



TENNESSEE SECTION INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

Kevin Comstock  
President  
Greg Dotson, P.E.  
Vice President  
Amy Burch, P.E.  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Brandon Baxter, P.E., PTOE  
Past President

**2017 TSITE WINTER MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 1, 2017**  
**Roaden University Center at TTU**

*President Kevin Comstock called the meeting to order at 12:50 PM.*

**Recognition of Past Presidents:** *The following Past Presidents of the Tennessee Section that were in attendance were recognized:*

*Steve Allen 2006  
Steve Bryan 2012  
Jason Carder 2013  
Kevin Cole 2009  
Mike Conger 2015  
John Gould 1999  
Greg Judy 2007  
Hollis Loveday 2000  
Bob Murphy 1995  
Stephen Myer 2008  
Sam Parnell 1986  
Cindy Pionke 2002  
John Van Winkle 1996*

**Approval of Winter Executive Board Meeting Minutes:** Cindy Pionke moved to approve; David McGill seconded. Motion Carried

**Officer Reports:**

President (Kevin Comstock)

- Kevin thanked everyone for attending the meeting and VP, Greg Dotson, for organizing the speakers and a great meeting.
- Kevin thanked TTU for the meeting space and all of the speakers.
- This meeting attendance is 82.

Vice-President (Greg Dotson)

- Greg thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- Thank you to the students and advisors for participating in the traffic bowl.

Secretary/Treasurer (Amy Burch)

- Amy presented the TSITE Financial Report:



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Previous Balance	\$10,184.74
Income	\$22,768.92
Expenditures	<u>(\$ 9,091.53)</u>
Ending Balance	\$23,862.13

- Scholarship Fund Balance as of 2/28/2017 as reported by ITE International was \$36,845.90.
- PDH Forms and receipts are available at the registration table.
- Please leave name tags at the registration table when you leave.
- See Amy if you need to pay dues.

Section Representatives Report (Karen Trowell, Ben Ledsinger and Chris Kirby)

- Karen plugged SDITE's outreach program and asked members to send her information if they participate in outreach with students K-12 so that TSITE's volunteer outreach efforts can be noted and reported to SDITE.
- Karen indicated that all three section reps attended the SDITE winter board meeting in Mobile, AL.

Affiliate (Tim Britt)

- Tim thanked Temple and TCS for sponsorship of the student traffic bowl travel assistance.

**Committee Reports**

Audit (Chris Kirby) – Seeking volunteer for 2017.

- Chris was not in attendance and had nothing to report.

Awards (Brandon Baxter)

- Brandon was not in attendance, but provided a report to Kevin prior to the meeting.
- The awards committee will begin consideration of TSITE members for the section awards to be presented at the Summer Meeting. If anyone wants to make sure we are aware of potential award recipients and their achievements or activities that we should be considering, please let me know.

Career Development (Brian Haas)

- Brian requested volunteers to review student papers.

Legislative (Brad Waldschmidt)

- Brad provided an excellent summary of the current TN State bills related to transportation, which was included in the agenda and below.
- Brad shared that Casey Anderson, the executive director of ACEC/TSPE, will hold a meeting the next day (3/2/17) at the TDOT Region 3 Auditorium to talk about the Improve Act.



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<u>House</u>	<u>Senate</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Composite Abstract</u>
HB0014	SB0037	Highway Signs	As introduced, requires the department to establish a three-year program in which local governments can have regulatory and warning road signs replaced by the department if such signs do not comply with federal retroreflectivity standards
HB0100	SB0503	Highways, Roads and Bridges	As introduced, authorizes county road superintendents to expend state-aid funds for roads that are not part of the state-aid highway system
HB0187	SB0299	Highways, Roads and Bridges	As introduced, authorizes TDOT to impose tolls on low-emission and energy-efficient vehicles and single occupancy vehicles that use managed/toll lanes on interstates; dedicates use of toll revenue to maintenance of managed/toll lanes; makes other related revisions
HB1408	SB1061	Highways, Roads and Bridges	As introduced, removes the exemption from the competitive bidding requirement for design and consultant contracts entered into by the department of transportation
HB0002	SB0465	Motor Vehicles	As introduced, authorizes motorcycles and motor-driven cycles to be operated on certain limited access highway and interstate shoulders to proceed to nearest exit when speed of traffic is 25 miles per hour or less
HB0296	SB0252	Motor Vehicles	As introduced, allows an autonomous vehicle's certificate of registration to be available electronically instead of in the vehicle at all times, as required for conventionally operated motor vehicles



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<u>House</u>	<u>Senate</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Composite Abstract</u>
HB0381	SB0151	Motor Vehicles	As introduced, authorizes the operation of autonomous vehicles on the public roads of this state
HB0751	SB0676	Motor Vehicles	As introduced, authorizes a person to operate a platoon on the streets and highways of this state after the person provides notification to the department of transportation and the department of safety
HB0907	SB1349	Motor Vehicles	As introduced, eliminates authorization of commissioner of transportation to consider a northern route for Interstate 840 in certain counties, which was a project benefited by 1986 gasoline tax increases and subject to studies in 1993-1994
HB1131	SB1072	Motor Vehicles	As introduced, authorizes autonomous vehicles to operate in the state without a human driver under certain conditions
HB0705	SB0513	Motor Vehicles	As introduced, requires the department, no later than August 1, 2017, and by August 1 of each subsequent year, to report to the members of the house transportation committee and the senate transportation and safety committee of the general assembly the total number of traffic violations that involve motor vehicles operated by autonomous technology in each political subdivision of the state for the preceding fiscal year
HB0013	SB0364	Taxes, Privilege	As introduced, phases out the professional privilege tax over a four-year period, by reducing the amount of the tax by \$100 each year, for tax years that begin on and after June 1, 2017



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<u>House</u>	<u>Senate</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Composite Abstract</u>
HB0025	SB0015	Taxes, Privilege	As introduced, phases out the professional privilege tax over a four-year period, by reducing the amount of the tax by \$100 each year, for tax years that begin on and after June 1, 2017
HB0041	SB0132	Taxes, Privilege	As introduced, phases out the professional privilege tax over a five-year period for tax years that begin on and after June 1, 2017
HB0046	SB0306	Taxes, Privilege	As introduced, exempts individuals from the professional privilege tax for the first year in which they are licensed or registered in a taxable profession
HB1034	SB0205	Taxes, Privilege	As introduced, eliminates the professional privilege tax for the tax year ending on May 31, 2018, and subsequent tax years
HB0779	SB1354	Traffic Safety	As introduced, prohibits local governments from limiting access to the court system for traffic citations issued using unmanned traffic enforcement cameras
HB0780	SB0760	Traffic Safety	As introduced, requires a law enforcement officer operating a manned traffic enforcement camera to do so only in a clearly marked law enforcement vehicle with authorized flashing lights that is visible to approaching vehicles; requires traffic citation issued based upon evidence from a manned traffic enforcement camera to be issued immediately upon determining that an offense occurred



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#### Nominations (Brandon Baxter)

- Brandon was not in attendance, but provided a report to Kevin prior to the meeting.
- The nominations committee will be identifying candidates for 2018 officers so that elections can be held prior to the Summer Meeting. If anyone is interested in serving as Secretary/Treasurer (and then VP, and then President) or as a Section Representative please let me know. We will be electing a new secretary/treasurer and 2 section representatives for 2018.

#### Scholarships (Brandon Baxter)

- Brandon was not in attendance, but provided a report to Kevin prior to the meeting.
- The scholarship committee will be reviewing the scholarship applications and selecting scholarship recipients for TSITE's 5 annual scholarships. Per the TSITE website, the deadline for submitting a scholarship application is April 15th. Selections will be made prior to the Summer Meeting and hopefully all recipients will be able to attend the Summer Meeting to receive their scholarship at the annual banquet.

#### Section Relations

- At the President's request, Nermine agreed to provide assistance for Section Relations, which includes management of social media.
- Each of the chapter leaders should send information about local meetings to Nermine.

#### Technical (Luke Dixon)

- Luke said that webinars will pick back up and to look for email notices.
- Najmeh Jami will begin organizing the webinars and hosting sites.

#### Traffic Bowl (Greg Judy)

- Greg Judy was present and nothing to report except that the TSITE student traffic bowl will begin after the business meeting. The winning team will represent the TN Section in Columbia, SC for the SDITE Annual Meeting.

#### **2017 – 2018 Meeting Schedule**

2017 Summer:	Gatlinburg (July 26 to July 28 Park Vista Hotel)
2017 Fall:	Memphis (TBD)
2017 SDITE:	March 26-29, Columbia, SC
2017 ITE:	Toronto, Ontario, Canada (July 30 to August 2)
2018 Winter:	Knoxville (UTK?)
2018 Spring:	Chattanooga (?)
2018 Summer:	Gatlinburg (July 24 to July 27 Park Vista)
2018 Fall:	Maybe Jackson or Johnson City (?)
2018 SDITE:	Mobile, Alabama (April 8 to April 11)
2018 ITE:	Minneapolis, MN (August 20-23)



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### **Old Business**

- SDITE strategic planning results show SDITE need to do more outreach to sections. So TSITE should think about what we would ask for if SDITE offered to help. Every section and international is experiencing shortage of transportation engineers. Cindy indicated that TSITE strategic planning had been on hold until after the SDITE strategic plan update and results, which will be shared at the SDITE Annual meeting in Columbia at the end of the month. Cindy suggested dedicating some time in the summer meeting agenda for the TSITE strategic plan.
- TSITE is collaborating with Dr. Stephanie Ivey of UofM regarding Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program at East High School in Memphis. In late January Kevin Comstock took part in a presentation to in-coming 8<sup>th</sup> graders to consider STEM courses. Dr. Martin Lipinski also participated as industry professionals. Since that initial session we have attended a steering committee presentation for that program. Dr. Ivey gave a brief update on the T-STEM. The first class will be 9<sup>th</sup> grade beginning Fall 2017. The program will include engineering, logistics, and aviation studies. The transportation senior design class at U of M included civil site, architecture and building design projects. Dr. Ivey said there are lots of opportunities to volunteer and interact with students even if you are not in located in Memphis. She had flyers to share with TSITE members with more information on the program, and a promo video was presented during the business meeting.
- Separation of Secretary & Treasurer Duties. We will bring to a vote for the Summer meeting.
- Tax Status review, TSITE obligations and 501c3 non-profit
  - o International is taking the lead. Sections will need to incorporate, by-laws will work. Need to submit tax forms. Good job for new administrator.
- Review Operations manual.
  - o Steve Bryan agreed to help update the operations manual since he did the last update in 2010.
  - o Brandon will reach out to Colleen at International staff to let her know that we are looking at changing the by-laws.
- Budget:
  - o We do not currently establish a budget.
  - o Speaker gifts and webinars that need to be planned for.
  - o The proposed administrator would manage the budget?
  - o Let the budget be information for planning.
  - o Continue to pay the same amount out and make sure we bring in that amount.
  - o ITE recommends carrying 75% of your annual spending in reserve.
- Webinars:



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- Pick back up on webinar sponsorship with Najmeh Jami (RPM) handling the setup and coordination. TSITE will plan for \$1,500 annually for webinar sponsorship.

***New Business***

- With Chris Kirby as a Section Representative, we would like a past president to act in the role of Auditor.
- We would like to appoint a new social media chairperson for the Section Relations Committee.
- Najmeh Jami will be acting as the new webinar coordinator for the Technical Committee.
- Hollis Loveday spoke more about activities at the District and International levels.
  - Voting for SDITE Officers and International VP is open.
  - SDITE has a new website.
  - More effort for partnering and communication with sections and SDITE.

***Call to Adjourn:*** Kevin called for a motion to adjourn. Steve Meyer motioned with Cindy Pionke seconding.

Meeting adjourned at 1:22 PM.