



Board Meeting Minutes Pittsburgh Area ACI Chapter March 26, 2025

Members of the Board: Josh Bryan (Chair), Ron Bruner (*regrets*), Dom Giovannucci, Pat Hofmann (*regrets*), Brian Lucarelli (*regrets*), Allison McFarland (*regrets*), Carly McGee, Mike Moore, Ryan Pendeville and Jared Wright
Staff: Beth Rader (Secretary/Treasurer), Andy Lawrence (Certification Coordinator – *in attendance*)

1. Administrative

- a. *Bryan motioned for approval of the February 19, 2025, meeting minutes. Pendeville seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.*

2. New Business

- a. **Complaint** - Hofmann reported (via email) that PennDOT District 12 requested he pass along to the Board that two of their employees were misinformed by the instructor about the number of beam questions that would be on the test. Additionally, during the hand-on performance practice, there were no proctors there to tell them if they were properly performing the tasks.

Lawrence stated he occasionally provides hints about test content but will stop doing so. He mentioned proctors are not required for the practice sessions and noted the difficulty for him and Bob to oversee 40-50 participants simultaneously. Giovannucci and Moore offered to help with this when they are available.

This conversation led to the fact that Lawrence is finding it harder to get proctors on test day. Giovannucci suggested reaching out to the local universities to see if students who are certified would be interested in helping. He also suggested contacting retired members who may be willing to volunteer their time.

- b. **Disclaimer** – Pendeville suggested adding a disclaimer to our registration form indicating that member companies are not responsible for accidents occurring on their property during an ACI certification class. This suggestion follows an incident in February where a registrant slipped on ice in Golden Triangle's parking lot and is now pursuing legal action against GTC.

3. Old Business

- a. **Written Review/Exam:** Due to the number of requests from people who take the Grade I class in February and March and fail the written exam, Andy plans to offer a written only review/exam on April 25th. Those that choose to go through the review would arrive at 8:30. Lunch would be served at 11:30. The cost for this would be \$300. Those that want the written exam only would arrive by 12:15 and the cost would be \$150. The written exam will start at 12:30. We will determine Andy's fee once we see how many people register.
- b. **Chapter Grade I Certification Refresher Course:**
This has been an ongoing discussion because of technicians not following the correct testing procedures in the field and the disconnect between them and project management troubleshooting. The Board's intent with this course is to educate technicians on the proper testing procedures while informing engineers and project management on understanding these procedures.

The course will be offered to host companies for a fee of \$1,500. Two “free” certifications will be given upon completion of the course to use at a later date. Moore reported that Civil & Environmental Consultants is willing to host this course as soon as possible.

ACTION ITEM: Lawrence to create course curriculum and Board to compensate him accordingly.

4. Committee Reports

a. **Certification Committee: Ron Bruner** - Committee Chair

Certification Classes & Testing:

Grade I Schedule:

Apr 11-12 at UPJ

May 2-3 at PSU

Flatwork: No sessions are scheduled at this time

Strength/Aggregate: No sessions are scheduled at this time

b. **Programs Committee: Carly McGee** - Committee Chair

Upcoming Meetings:

October 2025 – McGee suggested an ACI presenter to allow for early scheduling

Lee Crisp, Argos, has two potential presenters for fall/winter meetings

Other Chapter Events:

- Awards Banquet – April 26th @ Southpointe Golf Club with Monte Carlo night
- President’s Dinner – Monterey Bay – **Potential date – May 16th**
- Golf Outing – July 28th @ Quicksilver

c. **Public Relations Committee: Ally McFarland** – Committee Chair

- **Social Media Accounts** (Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook)
- **Newsletter:** May issue following Awards Banquet

d. **Awards Committee: Dominic Giovannucci** - Committee Chair

• **Founders Award**

We only received one application this year from a Point Park University student. We typically give three awards for a total of \$9,000. After some discussion, McGee expressed that she felt the applicant, Josh Maurer, was deserving. **Therefore, she motioned to give him the first-place award amount of \$4,000. Pendeville seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.**

- **ECP Award** – Two Received. One received from NESL and one from Brayman
- **Lifetime Achievement Award** – Two received. One for Russel Zelich – Pittsburgh Mobile Concrete and one for Carol Tasillo – USACE.

ACTION ITEM: Board members send Rader their votes ASAP so she can initiate any award/crystal orders that are needed.

e. **Finance Committee: Carly McGee/Ryan Pendeville** – Committee Chairs

<u>Current Finances:</u>	\$506,947
PNC	\$ 42,521
PayPal	\$ 890
A/R Pending	\$ 16, 600
Centauri Investments	\$446,936

f. Student Chapter Committee: Bryan/Giovannucci – Committee Chairs

-Active Student Chapters are:

- University of Pittsburgh @ Johnstown
- Pennsylvania State University
- Pennsylvania College of Technology

Wright motioned to adjourn the meeting; Giovannucci seconded.

Anti-Trust Statement: Our chapter's meetings and activities are subject to strict compliance with antitrust laws and shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the antitrust laws. Any discussion of competitively sensitive topics with a competitor should always be avoided before, during, and after any meeting or activity of the chapter. **If at any time during any meeting or activity, the chapter Executives or Officers believe that antitrust laws are being violated, or will be violated, they will advise attendees as such and halt further discussion.** Attendees at any meeting or activity should also immediately voice their concerns. The chapter President will report the incident to ACI."