

Minutes of IEEE REGION 3 ExCom E-Conference

25 February 2008

Attendees: Eric Ackerman, William Clayton*, James Conrad*, Bob Duggan, Joey Duvall, Devon Gayle*, David G. Green*, Willie Fitzpatrick, Eric Grigorian, Adeeb Hamzey, Roy Harris, Sean Haynes, Charles E. Hickman*, Don Hill*, Keith Judus*, William LaBelle, Charles Lord*, George F. McClure*, John Montague*, John Parr*, William B. Ratcliff (chair)*, Mary Ellen Randall*, Jim Remich, Richard L. Riddle*, Wilfred Roberts, Butch Shadwell, Tom Smith, Lee Stogner* (* → voting members)

David Green, serving as facilitator as requested by Director Ratcliff, convened the ExCom at 9:00 pm Eastern. Director Ratcliff welcomed everyone to the IRC and teleconference and thanked them for their participation. He noted that there would be an opportunity to try out the new IEEE SameTime system afterwards and thanked Tom Smith, IEEE IT for both setting it up and attending the meeting.

The ExCom approved agenda and the following items on the consent agenda:

- Receiving the reports listed in the Information Agenda
- Endorsing the 2008 Region 3 ExCom Committee Membership

Director Ratcliff briefly updated the group on plans for the year and overviewed discussion topics for later in the agenda. He noted that all L50 Section Reports (and accompanying information) were due to IEEE headquarters by 31 March 2008.

Director-Elect Stogner highlighted the importance of belonging and participating in the “IEEE Network”. He noted that the renewal phase was about to end and that members should prepare for post “terminator” follow-ups after 29 February 2008.

Secretary Green noted that late reports would be accepted and there were no minutes from last IRC session since there were no actions. He noted the IRC log was posted for those who wished to review the discussions.

Past-Director McClure delayed his report till later in the agenda.

Action Agenda

Treasurer Hickman moved to approve the budget. After the discussion, the PACE Item was modified to earmark \$2K for Government activities. The ExCom approved the budget with this modification. In the discussion, Adeeb Hamzey noted that he would be sending out funding details for the 25-27 April 2008 PACE Program in Indianapolis, IN. Jim Howard and the Charles Hickman will collaborate to update the Region 3 Sections Congress 2008 Section support guidelines.

Discussion Agenda

Past-Director McClure provided in his report info on **IEEE-USA Governmental Affairs** including links to all the charters. He noted that most participation would be as a corresponding member. Lee Stogner talked about the grass root efforts for government affairs and Congressional Visit Day(s).

Director Ratcliff reviewed plans for **Sections Congress 2008**. It will be 19-22 September 2008 in Quebec City, Canada with a Region 3 Meeting on 18 September 2008 in the same location. Director Ratcliff noted that Sections Congress 2008 was going to be a very important event for sections and for IEEE. He noted that Region 3 members would need passports to attend the meeting. A stronger training component (both in content and in time allocation) is expected due to the RAB to MGA change and the new tools that are being developed for section use. He asked that Area/Council Chairs encourage Section participation in the event. Sean Haynes reviewed the registration process for the event and noted that several hotels will be used with the Hilton reserved for primary delegates. Lee Stogner noted that Region 3 would likely have

significant involvement in the program and it was expected the Region would fund these presenters as well.

Eric Grigorian, co-Chair of **SoutheastCon 2008** reviewed the status of the conference scheduled for 3-6 April 2008 in Huntsville, AL. At the time of the meeting:

- 33 schools for HW
- 22 schools for HW Presentation
- 145 registrations, 86 are authors, 25 students, ...
- Hotel: get rooms (room counts: Th: 57 Fr: 92 Sa: 90 Su: 9)
- 4 gold level sponsors (\$5K each), possibly others

He reviewed the schedule for the conference and noted that two DARPA urban challenge vehicles would be exhibited.

Direct Ratcliff noted that the MGA OpCom will be meeting on Friday before SoutheastCon and that the 2009 IEEE Presidential Candidates are expected to attend and participate in the program.

SoutheastCon co-Chair Eric Grigorian reviewed plans for the group and asked for final input on the Region 3 Program. He noted that efforts are intensifying as the conference grows closer. He reported that online registration was available. Twenty-seven schools have registered for the hardware contest. The Region 3 events will 4-6 April 2008. Butch Shadwell mentioned that he would like to hold membership engagement/life-cycle event sometime before (or after) the rest of the Region 3 program. Eric will contact SAC Eric Ackerman to clarify details on student events including the rules governing participation in various events. Director Ratcliff, Secretary Green and others will meet to finalize the Region 3 program.

Director Ratcliff reported that the **Region 3 Help Desk** project would be modified to coordinate with MGA Call Center. Bill Marshall will be recruiting others to work on the project. An update is expected at the Region 3 Committee meeting in Huntsville.

Director Ratcliff updated the group on **new collaboration tools** that are coming soon. The group will be “early adopting” the new IEEE toolset. He repeated his request for members to participate in the demo after the meeting. David Green mentioned the continuing development of the OUMgt section automation support and that new beta sites were being sought.

With ExCom input, Director Ratcliff announced that the next ExCom meeting would be 24 March 2008 at 9 – 11pm EST.

Bill Labelle reported that the paper newsletter has been delivered. The next newsletter expected to be produced right after SoutheastCon.

Having completed its business, Director Ratcliff adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

David Green
Secretary