

## Minutes for the Environmental Geotechnics Committee (EGC) Meeting

Urbana, Illinois

June 12, 1999

1. The meeting was called to order by Akram Alshwabkeh at 2:20 PM in Room 407 of Newmark Civil Engineering Lab (NCEL) at the University of Illinois. The following were attendance: Akram Alshwabkeh, Howard Reeves and Larry Holm. Akram said that Craig was not able to attend the conference and that Akram will run the meeting. Meeting agenda was already prepared by Craig.

2. Akram summarized the EGC activities (as provided by Craig) since the Seattle meeting, August 1998:

A Short course on Waste Containment Systems was offered by David Daniel, Craig Benson, and Charles Shackelford in Chicago, October 1998. Attendance was approximately 50. A portion of the proceeds were donated to the GI on behalf of the EGC. Short Course on GCLs was held in Fort Collins, January 1999, by Benson and Shakelford. The course was part of the Tailings and Mine Waste conference. Attendance was approximately 25. The EGC worked with Soil Properties & Risk/Reliability on a symposium on Risk-Based Corrective Action that was held at the Geo-Congress in Boston (November 1998). GSP No. 82 was the product. The sessions were well attended. The EGC worked with the Engineering and Environmental Geophysics Society on their SAGEEP conference (held March 1999). One session at the conference was a jointly sponsored by EEGS, GI, and the EGC. GI was a co-sponsor of the conference.

3. Akram outlined planned activities of the EGC committee as follows:

A Short Course on Waste Containment Systems is planned to be held in Denver, November 1999. A Short Course on GCLs is planned in Fort Collins (January 2000), European Series of GCL workshops is being organized with the ISSMFE. Sessions on alternative covers for landfills are being organized for GeoDenver. Craig is handling this session. A session on air-based remediation case histories (soil vapor extraction, air sparging, ORC technologies, etc.) is being organized by Craig Benson for Amherst 2000. Papers are invited for the session.

4. A discussion on other future sessions was initiated by Akram. Howard indicated that the he attended the Groundwater Committee meeting and that Mike Barcelona (chair of Groundwater committee) is interested in co-sponsoring a session with EGC. Howard is willing to coordinated with Mike on a proposed session for 2001 GI meeting. Proposed title A Groundwater Control for Construction at Contaminated Sites. Akram and Howard discussed the potential of co-sponsoring sessions with the groundwater Committee, soil properties, engineering geology. Members agreed on sponsoring another session for 2001. The title and chair are to be assigned after communicating with other committee members.

5. The agenda provided by Craig stated that he is taking over as chair of awards committee for the GI and thus will be relinquishing his post as chair of the EGC. Benson suggested three potential new chairs (Akram N. Alshawabkeh, Jeff Evans, and Beth Gross) at the request of the GI Board. Any suggestions or volunteers for chair should contact Priscilla Nelson (pnelson@nsf.gov). Larry said that he will bring this issue to the attention of the TCC in their meeting on June 13.

6. Akram indicated that we need to jointly sponsor sessions with other societies, as was done this past year with EEGS? (This issue was already stated in the meeting Agenda.) Potential societies include EEGS, American Geophysical Union (AGU), American Chemical Society (ACS), and the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA). There was mutual agreement among the attendance on the importance of this issue. Larry said that we need to identify contacts with other societies to move this issue forward. Howard commented on the AGU meetings. He said that they hold 2 meeting a year in an efficient way.

7. Akram volunteered to make the EGC web site. A roster of all members will be posted on the web site along with a list of current and future activities. Members are encouraged to submit any information to Akram.

8. A discussion was initiated by Akram about sponsoring a follow up to Geoenvironment 2000? All attendance agreed that we need to have a follow up. Howard said that we need to have good advertisement in order to have a successful event. Larry said that the earliest possible date is 2003. Akram said that we should have other committees involved (Soil properties, Geosynthetics, Groundwater, Geophysical Engineering, Engineering Geology).

9. Akram commented that finding the location of our meeting was not easy. Howard said it wasn't easy finding the location of Groundwater committee meeting also. Akram indicated to Larry that one of the reasons that only three members attended the meeting is having one day separation between meetings day and conference sessions. Sunday was used for short courses, and members who aren't involved in the short courses will lose most of that day. Larry asked for suggestions. Howard and Akram said that it is better to have committee meeting either immediately before or immediately after conference sessions

10. Larry commented on the efforts that Chuck Shackelford and Craig Benson put in the EGC. He indicated that with Craig is stepping down, we will need to have more members involved in the committee in order to make it easier for the next chair.

11. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.