

Colorful Spring Greetings to You and Your Family!

Mike Karia, Executive Director



ACEC Delaware Vice President, Mr. Ted F. Januszka, presenting the Engineering Excellence Awards projects at the Engineering Week Banquet

President's Corner

By Tim M. Anderson, P.E.

The hot-topic of conversation and the news these days is the economy and government recovery and stimulus plans. These issues are impacting nearly all employers and individuals including the engineering industry. In response, ACEC-DE has outlined our position on spending priorities in the form of a legislative brief to be shared with our state legislators. The issues addressed by the brief include transportation funding, the state budget, government outsourcing, and stormwater management funding. ACEC-DE will conduct a lobby forum with the legislators to share our concerns and ideas and to distribute the issue briefs.



Some great programs have been held already and are planned for the first part of the year. In January, ACEC national president Dave Raymond gave a presentation on the federal stimulus bill and its expected effect on our members. In March, Dr. Michael Chajes, Dean of the University of Delaware College of Engineering, will present on U of D's College of Engineering Current Status and Future Plans. At our annual general membership program in May, Alan Levin, head of the Delaware Economic Development Office, is planned to be our guest speaker. At the Engineers Week banquet in February, ACEC-DE proudly awarded four Engineering Excellence awards to member firms and also a Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) award to DelDOT. We are currently in the process of collecting and reviewing applications for the first award of an ACEC-DE college scholarship to an engineering student.

Amidst these difficult economic times, ACEC-DE has lobbied, along side other business organizations, against legislation proposed by the state that would impose state control over the local regulation of land use and, in particular, impose restriction on local workforce housing development. As it is important to our industry to preserve the rights to private investment and to promote economic development, we will continue to follow up on any necessary further opposition to this legislation.

ACEC-DE thanks again all who contributed to reaching our PAC goals for the past two years and we seek to achieve our PAC goal for the third consecutive year. The PAC fund is very effectively utilized by ACEC national to support

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U.S. legislators that support the interests of our organization such as infrastructure funding and business advantages. While ACEC national continues to work for the best interest of our industry at the national level, our committees continue to be very active in taking the lead of our industry with setting standards for codes and regulations and steering policies that affect our business. From the beginning of this year until now alone, our committees have held five partnering meetings with various different agencies from the counties, state departments, and municipalities.

I again thank our Executive Board and Committees for their hard work and time in making ACEC-DE the best it can be. As always, we encourage and look forward to everyone taking part in our programs, committees, and activities.

Tim Anderson

Welcome New Members



We are pleased to welcome ADEPTEVO, INC of Harbeson, Delaware as our new member. Mr. Wayne B. Ericksen, P.E. is the owner of ADEPTEVO.

ADEPTEVO provides Mechanical and Energy engineering services.

We are also pleased to welcome Meridian Architects and Engineers of Milton, Delaware as our new member. Meridian is a part of Artesian Water Company. The main contact at Meridian is Ms. Jessica D. Nichols, P.E.

Meridian provides Civil Engineering and Architectural services.

2009 ACEC Scholarships



ACEC offers following four engineering scholarships for 2009:

1. Scholar of the Year: \$10,000
2. The Kennedy/Jenks Consultants Scholarship in Honor of David D. Kennedy: \$7,500
3. Small Firm Council Scholarship: \$5,000
4. CFASE Scholarship: \$5,000

The closing date is **Friday, April 3, 2009.**

Please contact Daisy Nappier at ACEC at (202) 347-7474 or via email at dnappier@acec.org

President Releases Broad Outline of 2010 Budget Priorities



On the heels of the \$789 billion stimulus bill, President Obama's \$3.55 trillion budget outline for 2010 calls for additional increases in water infrastructure funding, the creation of a new National Infrastructure Bank, and a modest increase for transportation programs.

The President's budget provides \$3.9 billion in state revolving funds for wastewater and drinking water projects—more than double the current amount, and proposes to reinstate the Superfund excise tax on manufacturers and corporations beginning in 2011, which is expected to generate \$1 billion each year for cleaning up hazardous waste sites.

The proposed budget would boost DOT funding to \$72.5 billion from \$70.7 billion. This is in addition to the \$48.1 billion already provided in the economic recovery package. The budget outline, which sets aside \$5 billion per year starting in 2010 for the National Infrastructure Bank, would provide direct investment and leverage other sources of funds to support critical infrastructure needs.

A proposal to make the trust funds, which support highway, transit and aviation programs, subject to the annual appropriations process has generated push-back from Capitol Hill and the industry.

“This could make it difficult for DOTs to plan long-range transportation programs if they are unsure of what to expect in terms of federal funding,” said ACEC President Dave Raymond. “We will address this with the Administration and Congress in order to assure that these funds are invested as intended.”

The budget outline, which was released last week, will be followed by a more detailed budget to be released at the end of March.

