee for more than 30 years. The 61-year-old Eisman has been a union activist with the Wisconsin Professional Employees Council, serving on the executive council and as chief steward.

In a news conference at the Capitol announcing his candidacy early this month, Eisman said his first Executive Order upon assuming office would be "to rescind any work rule that limits a public employee's right to discuss the policies and practices of state government openly and freely with anyone at any time."

Eisman now helps run the BadgerNet communications system for the Department of Administration. He served on the Dane County Board from 1992 to 1995, where he was a member of the Airport Commission, the Public Works Committee, and the Dane County Regional Planning Commission. He helped start Volunteers in Probation of Dane County and worked with community groups to prevent crime and address the needs of troubled and challenged youth. Eisman worked for the Center for Public Representation and trained paralegals and community organizers. He led an effort to form the Wisconsin Halfway House Association to create legislation and bring government resources and private providers to serve vulnerable people.

Eisman says as governor he'd also eliminate property taxes for all Wisconsinites and replace that revenue with a progressive tax that would apply to the state's wealthiest residents. Under his plan, any Wisconsin wage earner making less than \$50,000 a year would not have to pay income taxes.

DOT's Open Records, Except When They're Not

July is a time for picnics and fireworks, and for the annual observance of efforts by SEA and others to get the DOT to release records that legally belong to the public.



You'll recall in our last episode how the state Department of Justice sued the DOT for violating the state's Public Records Law. The complaint said that DOT delayed the release of a public record for months. That was in 2005, and it's only been more delay since then. And of course, SEA began working on this the year before DOJ acted.

When SEA learned of the 2004 DOT report on the cost of private versus public employees doing state engineering work, it sought a copy, inquiring via a legislator's office in May 2004. SEA made direct requests to the agency that August and November. The DOT didn't respond to the open records request of the Association until Nov. 11 that year, and then only releasing ten pages of text.

According to a new, amended complaint from Justice filed in June, the DOT never released the complete public record consisting of the full report. A court case, expected in December, is to determine if DOT officials violated the open records law in its handling of the matter.

Last year in its original complaint, the Justice Department sued the agency and its secretary, Frank Busalacchi, saying DOT delayed for months its release of the report. State law requires records custodians to release public records "as soon as practicable and without delay."

After SEA began inquiring about the report, others including a reporter for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel requested the report, and likewise only received the text portion. Recently, in response to another filing, the DOT sent the Appleton Post-Crescent 46 pages of previously unreleased material.

According to the Post Crescent, the additional pages include numbers and methodology behind the report, including tables that break out cost differences between contracted and state work by project type. As SEA had earlier learned, the study found that using state employees on highway engineering projects was 18 percent cheaper than using contracted workers.

The latest developments may not be quite enough incentive for breaking out the champagne, but they do represent another inexorable step toward the truth.

Important Retirement and Health Insurance Information
by Melvin B. Sensenbrenner, SEA Retirement & Health Insurance Representative

SWIB MEETING – JUNE 14, 2006

SWIB Performance YTD:

	March 31, 2006	April 30, 2006	May 31, 2006
Core Fund:	+5.0% (+4.4% B.M.)	+7.0% (+6.1% B.M.)	+4.6% (+3.9%B.M.)
Variable:	+6.1% (+6.1% B.M.)	+8.2% (+8.0% B.M.)	+4.3% (+4.4%B.M.)
Core:	70.558B	71.771B	69.983B
Variable:	6.608B	6.722B	6.473B
	77.166B	78.493B	76.457B

It was announced that David Mills' father passed away and he was in Florida; and that Gail Hanson, his assistant, was coordinating the Board Meeting.



It appears that the Investment Board and investment staff are working on new methods and systems to track the investment performance of the staff. One method is by Research Affiliates Fundamental Index (RAFI) and the other is Bridgewater All Weather (All Weather). These two methods will be discussed in more detail this fall and will require some legislative changes for SWIB.

Their consultant SIS feels that the selling short leverage is key to the success of the strategy. They recommend SWIB include leverage as required for All Weather in the "Investment Modernization Bill" to be discussed with the Board this fall.

All the markets appear to be very volatile, and we hope to have better news by August. Also note the performance information in the WCOA article in this SEA View. The next SWIB meeting is set for August 9, 2006.

WISCONSIN COALITION OF ANNUITANTS (WCOA) MEETING – JUNE 21, 2006

The guest speaker was Dave Mills, Director of SWIB, who introduced the new Chief Investment Officer, David Villa at SWIB. Dave Mills then gave us the performance data for May 31, 2006, which is included in the SWIB article of this SEA View.

Dave Mills did add, with the down market, the Core Fund is down to +2.6% (on June 15, 2006), and on the bright side, real estate is at +14.6% YTD, Benchmark of +5.4%, and private equities at +13.8% YTD, Benchmark of +8.3%.

SWIB has three major items to work on for the next six months as outlined by Dave Mills:

Their compensation plan will be reviewed by the consultant "McClellan" for complexity and design to determine if it should be improved.

SWIB's biannual budget request, including increased number of positions to handle more investments internally and increase returns, with decreased expenses.

Provide internal controls for new strategies and flexibility of investments with short selling and leveraging, which may require legislative changes.

Dave Mills also mentioned the annual open meeting with guest speaker at the Monona Terrace on September 12, 2006 for all WRS members wanting to attend. I will have more information when the invitations are available.

The next WCOA meeting is set for July 19, 2006.

ETF GROUP INSURANCE BOARD MEETING – JUNE 13, 2006

The Group Insurance Board Meeting was relatively short with the actuary Deloitte providing the status of both the local government and state employee Income Continuation Insurance plans.

The local government plan report was first because it is between 500 & 600% funded even with the poor year for Wisconsin in 2005. There will be no premium increases for the local government employees.

The state employee ICI plan also had a bad year in 2005. Note numbers below.



2004	Total Claims	505	Average Benefit:	\$1,147.00
2005	Total Claims	1142	Average Benefit:	\$1,244.00

Adjusted Balance end of 2004:	\$64,089,254
Contributions & Investment Earnings:	13,763,373
Paid Claims & Administrative Cost:	15,304,126

Net Loss: \$1,540,754

Ending Balance: \$62,548,480

The actuary has recommended that the Board increase contributions with the increasing claims and the increased average benefit. The actuary has also recommended increasing the premiums by 3 or 4%, which the Group Insurance Board approved.

The state ICI plan is about 95% funded currently, and the Actuary estimates it will take about three years to bounce back to 100% plus.

The fourth item on the agenda was a new participating health plan proposal. However, it was a closed session which also included Navitus, Alternate Plan Financial Status, and Wellness Management Evaluation.

The next Group Insurance Board Meeting is set for August 29, 2006.

ETF RETIREMENT BOARD MEETINGS – JUNE 22 & 23, 2006

Dave Stella opened the meeting and announced the new members of the Teachers’ Retirement Board and also provided a ETF Board membership roster, which I have provided to all SEA Board members.

The first report we received was the five year audit of the ETF Actuaries Reports by the Actuary Milliman. Milliman found no major items to report and only had good to report on the WRS and the work done by our Actuary Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS).

The second item reviewed was the annual actuarial valuation done by GRS for December 31, 2005, and taking all the gains, losses and changes in employees’ salaries and retirements into account . They found a slight unfunded liability which they are recommending a small increase in contributions in all categories as follows for 2007:

General Employees	Elected and Executives	Protective Employees	Protective No SSA
+0.2%	+0.1%	+0.1%	+0.4%

The third item discussed was the federal law change in 2004 for reporting other post-employment benefits (OPEB) by Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The GASB issues two statements:

- * Statement #43 Financial Reporting for Post-employment Benefit Plans other than pension plans and;
- * Statement #45 Accounting and Financial Reporting by employers for post-employment benefits other than pensions.



Generally this may require ETF to report the benefit that retired employees receive by being included in the State Health plans even though retirees are required to pay for the benefit. They will have to account for the difference between active employee benefit and retiree benefit (actual cost for health benefits vs. what retirees pay for it).

There will be more on this subject in the future when the details are finalized by the GASB.

The fourth item was the Actuaries' Report on the accumulated sick leave conversion credit program (ASLCC) by GRS. The state has funded the program well and the chart below indicates the cost of the program in percentage of payroll.

	Base Plan	Supplemental	UAAL Total	Years
1996	1.8%	1.1%	2.9%	28
2002	1.8%	1.2%	3.0%	23
2005	.8%	0.4%	1.2%	20

The fifth item was the extending of the grace period two and one-half months for ERA Dependent Day Care Accounts dated May 18, 2006. For anyone interested in the details, I have provided all SEA Board members with a copy of the memo from ETF.

The next ETF Board Meeting is scheduled for September 21 & 22, 2006.

