

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Committee
Held on April 29, 2024

01. A Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on April 29, 2024 at 12:30 pm at Sheikh Muhammad Shafi Hall of the Sialkot Chamber.

02. Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik, President of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry presided over the meeting. He thanked the members for attending the meeting.

03. The proceedings of the meeting started with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Mian Fiaz Ahmed.

04. The following members attended the meeting:

• Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik	President
• Mr. Wahub Jahangir	Senior Vice President
• Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh	Vice President
• Mr. Adnan Yousaf	-Member-
• Mr. Afzaal Bhatti	-Member-
• Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan	-do-
• Mr. Awais Ahmed	-do-
• Mr. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid	-do-
• Mr. Jawad Hussain	-do-
• Ms. Lubna Tubsim	-do-
• Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi	-do-
• Mian Fiaz Ahmed	-do-
• Mian Imran Akbar	-do-
• Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz	-do-
• Mr. Naeem Yousaf	-do-
• Mr. Peeter John	-do-
• Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta	-do-
• Mr. Saqib Ashfaq	-do-
• Mr. Toheed Nasir	-do-

05. Leave of Absence

• Mr. Zain Ul Abideen	-Member-
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06. Members who could not attend the meeting

• Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan	-Member-
• Mr. Shoaib Imtiaz	-do-

07. The Committee offered Fateha for departed souls and passed condolence resolution on the sad demise of the following: -

- Wife of Mr. Pervaiz Iqbal Soni (Late) of M/s. Remington Sports (Pvt) Ltd.
- Sister of Mr. M. Sarfraz Butt of M/s.Fraz Enterprises.
- Sh. Ijaz Mahmood Sethi Uncel of Mr. Adnan Arshad, Sethi Former SVP

08. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Executive Committee held on March 30, 2024.
Discussion:	
<p>Mr. Awais Ahmed said that name of Mr. Jamshed Murtaza Badar was wrongly mentioned in the Participants of point No. 15 which should be rectified.</p> <p>The President instructed the Secretariat to rectify it and to mention the names of members who participated in the discussion.</p> <p>Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta said that according to the Memorandum & Article of Association of the Sialkot Chamber viewpoint of both parties, in disputed matters should be gotten while taking any decision. He said that a decision had been taken against him on an issue without listening him, which was highly objectionable. He said that he was activity participating since 2013 in the Chamber's activities and there was no complaint against him. He also informed that he had apologized to Ms. Lubna Tubsim who accepted it. Secondly, he had discussed with Mr. Qaiser Baig after removing his posted comments of the selection criteria. Mr. Qaiser Baig also accepted his apology. He said that if he had cleared the issues with both of them, then why a strict action was taken against him.</p> <p>The President said that the Executive Committee had already taken the decision, therefore, it could not be discussed again.</p> <p>Mr. Imran Akbar said that the President and the Executive Committee had taken the decision with due consideration, therefore Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta should accept it gracefully.</p> <p>Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta accepted and apologized to the President. He further requested that the remarks written in the minutes against him may be expunged, which was also endorsed by Mr. Awais Ahmed.</p> <p>Miss Lubna Tubsim said that she had accepted the apology of Mr. Saleem Akhtar and had no issue with him. She father expressed her concern about the comments made by some members about their families in their absence to create rumor against each other. She suggested that the members should be careful and avoid such discussion</p>	
Participants	The President, Mian Imran Akbar, Mr. Awais Ahmed, Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta and Miss Lubna Tubsim.
Approval	Approved.

09. Point discussed.	Approval of Statement of Accounts for the month of March 2024.
Discussion	
<p>Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that the statement of account was submitted without approval of the Accounts Committee. He said that as Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Accounts, he might suggest that the accounts statement should not be approved.</p> <p>Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that he could not call the meeting due to being busy in wedding ceremony of his son.</p> <p>The President said that meeting of the Accounts Committee should be held regularly.</p> <p>Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne expressed apology and assured that the meeting of Accounts Committee would be convened, on regular basis, in future.</p>	

Miss Lubna Tubsim said that Sialkot Chamber contributed in EOBI and PESSI, as mentioned on Point No. 19 in staff salaries and benefits. She asked whether all the staff members were registered with EOBI and Social Security.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that the staff members from 1-15 Pay Scales were registered with Social Security whereas all staff members were registered in EOBI. 5% amount of EOBI was paid by employer while 1% amount was paid by Employees from their salaries.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf requested Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne to give exact information to reply the question.

