

# ACEC Delaware

*American Council of Engineering Companies of Delaware*

*Executive Board Meeting*

*Wednesday, January 13, 2016*

*11:30 AM*

McCormick Taylor, Newark, DE

RE: Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order: 11:50 am

## Attendees:

Kim Willson	Executive Director	Ruggerio Willson & Associates
Jordan Seemans	Asst. Executive Director	Ruggerio Willson & Associates
Mike Angelo	President	McCormick Taylor
Mike Riemann	Vice President / Kent County	Becker Morgan Group
Brian Bolender	Secretary	AECOM
Dave DuPlessis	Treasurer	JMT
Scott Rathfon	National Director	Century
Bruce Jones	Environmental	Pennoni Associates
Sonia Marichic-Goudy	Programs	McCormick Taylor
Alex Meitzler	Membership	A Morton Thomas

## Not Present:

Ryan Flickinger	Education / Public Relations	KCI
Ted Williams	New Castle County	Landmark
Ted Januszka	Legislative Committee	Pennoni Associates
Alan Marteney	Transportation	Century
Debbie Pfeil	Kent County	AECOM
Garth Jones	Sussex County	Becker Morgan Group

1. The meeting's agenda was approved and the meeting minutes from the November meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer's Report –Dave DuPlessis
  - Treasurer's report is loaded on Google docs
  - Through November, revenue is outpacing expenses, and we have hit approximately 50% of our revenue goal for the year. Expenditures are way below budget.
  - Jordan will not be attending the fall convention.
  - For the Engineering Excellence Awards, we had seven entries, although we budgeted for 12. If need be, we can look at other revenue pickups.
  - For a review of the AR status, we are good with HAKS now, as they have offered to be members going forward and purchase a table at the banquet.
  - Other ARs are being reviewed by various folks, with Mike Riemann following up with Rotunda, Bruce following up with Tidewater, and Ted Januszka following up with All Access.
  - We are dropping the ACEC Business Trust from our list of revenue sources.

3. Executive Director's Report – Kim Willson

- For the Engineering Excellence Awards, we are adding back in the initial commitment step to get more firms involved. We will be keeping the various categories, as that did increase participation. Need to follow up with firms to let them know they can resubmit the same project, if it does not win, within certain time frames.
- Going to start setting deadlines for various action items, since engineers are more deadline driven.
- Meeting with DeIDOT tomorrow for the partnering meeting.
  - Working on recordation issues.
  - DeIDOT is looking at raising the cap from \$65 to \$80 / hour. Memos are to be coming out on this topic shortly.
  - Use of CPI for annual increases is still an issue. Need to look closer at wage rates, as CPI is not a reflection of wages. An economist may be better able to explain this to DeIDOT. Suggesting setting up a small committee to look at the issue, possibly including folks from U of D to assist. The increases do not have to be tied to the calendar. Kim will follow up with Nicole for discussion at next meeting. In meantime, we will gather information and small committee will meet to discuss strategy. A list of how handled in other states would be helpful. Small committee will be Dave, Alex, Mike Riemann and Scott.
- The annual budget process if getting ready to start.
- The National Conference and Lobby Day is in April. Trying to setup another dinner for the Delaware contingent. Let Kim know if planning on attending. If enough folks attend, attendance is free.
- The next PAC event is looking to be a Thursday sometime in June for bowling in Middletown.
- All of the year's meeting dates are set.
- Looking at whether to keep the Christmas event as a lunch, or go for a happy hour.
- Working on various updates to website.
- Legislative priorities right now include a modernization of the Coastal Zone Act. The push is coming from the State Chamber. The Delaware Act is not similar to any other state's act and really needs updating.
- Sponsorships are being reviewed, with more information forthcoming.
- A happy hour for members is being setup as a mixer.
- Coordination for the Engineer's Week Banquet is ongoing.
  - ACEC ad was submitted today.
  - Two of the judges are coming to the event.
  - Might be two scholarships. Education committee is reviewing.
  - Three honor awards were issued, and two participation acknowledgements.
- Filing last year's PAC paperwork

4. National Directors Report – Scott Rathfon

- Nothing new to report

5. Legislative Committee – Ted Januszka (not present)

- No report.

6. Membership – Alex Meitzler
  - Bohler has been reaching out to get more involved.
  - Alex is still working on WRA and Jeff Reigner.
  - Talking to Environmental Alliance about getting involved. May want them to come to an event just to see if worthwhile. It was discussed that we could host the firm before a board meeting.
  - Need to update the membership director for National and it should mimic National's format.
  - The Board officially voted on Alex being named membership chair, and it was affirmed.
  
7. Program Committee – Sonia Marichic-Goudy
  - Looking to setup a networking event as soon as possible before our annual meeting. Probably sometime towards the end of February / beginning of March. The event will be held up in the northern part of the state.
  - In April, the half day seminar will be held.
    - Talking to LaTonya for permitting, Mark Tudor for highway, Vince Davis for SWM and someone for traffic.
    - May not need to include a welcome from Rob, however, Rob or the secretary being there helps attendance.
    - Event will be in Dover.
  - Annual meeting keynote speaker may be John Carney, although we are trying to stay away from political races. The meeting is setup tentatively for May 17<sup>th</sup>.
  
8. Transportation Committee – Alan Marteney (not present)
  - Meeting of the committee to review recordation issues is next week.
  
9. Environmental Committee – Bruce Jones
  - The sediment and stormwater committee has been meeting, and both Bruce and Mike R have added comments.
  - Most significant issue ongoing right now with the committees is how to deal with difficult issues.
  - The committee might revisit the three step process to make it more simplified.
  - All regulations are being reviewed for applicability and simplification.
  - The water task force has been meeting but is not on track. Supposed to be done by end of month, but will not happen so an extension has been requested. Looking at legislation which was not part of the original mission of the task force.
  - There are a lot of hurdles to overcome on the funding end, but it appears that funding has become the priority, rather than defining the issues and then finding funding.
  - Education is still a big component and the committee needs to revisit our white papers that we were being to formulate for coverage of issues.
  - Secretary Small does not want legislation on this topic, but it is being pushed by legislators, and governor is not involved. It is possible that someone will need to approach Senator Townsend directly to get a better feel where he envisions the process going.
  - The regulatory advisory committee is the first Wednesday of every month, and Bruce encouraged folks to attend.
  
10. New Castle County Committee - Ted Williams (not present)
  - The next committee meeting is scheduled within the next two weeks.

11. Kent County Committee – Debbie Pfeil (not present)
  - The partnering meeting with Kent County is scheduled for tomorrow.
12. Sussex County Committee – Garth Jones (not present)
  - Hans is now the County Engineer. He was heavily recruited by the County.
  - Mike Izzo is no longer with Sussex County.
  - The committee is meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> with Sussex County Planning.
13. Education/Public Relations Committee - Ryan Flickinger (not present)
  - No report.
14. Other Issues
  - Mike A talked to Zack Crouch from DBF about Mr. Hughes not being involved with the transportation committee.
  - Mr. Hughes has been talking to both DelDOT and various legislators representing his position as that of ACEC.
  - Zach has talked to Mr. Hughes and gotten him to stop, and has also followed up with various individuals that Mr. Hughes was talking to so as to clear up any misunderstandings.
  - Secretary Cohen and Nicole are happy with the approach to resolving the issue.
  - It was requested that all action items be either bolded or put at the end of each month's meeting minutes.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. ARs are being reviewed by various folks, with Mike Riemann following up with Rotunda, Bruce following up with Tidewater, and Ted Januszka following up with All Access.
2. For issues related to the CIP and how DelDOT determines rates, a small committee was formed, consisting of Dave, Alex, Mike R and Scott. The committee will gather information and small meet to discuss strategy. A list of how handled in other states would be garnered if possible.
3. Everyone needs to let Kim know if they are attending the National Conference and Lobby Day.
4. Need to determine if the Board wants Environmental Alliance to come to an event just to see if worthwhile, or if the Board should host the firm before a board meeting.
5. Need to update the membership director for National.
6. Networking event in late February or early March needs to be set.
7. Need to determine if someone will need to approach Senator Townsend directly to get a better feel where he envisions the process on the Water Task Force going.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm