



# American Institute of Chemical Engineers Dallas Section

## **AIChE Dallas Section Executive Committee Meeting Minutes (May 23, 2024)**

The Executive Committee (EC) meeting was held via Zoom (Chair Aguirre, Organizer) starting at 7:00 PM. Vice Chair Jennifer LaCour volunteered to take notes at this meeting.

The following officers and directors attended:

Chair:	Fernando J. Aguirre
Vice Chair:	Jennifer LaCour
Treasurer:	David Dickey
Director:	B. J. Riddle
Director:	Chuck Neubecker

The minutes for the April 2024 Executive Committee meeting were approved; and the April AIChE Dallas Section Meeting minutes were approved. The Chair will post them to the web site.

The executive committee reviewed the slides for the upcoming section meeting, including upcoming programming through the month of July and a call for nominations for the Executive Committee for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

The committee discussed the offer to pay local section dues for individuals who attend a local section meeting and are national members but not yet local members in hopes that the offer will encourage new local members. Instead of the original plan of sending local section funds and waiting for them to be returned by AIChE national, Fernando found a simpler solution that AIChE national will supply a code to enter so that for individuals who meet the criteria of the offer, their local section dues will be waived with no funds exchanged.

The next topic of discussion was an update on the cost of the e-mail service Constant Contact, which the section uses to send out a monthly newsletter. AIChE national might have a solution where local sections might be able to piggyback on the system they use and not have to pay for an email service, but that is not concrete yet, so for now the section will continue with Constant Contact. Fernando removed contacts who have unsubscribed to emails, which lowered the number of contacts in the system to fewer than 500 contacts, which puts us in a less expensive category. He also found that paying for Constant Contact for 12 months at a time is a better deal than paying monthly, and the executive committee agreed to pay in advance for the next year. Fernando and Dave will follow up to see if sales tax is included, and if necessary, submit a tax-exempt form to waive the sales tax.



Fernando gave a reminder to committee members to be aware of scams/phishing emails, since a committee member recently received an email from someone falsely claiming to be Fernando conducting AIChE business.

Fernando asked about whether the local section should communicate via a Facebook page, and the committee determined that the Local Section LinkedIn page is the most applicable platform to use, so the Facebook page will not be active.

Fernando mentioned a local high school valedictorian who was in the news recently after giving his valedictorian speech shortly after losing his father. The student will be attending UT Austin to study chemical engineering, and Fernando plans to invite the student and a guest to Tuesday's meeting.

The Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.