Mr. Awais Ahmed asked why the profit on investment had decreased as compared to the last month. Last month it was Rs. 1,554,532 whereas this month it was Rs. 970,467.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that due to Ramzan the TDR was broken due to which the profit on investment had decreased.

Mr. Awais Ahmed asked about fuel charges of Rs. 144,165/- regarding which it was replied that due to load shedding the diesel was purchased. He also asked about the expense in the head of repair & maintenance which were Rs. 711,162/-.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that the expense was made on extension work of Record Room. The detail was mentioned on Point No. 24.1 of the Accounts Statement.

The President also shared that the extension work was done by the local contractor. He added that the renovation work of the portion of Sialkot Small Chamber's kitchen, hall and wash rooms was also completed.

The President also requested approval from the house to renovate sitting area adjacent to President's Room and public washrooms of this Chamber which was approved by the house.

Mr. Awais Ahmed also inquired about the expenses of Rs. 1,287,547 made in the head of Fee and Subscription.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that the annual subscriptions of FPCC and WFSGI were paid.

Mr. Awais Ahmed said that he knew about it but the purpose to ask this question was to remind his proposal that was proposed in previous EC meeting to mention the details in Account Statement for the information of all members, as mentioned about some other expenses.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that it was an approved regular annual expense, therefore the note of the expense was not mentioned.

Mr. Awais Ahmed suggested that a detail of the amount of return of loan from Staff should also be mentioned in the head of income.

Mr. Amer Rashid replied that the details were mentioned on Page No. 4 Point No. 5.1 of Advances to Employees.

Mr. Awais Ahmed replied that he knew about it but also emphasized that it should also be mentioned in the head of income.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that advances to employees related to Balance Sheet but was not related to income/expenditure, therefore, it could not be noted in the head of income or expenditure.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that it was the reason that he emphasized to hold the meeting of the Committee on regular basis. He also added that there were some minor typing mistakes in the figures which could only be trashed out in the meeting and rectified.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that the previous month was Ramadan but still a lot of expenses were made in the head of entertainment & function.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that the detail was mentioned on Page No. 9 Point No. 23.

Participants	The President, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mr. Awais Ahmed, Ms. Lubna Tubsim and Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne.
Approval	Approved.

10. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Membership/Bye-Laws held on April 26, 2024.
Approval	Approved.

Any Other Point:

11. Miss Lubna Tubsim suggested that a display wall to display the products of Women Entrepreneurs should be installed at the Women Resource Center for the information of delegates who visited this Chamber.

12. Mr. Toheed Nasir expressed concerns about posting a negative comment on social media by Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta to target the selection criteria of this Chamber and alleging Mr. Qaiser Baig, Chairman Departmental Committee on Fairs & Exhibitions. He said that it was a very negative message that had been sent to other people. It created a very bad impression in other groups as well, so strict action should be taken on it. He said that Mr. Qaiser Baig, as Chairman of the Committee was performing admirably. The selection of the delegates was most transparent and fair in all respects. It was not good to disrespect Mr. Qaiser Baig.

The President said it was an allegation on all EC Members.

13. Mr. Naeem Yousaf asked whether the R&D Department had information about FDA approved Surgical Manufacturers companies in Sialkot or not. Secondly, the meeting of the Departmental Committee on Surgical was no held during the last 7 month which also creating a bad impact. Number of issues related to Surgical Committee which needed to be discussed.

The President replied that it had been noted and would request Mr. Ikram Ul Haq to convene meeting.

14. Mr. Afzaal Bhatti said that the EC Committee had already taken action on the issue of Mr. Saleem Akhtar Butta and if Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta had any objection on it then a Discipline Committee should be formed to take up the issue.

Mian Imran Akbar said that the President had taken a decision on the issue of Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta on the recommendations of the Executive Committee, therefore, the decision should not be reversed. He said that the allegations mentioned in the minutes could be deleted to avoid any inconvenience.

15. Mian Imran Akbar said that there was very much confusion on 7E tax on property in Pakistan. He said that it was concerned to FBR. Secondly, Property Valuation be acquired and circulated to all member for their information on the issue.

The President said that there had been rapid changes in FBR and even their concerned officials had no proper information about it. The matter had been filed in the Supreme Court and its hearing date was fixed on June 4, 2024.

Mian Imran Akbar said that uniform policy should be formulated and implemented. He said the Government should also involve FBR to see the impact of the policy which they planned to formulate.

