Attendees:
Maribeth Anderson      Region Vice President
Noah Seiner             Badgerland
Chris Grieshaber        Central Illinois
Wes Dicken              Great Plains
Eric Schermerhorn       Great Plains
Karen Boyce-Lindgren    Greater Chicago
Sanobeia Brima          Greater Chicago
Bill Rudersdorf         Greater Chicago
Al Borzych              Greater Chicago
Josh Jacobsen           Hawkeye
Chris Braamse           Heart of America
Brittany Ohlemeyer      Heart of America
Gwen Arps               Nicolet
Don Phillips            Northeastern Illinois
Rick Pokorny            Northeastern Illinois
Mike Saujani            Northeastern Illinois
Richard Petitte         Northeastern Illinois
Tom Cone                Northwest
Diana Stegall           Northwest
Scott Huberty           Northwest – Incoming RVP
Rick Pollock            Northwest and ASSE Society President
Mike Doucette           Quad Cities
Dan Bembower            St. Louis
Anita Worden            Three Rivers
Andy Hunter             Three Rivers
Pat Genovese            Three Rivers
Scot Salzman            Three Rivers
Dennis Schmidt          Wichita
Bruce Morton            Wisconsin
Rebecca Severson        Wisconsin
Brian Oberle            Wisconsin

Neil Silins             Greater Chicago - AVP-Treasurer
Mary Jo Press           Hawkeye – AVP Secretary

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Maribeth Anderson, Region 5 Vice President at 8:10am. Attendees are noted above. Maribeth thanked all for making the time and making it a priority to attend this meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Region business, network and coordinate with each other as well as share ideas and best practices. Everyone introduced themselves and Maribeth gave a moment of thanks
Treasurer’s Report - Neil Silins presented the balance for the region as $9,906.67
** Chapters can still send small donations to the Region Treasury to be able to claim STARS points. A suggestion was made to help fund getting our Egypt chapter represented at a ROC. There was discussion as to whether Egypt does not participate based on financial restrictions. Or possibly have someone from here go to Egypt to try to offer support. The Chapter has a difficult time safely attending a local meeting due to civil uprising in their country. The suggestion was made to form a sub-committee to determine how we can better support the Egypt chapter. There was a volunteered to participate on the sub-group to investigate.

Previous Meeting Minutes
The motion was made by Al to approve April meeting minutes and seconded by Neil. The attendees approved April meeting minutes unanimously.

Board Governance
Rick Pollock, President of ASSE made a presentation on Board of Governance entitled “Securing the Future of ASSE and the Safety Profession”. Work by the Board has included strategic planning and review of the vision. A facilitator was brought in to work with the Board to identify where we are and where we want to go. Rick shared much information on how things have changed since our last societal governance changed 20 years ago. It was also identified that periodic reviews had not been occurring as was required. The desire is to: align our governance model with the strategic plan, increase strategic focus and improve operational efficiencies and effectiveness, maximize volunteer resources, and create a stronger member voice that reflects our evolving and diverse membership. Suggestion is to have SVP for councils with 5 at large directors and a public member reporting to the board of directors. All board members would be elected by all of society as a collective vote. Councils will function like business units of an association. It appears this may allow for an expanded number of regions so RVP’s can better support their areas. Directors will be looking out for the best interest of the long term future and not necessarily represent a practice, region, etc., but represent all members.

There was much discussion including the desire to not add another layer between our RVP’s and the Board. Our voices still need to be heard. The members clearly want to see more value for their money and webinars should not have a charge, or not charge so much. **Additionally, why can we not get CEU’s for the Society sponsored webinars?** There needs to be someone overseeing action items and addressing complaints. There appears to currently be a lot of communication gaps and these actions not being brought to closure. Rick stated there is currently an executive director that could be addressing this today. We need to make a list and have a plan to solve these issues. Region 5 leadership is looking for some information on how we can respond to our members that we can respond to issues that arise. We need the details of HOW things are going to be addressed before we can be comfortable in looking at a new structure. We are asking the Board to keep their guiding light on the fact that the members want to know how it affects us. What is the purpose and implication to the members? Our
group expressed concern over how we provide a better connection between membership, Council and levels of administration below the Board. We need to have the details to be able to tell our members why they should care about this change.  www.asse.org/restructure

ASSE Staff introductions and review of Society resources-
Steve Hansen from Chapter Services provided his contact information.  847-768-3403 shansen@asse.org  Feel free to contact him for society issues.  He encouraged all to join the Chapter Officers of ASSE on LinkedIn.  Feel free to send him information on best practices to be featured on the blog.  He showed information in Officer Central and Officer Resources.  For SIC Code in Chapter rosters – do we still need the code listed?  If so, it should change to NAICS codes. Can the roster become more interactive? For example, set up searches for certain fields, then print the report.