Kudos File: Serving the State

From time to time, SEA members receive written recognition for their efforts on behalf of state government and excellent public service. Here is another example of what we engineers do for Wisconsin and what we are worth in the eyes of some of our constituents. Recently, DNR staffer Thanintr T. Ratarasarn received the following email from a local water utility official after conducting an annual inspection. It speaks for itself:

Tony:

I want to personally thank you for coming down and looking through our utility to see how we can improve on our operations. As you know I strive to try to run the best possible water utility I can with the budget I have to work with. I feel extremely fortunate to have you for a DNR representative in the southeast district. When I attend conferences and seminars I hear other individuals from other districts talk of dreading their annual inspections let alone even wanting to talk to their representative about anything. I, on the other hand look forward to our inspection to make sure that I have not overlooked any detail that I should be doing. Since you have been the representative for this area I have learned a great deal from you and know that if I ever have a need for any information or help you always direct me in the right direction. A person with your talents is a big asset to the DNR, I continue to hope you will remain with the department as I know you could be making much more money elsewhere.

Again, thanks for sharing some of your knowledge with me. I look forward to our next visit!

-- Rick Lien / City of Whitewater water utility



June 24, 2006 Board Meeting Summary
Meeting held at Best Western Inn-Towner, Madison
By John Bolka, Secretary

Attendance:

Executive Board: Sharon Bremser, Nichole Lysne – 1st Vice President, David Bohnsack – 2nd Vice President, John Bolka – Secretary, Nicholas Martin - Treasurer

Board Members:

Julie Millard, Wisconsin Rapids President
Dawn Marshall, Southeast President
Bob Schaefer, DNR President
John Lund, Rhinelander President
Jeremy Tomesh, La Crosse President

Ross Johnson, Eau Claire Treasurer
Leroy Stublaski, State Agencies
Brian Mattson, Superior President
Gary Sassman, Madison President
Tony Allard, Green Bay President

Specialists:

Mel Sensenbrenner, Health and Retirement
Sandy Henke, SEA Office
Ron Legro, Communications Specialist
Willie Haus, Attorney

Meeting Begins:

Sharon Bremser called meeting to order at 8:38 am. Introductions were made. There were additions to the Agenda under Contract (Additional Comments) and Treasurers' Report (Audit Committee).

Approvals:

The May 20, 2006 Board Meeting minutes were reviewed. There was a motion by Ross Johnson to approve. Leroy Stublaski seconded. Motion carried without opposition.

The Correspondence Report was reviewed. Sharon accepted the Correspondence Report.

Sharon Bremser was excused from the room while the Ad Hoc Committee reported to the Board on the meeting held on May 24 to discuss concerns raised by the Board of Directors regarding Sharon's actions as SEA President. Bob Schaefer led the discussion and reviewed the questions asked and responses given at the meeting. Discussion by Board members followed on how to proceed. Section Presidents also offered feedback they had received from the Membership.

Ross Johnson made a motion to reassign, effective immediately, all of Sharon Bremser's duties as President to Nichole Lysne, and ask Sharon to remain on the Board in an advisory role. Dave Bohnsack seconded.

Ross Johnson amended his motion to direct Nichole to engage the services of Atty Haus as bargaining advisor/spokesperson and represent SEA in the Gang of 18 (i.e. all past responsibilities). Dave Bohnsack accepted the amendment. Ross Johnson further amended his motion to include adjusting Nichole's Stipend to \$400/month while Sharon's would stay at its present level. Dave Bohnsack accepted the amendment.

After lengthy discussions and a 10-minute break, Sharon was brought back into the room and gave her viewpoint and reasoning on decisions she has made. The Board also asked several additional questions. A secret ballot was taken on the motion on the table. The motion carried 10 ayes, 4 nays.

Shortly after the vote, Sharon chose to resign. She left the Board meeting room.



Bob Schaefer asked Nichole to solicit candidates to fill the 1st Vice President position she is vacating to take over as SEA President. There was some discussion on the need to fill the position with SEA elections only 2 months away. John Bolka motioned to hold the position of 1st Vice President open until Elections. Tony Allard seconded. Motion carried without opposition. Bob Schaefer motioned to have the successful 1st Vice President Candidate take office immediately after election ballots are counted and certified. Tony Allard seconded. Motion carried without opposition.

Ross Johnson motioned to have the Board send a written letter of appreciation to George Mickelson and invite him to share his expertise with the Board. Bob Schaefer seconded. Motion carried without opposition. Nichole Lysne said she would contact George and ask him to work with SEA on Act 89.

Health and Retirement Report: *By Mel Sensenbrenner*

The GIB met on 6/13 and an actuary report on Income Continuation Insurance was given. It was reported that the Local Government plan is funded between 500 – 600%, while the State ICI plan is funded at 95%. The Actuary recommended a 3 – 4% increase in the premiums. With that increase it was estimated it would take 3 – 4 years to reach the goal of 100 – 110% funding.

The SWIB meeting was on 6/14. Fund performance for the end of May was +4.6% (Fixed), and +4.3% (Variable). Performance indicators show a drop of about 2.6% in mid-June. An internal compensation plan, designed to retain and hire competent individuals, is being reviewed by a consultant for its complexity and design.

The ETF Board is considering approval of an amendment to the ERA program to allow extension of the ERA Dependent Day Care Reimbursement Account plan year by 2 ½ months, effective with the 2007 plan year.

For more details see your Section President or Mel's article in this newsletter. Stay involved a make sure to read Mel's report in the SEA View for more detailed info on this and other Health and Retirement Issues!

Grievance Report: *By Nichole Lysne*

Note: P-xxx indicates personal grievance

A-xxx indicates an Association grievance

A-307 (filed 5/3/99) —Denied time to take PE exam – Arbitration pending with Bellman. (Date selection)

A-351 (filed 7/19/01) – DOT D4 – RLS exam reimbursement. Consolidated with A-307.

A-352 (filed 6/25/01) – DOT D3 – Initial PE licensing fee reimbursement. Consolidated with A-307.

A-361 (filed 10/30/01) and A-362 (filed 10/31/01) – DOT D1 and D2 – Assignment of scheduled overtime. Arbitration pending (Date selection).

A-369 (filed 1/2/02) – DNR Water – Add-on as part of year-end leave cash out option. Arbitration pending.

A-378 (filed 8/14/02) – DOT 1 - Not being paid appropriate mileage rate. Filed at Step 4.

A-389 (filed 5/30/03) – DOT D3 – PE Licensing fee reimbursement. Consolidated with A-307.

A-394 (filed 8/1/03) – DOT D1 – Discipline Reassignment. Filed at Step 4.

A-395 (filed 5/3/03) – DNR NER – PE Exam Reimbursement. Consolidated with A-307.

A-402 (filed 3/25/04) – DOT-DTID – Discipline without just cause. Filed at Step 4.

A-405 (filed 4/5/04) – DOT D5 – PE Exam and licensing fee reimbursement. Consolidated with A-307.

A-410 (filed 6/29/04) – DNR Water – Granting of Restoration Rights. Filed at Step 4.

A-412 (filed 7/7/04) – DOT D2 – Stalking Incident. Filed at Step 4.

P-414 (filed 11/9/04) – DOT D2 – Administrative Leave/Discrimination. Filed at Step 4.

P-415 (filed 11/17/04) – DOT D2 – Administrative Leave/Discrimination. Filed at Step 4.

A-419 (filed 12/23/04) – DNR Water – Add-on is part of year end cash out option. Filed at Step 4. Consolidate with A-369.

A-420 (filed 1/27/05) – DOT – Turndown Mileage Rate. Filed at Step 4.

P-421 (filed 2/09/05) – DOT D2– Administrative Leave/Discrimination. Moved to Step 4.