The President said that since the new government had been formed, he was trying to hold a meeting with the concerned to discuss the issues. He added that even the first meeting of the EDF was not held till date. The last meeting of EDF was held in December 2023. Mr. President said that the Chamber did not have any issue related to EDF but the issues were of Leather Tannery and a machine of Airport. He added that the President Sarhad Chamber had contacted him for the support to resolve their issue related to EDF. The President said that he had instructed the Secretariat to write a letter to Syed Abbas Mehdi, Executive Director EDF.

Mian Imran Akbar also discussed about the fluctuation of dollar rate and its impact on the export sector. He said that it should be requested to the Government to fix a special dollar rate for the export sector to ensure stability. As concerned to the issue of Surgical Industry, Mian Imran suggested that Mr. Faisal Ikram, who was elected as Member Provisional Assembly, be requested to play his role in policy making and other issues. Mian Imran shared about the issue of shortage of skilled labour being discussed on the social media. He requested the President that the Chamber should share the messages on social media about its working. He also asked about the status of the project of Technical University which was initiated 2 years ago.

The President informed that Mr. Ikram Ul Haq, Chairman Departmental Committee was going to organize one day Seminar on MDR on 14-05-2024. As concerned to the status of University of Applied Engineering and Emerging Technology, the President informed that that he had taken up the matter at all forums, but the Government had decided to decrease the scope of the projects. The copy of revised notification was not received yet. He also informed that the political leadership of the city had planned to set up IT University within the premises of existing Sialkot Public School. The President also shared the status of the "Industrial Zone Project". He informed that he along with Mr. Khawaja Masud, Mr. Wahab Jahangir and Mr. Umair went to Gujranwala for a meeting with Interim CM, wherein he discussed the said project. The CM handed over the file to Chief Secretary who had remarked that it was real estate project. The President also informed that he had sent 3 letters, in this regard, to Chief Minister in the follow up.

Mian Imran Akbar said that illegal encroachments on Aimanabad Road continue to develop after the local political leadership planned to transfer Kachhari and Lorry Adda over there. He said that he had also discussed about it with the political leadership and requested them to take action on it.

The President ensured that he would discuss about it with Khawaja Muhammad Asif.

16. Mr. Wahub Jahangir informed that The Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Pakistan had planned to organize Korea-Pakistan Business Forum 2024 on May 03, 2024 at the Venue Hall Defence Raya, Lahore. The purpose of the program was to discuss on Pakistan's business landscape & Enhancing business opportunities between Korea & Pakistan. Mr. Wahab said that Dr. Muhammad Aslam Darr also called him and requested for maximum participation of the Executive Members in

the program because it was good event regarding business opportunities. Mr. Wahub said that there was also the speech of the President. He requested the members to attend the program.

17. Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta requested the President to plan a visit of Executive Committee Members to Islamabad.

18. Choudhary Jahangir Rashid requested to form a new Departmental Committee to address the issues related to Motorbike Apparels Industry.

The house unanimously approved the request of Choudhary Jahangir Rashid and also nominated him Chairman of the Committee.

19. Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan requested to upgrade the SCCI Library as the other Departments were upgraded. He informed that the house had already given its approval in previous EC Meeting.

The President replied that some space was being allocated. He asked Mr. Azhar Darr whether the library could also be setup there or not which was replied by him positively. The President requested Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan to visit the place.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan said that his customer in Europe was demanding ecological/biological material in the production. He requested the President to assign the duty of R&D Department to search the supplier and provide list to members for purchase of this material.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir noted the point to Mr. Umair Nisar.

Mian Imran Akbar suggested to digitalize the library according to new technology which was agreed by the President.

20. Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim discussed the matter regarding pressurizing of one of the Foreign Buyer of his friend to visit different factories by Security Officer. He requested the President to take up the matter with DPO.

The President replied that District Police Office had set SOPs for the movement of Foreign Nationals/Especially Chinese visiting Sialkot for any business obligation. The information about Foreign Nationals including visits to Factory units, and details of their stay in Sialkot, must be shared with DPO office 2-3 days before their arrival to Sialkot, Pakistan, to avoid any security risk. The inviting Companies would have to arrange amicable security from approved Security Companies.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim replied that all the SOPs were followed accordingly. The issue was the Security Branch who followed the customer and insisted the Foreign Customer to visit different factories.

Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr requested Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim to ask the concerned company to send the complaint in writing for further action.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Minutes approved by the President, Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry.