

November 2018

NSPE-KS

KSPE TOPEKA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Topeka Chapter, Kansas Society of Professional Engineers
825 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 500, Topeka, KS 66612

NSPE-KS TM TOPEKA CHAPTER
KANSAS SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

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2017-18 Topeka Chapter Officers

State Director: Robert Koopman
Past President: Lynn Berges
Membership
President: Dan Scherschligt
Vice President: Jason Hoskinson
Treasurer: Troy Bandy
Secretary: Jeff Lolley

DECEMBER LEGISLATIVE DINNER

Wednesday, December 5th

Topeka Country Club

2700 SW Buchanan St

5:30 – 6:15 pm (social hour)

6:15 (dinner)

\$35 per person

Meal Selections

Honey Pecan Chicken

Herb Crusted Atlantic Salmon

Smoked Prime Rib

Please make your meal selection and reservation with Jeff Lolley via e-mail at jeff.lolley@bartwest.com no later than **noon on Friday, November 30th**

Please join us to connect with our legislators and foster the relationships that can make a difference. As a professional society, we are uniquely positioned to be trusted advisors to these officials. We greatly appreciate your support with this unique opportunity and look forward to seeing you at the Legislative Dinner.

Has your e-mail address changed? Please visit the NSPE or KSPE website, www.nspe.org/membership/join-now or <https://www.kansasengineer.org/join-us> and update your contact information. To login, have your e-mail address and membership number handy.

If you have any questions, contact Jeff Lolley by phone at (785) 272-2252, or by e-mail at jeff.lolley@bartwest.com.

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DAN'S DIGNIFIED DISCOURSE

It amazes me that we are already into November. Not only does November bring an end to the very beautiful Fall colors, it also means Thanksgiving is just around the corner and then the hectic Christmas season. But first things first. Tomorrow is a very important day. It is **Election Day**. Do you know your elected officials? Are you informed on their position on issues? There is a wide variety of topics covered each year, especially this year in the state house. Regardless of the outcome, we will have a new governor. Be informed and make an informed decision when you vote. And most importantly, do vote.

Speaking of election, our annual **Legislative Dinner is on December 5th** at the Topeka Country Club. It is a chance for you to meet or get re-acquainted with your elected state legislators. It is an opportunity to learn about them personally rather than through campaign literature or media reports. It is a time to share conversation with them. So, please make an effort to attend this important event. It is important to not only have a partnership with engineers and elected officials, but to also take advantage of this opportunity to share some time with them in a relaxing environment.

Have a great day, a great November, and hopefully see you all December 5th at the Topeka County Club.

Dan

Officer Contact Information:

State Director: Bob Koopman – bob.koopman@pec1.com

Past President/Membership: Lynn Berges – Lynn.Berges@ks.gov

President: Dan Scherschligt – danskapa@gmail.com

Vice President: Jason Hoskinson – jason.hoskinson@bgcons.com

Treasurer: Troy Bandy – troy.bandy@terracon.com

Secretary: Jeff Lolley – jeff.lolley@bartwest.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGISLATIVE DINNER SPONSORSHIPS

For our event to be successful, we need help from each of our members—individual and corporate. Our corporate and individual members are asked to contribute a \$250 sponsorship which includes one paid admission to the event, your company's or individual name on a poster board to be displayed at the event, and special recognition during the dinner.

If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact Dan Scherschligt at danskapa@gmail.com or Troy Bandy at troy.bandy@terracon.com **by noon Friday, November 30th**

KSPE AWARDS

It's that time of year again. Time to consider nominating people and projects for the Topeka Chapter awards. Amy Martens will once again be our irreplaceable awards coordinator. All nominations can be sent to any board member or to Amy herself at amy.martens@bcbsks.com

Chapter award winners will be announced at the E-Week luncheon in February 2019. Award winners will then be eligible for entry in the State competition with State award winners being recognized at the 2019 KSPE Annual Conference.

FUTURE CITIES

The Great Plains Regional is being held on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019 at the Engineering Complex on the Kansas State University campus and judges are needed for the competition. Our regional team count is way up this year, so we'll need **more day-of-event judges this year than ever before**. Our day of event judging coordinator Ben Ware will lead the judges training after the free judges breakfast before we get the competition rolling!

If there are folks that want to help judge, but cannot make it on the day of competition, we are also in need of several judges for the Virtual City Slideshow/PDF deliverable (<https://futurecity.org/about-the-competition/competition-deliverables/virtual-city-design>) and city essay deliverable (<https://futurecity.org/about-the-competition/competition-deliverables/city-description>).

Our email address is greatplains@futurecity.org and we'd love to hear from interested prospective judges.

Thank you for any help you can provide us!

KSPE TOPEKA CHAPTER CALENDAR

Date	Speaker/Topic	Member Host	Time	Location
Dec. 5 th , 2018	Legislative Dinner	Topeka Chapter Board	6:15 pm	Topeka Country Club
Jan. 2019	Future Cities Great Plains Regional	Kevin Koester	8:00 am	Engineering Complex Kansas State University
Jan. 2019	State KSPE UPDATE (Tentative)		TBD	TBD
Feb. 3 rd , 2019	Chapter MATHCOUNTS	Kevin Holland	8:00 am	Washburn University Learning Resource Center Room 100
Feb. 2019	E-Week Luncheon		TBD	TBD
March 2 nd , 2019	State MATHCOUNTS		TBD	Washburn University
March/April 2019	Joint Meeting with Tri-Valley Chapter		TBD	TBD
May 2019	Joint Meeting with Kansas Section of ASCE		TBD	TBD
June 2019	Topeka Chapter BBQ		TBD	Lake Shawnee
June 12 th -14 th 2019	KSPE Annual Conference			Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview Wichita

A few excerpts from the most recent NSPE Board Update. Please find the report in its entirety [here](#).

Championing the PE License

FAA and QBS. President Donald Trump has approved a five-year Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization that includes an NSPE-backed amendment to expand the use of qualifications-based selection on federally funded airport projects.

In May, NSPE and other engineering and construction associations sent [a letter](#) to Rep. Bill Shuster, R-Pa., chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, urging the incorporation of this amendment offered by Rep. Bruce Westerman, P.E., (R- AR), and Rep. Daniel Lipinski, D-IL).

New Mexico issues problematic and ambiguous executive order regarding licensure. The New Mexico Society of Professional Engineers, along with NSPE national and several other organizations, are actively discussing possible responses to an [executive order](#) signed by the governor of New Mexico that allows some practitioners to conduct business even if they don't have a license, so long as they make consumers aware of the fact that they are unlicensed. There is significant confusion, however, regarding which licenses are covered by the EO, and the governor's office has been unable to provide guidance on this matter.

NSPE to urge DOT to revise autonomous vehicles guidelines to protect public safety. Just last week, the Department of Transportation unveiled its [updated guidance](#) for autonomous vehicles, "Preparing for the Future of Transportation: Automated Vehicles 3.0." The document explains that DOT's approach to federal policy for autonomous vehicles is shaped on six principles:

- Prioritize safety;
- Remain technology neutral;
- Modernize regulations;
- Encourage a consistent regulatory and operational environment;
- Proactively prepare for automation; and
- Protect and enhance the freedoms enjoyed by Americans.

The public has 60 days to respond to these guidelines. NSPE submitted [comments](#) to Version 2.0 in November 2017, stressing the need to give professional engineers a leading voice in ensuring that the same attention to safety and reliability that went into the nation's built transportation infrastructure is incorporated into autonomous vehicles and smart transportation systems. We are currently drafting comments on Version 3.0.

Report on digital seals, signatures published. Do you know which states allow PEs to use digital signatures and seals on engineering documents? You can find that answer in a [new NSPE report](#) that provides a state-by-state summary on the rules around use of digital signatures and seals. To reduce time-consuming and expensive paper-based processes, more state licensing boards are accepting electronic documents alongside documents with impression and rubber stamps. It is the ethical responsibility of a PE to meet the required standards for signing and sealing engineering documents.