P-422 (filed 2/09/05) – DOT D2– Administrative Leave/Discrimination. Filed at Step 4.
P-424 (filed 3/18/05) – DOT D2– Demotion without cause. Moved to Step 4.
P-425 (filed 4/05) – DOT D2– Mental Torture/Investigation Meeting. Filed at Step 4. (Meeting 5/4/05).
P-426 (filed 5-16-05) – DOT D2 – Suspension w/o Just Cause. Filed at Step 4.
P-427 (filed 7-27-05) – DOT D2 – Termination w/o Just Cause. Filed at Step 3.
A-428 (filed 6-23-05) – DOT D5 – Travel Policy/Cards/Hotels. Filed at Step 4.
A-429 (filed 4-27-05) – DOT D5 – PE Licensing Fee Reimbursement. Filed at Step 2. Consolidated with A-307.
A-430 (filed 4-27-05) – DOT D5 – PE Exam Reimbursement. Filed at Step 2. Consolidated with A-307.
A-431 (filed 4-27-05) – DOT D5 – PE Exam and Licensing Fee Reimbursement. Filed at Step 2. Consolidated with A-307.
A-432 (filed 4-27-05) – DOT D5 – PE Exam and Licensing Fee Reimbursement. Filed at Step 2. Consolidated with A-307.
A-434 (filed 6-10-05) – UW Stout – Termination w/o Just Cause. Filed at Step 4.
A-435 (filed 11-30-05) – PE Exam and licensing fee reimbursement. Filed at Step 3 – Consolidated with A-307.
A-436 (filed 11-18-05) – PE Exam and licensing fee reimbursement. Filed at Step 3 – Consolidated with A-307.
A-437 (filed 11-15-05) – Letter of Reprimand. Filed at Step 4
A-438 (filed 1-5-06) – Poor Review. Filed at Step 4.
A-439 (filed 11-29-05) – Extra Mileage. Filed at Step 4.
A-440 (filed 11-09-05) – Lunch Money. Filed at Step 4.
A-443 (filed 3-10-06) – DOT D7 - CIRT Building Alarm Response. Waiting for Step 3 Response.
A-444 (filed 3-14-06) – DOT D2 – Individual Bargaining. Filed at Step 4.
A-445 (filed 4-05-06) – DOT D1 – Discipline w/o Just Cause. Filed at Step 4.
A-446 (filed 2-14-06) – DOT SW – PE exam and licensing fee reimbursement. Consolidated with A-307
A-447 (filed 3/27/06) – DOT NCR – Fleet vehicle assignment & utilization. Filed at Step 3. Setting up meeting.
A-448 (filed 5/12/06) – DOT NCR – HAM used on current state employee in promotion. Filed at Step 3.

The current status of all outstanding grievances was reviewed. The following grievances were discussed.
A-436: Consolidated with A-307.

A-438: Filed at step 4. Grievant met with Management on 6/21 to discuss issues.

0A new grievance (A-449) from UW-Mad was discussed, (Discipline w/o just cause). The grievant has been suspended. The Agency has moved the grievance to Step 3.

There was further discussion concerning new requirements, (satisfying the job requirements necessary to apply for a PE), for reclass to ES-Advanced. There was also discussion and concern regarding management trend requiring PE for some Engineering positions.

Leroy Stublaski presented information and asked for advice on a possible upcoming grievance. Atty Haus provided the advice.

Nichole submitted a voucher to pay Tim Hanley's expenses, 8hrs of time, travel, and hotel bill (1 night direct billed to SEA), for preparation (w/Atty Haus) to testify regarding the Open Records investigation by the Atty General. Ross Johnson seconded. Some discussion and motion carried without opposition.

Communication Specialist:

Ron asked for newsletter articles to be submitted by July 9th. Ron brought forward some ideas and given Board approval for inclusion into the Newsletter. Ron can be contacted at rlegro@yahoo.com.

Legislative Report: *By David Bohnsack*

Dave Bohnsack reported the legislators have shifted most of their focus onto their fall elections. Any Bill that isn't acted upon by the end of the year is dead and will have to be reintroduced next session. The



legislature could be called back for a special session later this year possibly to work on SB 1 – Government Accountability Bill.

Julie Millard discussed the Act 89 costing sheets that have surfaced at the DOT. She also voiced concerns regarding the state sharing cost information with the consultants. Julie is willing to work with George Mickelson on Act 89 if needed.

Bob Schaefer motioned to pay Time and travel expenses for Julie Millard and George Mickelson to attend meetings on Act 89. John Lund seconded. There was some discussion concerning the DOT's use of Act 89 language. The motion carried without opposition.

2003-2007 Bargaining:

Atty Haus asked bargaining team members to send any comments (edits) on the 2003-05, 2005-07 contracts. He asked that as many bargaining team members as possible meet at his office to perform a final review of the contract. Bob Schaefer motioned to pay expenses, and time (if not reimbursed by the state) of Bargaining Team members to meet at Atty Haus' office to make the final review of the contracts. John Lund seconded. Motion carried without opposition.

Nichole will contact Sharon Bremser to get information she had compiled regarding contract issues.

There was discussion regarding the number of contract books to have printed. The Board decided to have 50 books printed for the 2003-05 contract, and 1250 printed for the 2005-07 contract. These numbers are what SEA will need printed. The State will determine what quantity they require. Printing costs are split between SEA and the State.

Tony Allard brought forward additional comments, solicited by the President, regarding the contract. Engineering Specialists were concerned about unequal treatment in the last round of negotiations.