John Schwerman, Manager e-commerce Marketing and Aaron Ranger, Web Developer/ Designer, discussed IT and website information. LinkedIn and twitter are updated most frequently. Check out EHS Works and President’s Blog on the “Connect with ASSE: Social Media” page. Very informative presentation on whom to contact for webpage updates and design. Mail chimp and several other tools were discussed. Body of Knowledge reviewed on content and access.

Closed Door discussion by Region Officer regarding Board Governance Changes
ROC Discussion regarding Governance (Group Exercise/Discussion) http://asse.org/restructure/
We could look at the wording from other Regions to mimic for bylaws. People in this building forget they work for the members and we pay their salary.

Group discussion of Governance Changes The group identified a clear need for a list of problems, corrective actions and responsibility to be defined. Much discussion occurred on things that are operational and strategic with correctional paths currently often crossed. The bigger issue is that details are not yet defined for the proposed Board. This needs to be defined well before we feel okay to vote. We need to identify our concerns and things that need to be answered before we can be ready to vote.

- Term limits
- Roles and responsibilities
- Accountability
- Reporting structure clearly defined
- If Area Directors are completely voted at large, then how do smaller chapters and regions get representation?
- Will the public director be paid and will job description be different from the other at large
- Should we have an international director?
- The Board needs to define the background required and preferred for the directors such as requiring at least one director has to have been a previous RVP, have served as a Chapter President at least once, etc.
• Executive director will continue to serve as an ex-officio member

Separately, we have concerns that need to be addressed:
• How are staff evaluations/performance reviews managed so members needs are heard
• How does staff get redefined to ensure they are meeting the needs of the membership

We agree that before this moves further, all these details need to be worked out and well communicated before we can vote on the governance change. Perhaps have examples provided to show how several issues would be handled in the old scenario and the new scenario. Having a strategic approach is great. Additionally, we need to clearly know the strategy, business plan for this building and how do we have influence over that. Looking at the governance and board is giving us the opportunity to look at so many other areas of improvement. We need to have metrics on the problems that members are experiencing. Right now, this information is not clearly measured and reported pit. We need to clearly define each box, especially Council on Chapters and Region Affairs.

Current names are long and mandate the use of abbreviations that membership is not clearly familiar with. Even coming to ROC, many people don’t know what ROC, HOD, CoMRA, etc. stands for. Call positions what they are such as Operations Director.

Need to show how we reach Executive Director and have them report to Operations. Or have an Operations Director report to the Executive Director.

Will our at large directors have to volunteer for free with the public director and executive director being paid?

We need to define how we add value to our membership. How will changes help is important.

We want our leadership to know that we don’t only have a strategic problem, we have an operational problem. It is important to fix both!!!

A key point from this morning “Is this like one of those bills that we have to pass it before we can see what is in it”? We have to address this perception and we must have the detail prior to a vote.

We are told that the Board of Directors meeting is open, but the membership is not aware of meeting dates and times. Additionally, the meeting minutes are not available for review by the membership.

**Chapter Best Practices** –
**Badgerland** – The Chapter is working to get required reporting back on track. They are continuing to hold member appreciation events, etc. The Board is updated and involved with succession planning. Points for STARS not submitted
Central Illinois – The PDC occurred in March with a higher attendance. They are holding the planning meeting early and will include more membership at the meeting. They are working to address survey items of distance and topics. They held multiple meetings in Peoria to help establish this area and hope those members will continue to come to other meetings. During the next Chapter year they will focus on the northern part of the Chapter area. Points for STARS not submitted.

Greater Chicago – GC held a joint meeting with insurance reps (RIMS members at Hamburger U). GC also updated newsletter and looking at using Mail Chimp. The Chapter issued a scholarship to local student. They are also working with local school on safety suitcase and an engineering elementary school to help them find ways early to present them the possibility of a safety career. 3765 STARS points to date.