Elections:

Ross Johnson volunteered to be the Chairperson for the Nomination Committee. Members seeking candidacy for office should contact Ross. Individuals seeking office should notify Ross prior to July 21st to be included in a hard copy of the election newsletter. Candidates qualifying for the ballot after July 21 can still be included on the electronic copy of the newsletter.

Section Presidents were asked to refer possible candidates to Ross.

Section Reports:

Julie Millard discussed the states draft guidelines for the issuance of safety glasses and eye exams. Julie proposed the Board draft a help document for member's guidance. The DOT no longer provides prescription sunglasses. Tony Allard will get the most recent version of the draft guidelines and send them to the Board for review and comment.

Madison — 6 New people were recently hired.

Southeast — There are a lot of questions regarding back pay; some specialists are talking about suing SEA regarding the recent contract.

Green Bay — There are a lot of questions and confusion regarding back pay and how it was calculated.

Wisconsin Rapids — Members have requested clarification on how DOT calculated the values displayed on their June 22 pay statement. A Section meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 27th at the Wisconsin Rapids State Office Building at 5:00 PM.

La Crosse — It appears that there has been a sense of urgency to fill management positions. Members are expressing their concern that management doesn't have the same sense of urgency for filling staff positions, especially the ES-Advanced positions.

Eau Claire — No Report



Rhinelanders – No Report

Superior — No Report

Central Office/PSC — No Report.

DNR — A lot of questions regarding back pay and how it was calculated. Members glad bargaining is over.

State Agencies — Glad to see bargaining end, would like to see calculations regarding back pay.

SEA Office Website:

Check out the website at www.wisea.org or contact SEA at wisea@wisea.org

Financial & Membership Reports: *By Nick Martin*

Nick passed out and reviewed the May Treasurer’ Report. Nick motioned to approve the May Treasurer’ Report. Dave Bohnsack seconded. The motion carried without opposition.

Nick reviewed the May Membership Report. Nick motioned to accept the May Membership Report. Dave Bohnsack seconded. The motion carried without opposition.

Nick handed out a Section Dues Return summary sheet and explained there had been a double payment that will be corrected.

Nick submitted the Board Meeting Vouchers for approval:

05-372 => 05-386	\$1708.23
M-114 => M-123	<u>\$1500.00</u>
	\$3208.23

Nick motioned to pay the Board Meeting Vouchers. Dave Bohnsack seconded. The motion carried without opposition.

There was a brief discussion concerning any interest in holding the position of Audit Committee Chairperson. Nick Motion motioned to accept Tim Hanley’s offer to accept the Audit Chairperson position for the FY 2005 Audit. Leroy Stublaski seconded. Nick amended his motion to include payment of Audit Committee expenses. Leroy accepted the amendment. The motion carried without opposition.

Annual Meeting:

The 2006 SEA Annual will be hosted by the Southeast Section. The meeting will be October 20 – 21, at the Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc. Check out the Olympia Resort at www.olympioresort.com.

Dawn Marshall reviewed the Proposed Annual Meeting Agenda that had been submitted by Sharon Bremser. There will be a hospitality night on Friday and the regular Board Meeting will be held on Saturday Morning to be followed by the Annual Meeting. Dawn asked what number of rooms needs to be set aside for Board Members. She was directed to reserve 20 rooms.

New Business:

Atty Haus was asked to attend the upcoming Gang of 18 meeting (tentatively scheduled for 7/10) The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM. Upcoming Board Meeting dates are: August 5 and September 23.



PUZZLING PUZZLER

My first is a number, my second another,
And each, I assure you, will rhyme with the other.
My first you will find is one-fifth of my second,
And truly my whole a long period reckoned.
Yet my first and my second (nay, think not I
cozen), When added together will make but two
dozen. How many am I?

Mail your answer to our contest address:
puzzlesea@yahoo.com. The answer and name
of the person who came up with the correct
answer first will be in next month's SEA View.

LAST MONTH:

Remove six letters from the line below and be
left with a common phrase:
ACSOMIMOXNLEPHTRTAERSSE
Tell us which letters you removed and what
phrase you found.

Solution: The letters removed in order are:
s-i-x-l-e-t-t-e-r-s, leaving:
"A Common Phrase".

Congratulations to Allan N. Johnson, first to
solve June's puzzle. Allan is an assistant bridge
engineer at DOT.

Moving?

Since we no longer send many copies
of SEA View through the mail, it is
difficult to track members who have
moved. If you have a new address,
please contact the SEA office so we
can continue to send your ratification,
election, and other mailings.