Great Plains - The Chapter held a joint meeting with the Society of Fire Protection engineers with approximately 75-80 in attendance as opposed to 20-40. The funds on hand will help to fund a scholarship. They will hold a member appreciation event in June. They are working on getting more involved with BOK and planning for next year. 2200 STARS points to date.

Hawkeye – The VP started ASP/CSP study group which began with two people but is growing. They provide a discount to attend their PDC based on attendance at each chapter meeting that was attended throughout the year. Their turnout has been pretty consistent. They are still looking for more value for membership. This year’s PDC is May 23rd. 3056 STARS points to date.

Heart of America – The Chapter PDC had awesome turnout of membership, vendors and speakers. They used a separate committee for PDC planning instead of just the board. Fundraiser will be held tomorrow for Shelley Killingsworth. 3800 STARS points to date.

NEIL – The Chapter volunteered at the Northern Illinois Food Bank along with the Three Rivers Chapter. They collected and packaged food. This will become a great annual volunteerism event. PDC is Oct 21-24th. 3495 STARS points to date.

Nicolet – They are dealing with surplus funds and the board is offering a discount for members if they come to the PDC, then monthly meetings and tours are free. They will pick 11 schools in the area to donate PPE for shop classes. 3110 STARS points to date.

Northwest – They provided $4,000 in scholarships and the student sections conducted presentations. PDC continues to grow. Highlight was a joint meeting with AIHA. FAA presenter from Florida and projected this at meeting using WebEx. They will hold their golf tournament on July 9th and celebrating 70th anniversary as a chapter. 4200 STARS points to date.

Quad Cities – They are focused on building up membership and getting people involved. They have been having issues with awarding their scholarship. Our committee chairs were in place, but were not engaged previously. In addition to the new executive board, they will have six
new committee chairs. Membership has grown to 125 members. The Chapter held a great tour at a nuclear facility last month. 3220 STARS points to date

St. Louis – They already conducted their planning meeting to start identifying meeting topics and speakers for next year. There have been some difficulties with an Officer fulfilling their responsibilities within two positions which has required other Officers to step up to ensure that those responsibilities are completed. They are considering combining their newsletter and meeting minutes together. As long as they have a newsletter, their STARS points will remain. One chapter suggested using scholarship money to go to PDC or ASP/CSP prep courses. Points for STARS not submitted

Three Rivers – Along with the NEIL Chapter, they volunteered at a food bank. They also had other joint activities with the Chicagoland Chapters. They have almost doubled their attendees at meetings this year. They have secured excellent speakers and increased involvement with board and chairs positions. They sent out meeting magnets this year early. Communications, tracking improvements and constant contacts seemed to help. They also did a member survey and revamped the Chapter website. They get together to support inner-city kids. The newer board members have been extremely helpful to get more energy going. They did a video recording in March to share with all chapters on Safety Management Systems. The Chapter also recognized members on the ASSE website. 3880 STARS points to date

Wichita – The Chapter had a great turnout for sponsorship during their golf tourney. They include a member spotlight in newsletter. They set up a tour at an additional time separate from the standard meeting time to meet the time frame of those who couldn’t attend regular meetings. The Chapter is looking at scholarship money for our own membership to make educational or certification improvements. 2735 STARS points to date

Wisconsin – They have begun planning for next year. They have a golf outing coming up in June at Lake Geneva and member appreciation at baseball game. 3180 points

Not in attendance and no reports: Northeast Iowa and Stateline.

Region Networking Event at the PDC - We would like to hold a Region get together at PDC. Motion was made by Rick Pokorny to hold a Region event at the PDC with a $1000 budget proposed on Tuesday or Wednesday. Don Phillips seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Maribeth will look at locations and confirm date/time.

New business –
A question was raised on government affairs notices. Some Chapter send the message out to their members, one Officer noted that executive committee seemed to have the only interest. What are the Chapter Officers supposed to do with this information?
Maribeth was thanked for her service as RVP. Greater Chicago was thanked for hosting this
great event and the seamless transportation and tour arrangements.

Other notable dates - National Safety Congress is in September.

The group voted to be at Northwest for Fall ROC. The annual PDC is still looking for volunteers
for Meet & Greet as well as moderators.

Meeting Adjourned
Motion to adjourn by Don Phillips and seconded by Dan Bembower. Meeting was adjourned at
3:14pm.