House Approves \$13.8 Billion ACEC-Backed Water Infrastructure Bill, Expands QBS



House Approves \$13.8 Billion ACEC-Backed Water Infrastructure Bill, Expands QBS

The House of Representatives approved major water infrastructure legislation this week that significantly boosts investment in municipal wastewater projects. The ACEC-supported package also includes a new mandate to require city and county water utilities to use QBS on federally funded water projects.

The House Water Quality Investment Act (H.R. 1262), authorizes nearly \$13.8 billion over five years for project funding through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) program. The bill expands the use of SRF funds to energy and water efficiency audits of local treatment operations and evaluations of efficiency opportunities. It also encourages alternative and innovative processes, materials and technologies that provide greater environmental benefits.

The bill extends Clean Water SRF loans to 30 years or the design life of the project, and authorizes \$2.5 billion in new funding for sewer overflow grants to states, and \$250 million for a pilot water reuse and recycling program.

The measure also includes a significant expansion of QBS, mandating its use for all Clean Water SRF-funded projects. The Senate is expected to act on a larger water package later in the spring.

2009 Engineering Excellence Awards



ACEC Delaware president Mr. Tim Anderson presented the 2009 Engineering Excellence Awards at the Engineering Week Banquet on February 19, 2009 at the DuPont Country Club in Wilmington.



Grand Conceptor Award: George, Miles & Buhr, LLC

Project: Howard H. Seymour Water Reclamation Plant Membrane and BNR Upgrade and Expansion



Conceptor Award: URS Corporation

Project: Membranes for Surface Water Treatment: A Maryland First



Honor Award:

Becker Morgan Group, Inc.

Project: Eden Hill Master Plan
Drainage Study



Honor Award:

Duffield Associates, Inc

Project: Water Resource Protection
You Can Count On

2009 QBS Awards



ACEC Delaware has reestablished the QBS Award this year. The 2009 QBS award was presented to Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) for providing an example of how well the QBS process works and for helping ACEC Delaware in promoting the practice of QBS for the selection of engineering services. Mr. Jim Hoagland accepted the award for DelDOT.

On January 28, 2009, ACEC President Mr. David A. Raymond visited Delaware and made a presentation on “What the New Administration Will Mean For Your Wallet and the Engineering Industry” Mr. Raymond provided the insight about the stimulus bill and the new Administration and discussed many available opportunities for the engineering industry. Fifty members attended the program at Wilmington/Newark Christiana Hilton. Some members from ACEC Pennsylvania and ACEC Maryland also attended the program.



President Raymond is making his presentation



Members listening to Mr. Raymond's presentation



President Raymond with Mr. Steve Johns and Mr. Stephan Lehm



Mr. Ted Williams, Mr. Scott Rathfon and Mr. Mario Gangemi at the program



ACEC Delaware President Mr. Tim Anderson with the Members of ACEC Maryland



ACEC Delaware President Mr. Tim Anderson thanks President Raymond for coming

The keynote speaker for our 2009 annual meeting will be Mr. Alan Levin, Director, of Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO). Please save the date for this evening dinner meeting which will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at White Clay Creek Country Club at Delaware Park in Wilmington. Registration information will be sent to you by email.

Your Committees at Work for You



ACEC Delaware's Committees continuously work for you so that your work becomes more productive and more cost effective. These committees work with many departments and officials of the State of Delaware, Kent, New Castle and Sussex counties, National ACEC, Delaware legislators and with the Delaware media. All these activities affect your firm's bottom line positively. The members of these Committees are from member firms and give many honorary hours every month. We ask you to join at least one Committee. Please contact the Committee Chair via email. The names and email addresses of Committee Chairs are provided on the last page of this newsletter.

Affiliate Membership Committee

Mr. Brian C. Carbaugh, P.E., Chair

1. Affiliate members provide the services our members need and are a valuable resource to our members. The Committee is working to increase the number of affiliate members. Currently we have six affiliate members.
2. We ask for your suggestions of the firms who can be our affiliate members. Please send an email to the chair Mr. Carbaugh or to Executive Director Mike Karia.

Education and Public Relations Committee:

Mr. M. Shane Minner, P.E., Chair

1. Engineering Scholarship application is posted on our web site. Mr. Minner has contacted many school counselors and requested them to make their students aware of this scholarship. The first scholarship will be given on May 27, 2009 at our annual meeting.
2. There are four scholarships available from ACEC National and the information about them is provided in this newsletter.

Environmental Committee

Mr. Bruce W. Jones, P.E., Chair

1. The Committee Chair and members participated in Dam Safety Workshop on In December 2008. A Q draft of new Dam Safety Regulations was presented and the list of Delaware dams that will be regulated was provided. Few of our member firms have reviewed these regulations
2. Sediment & Storm Water Program: The quarterly meetings between the Committee and DNEC staff have resumed to discuss the items of mutual interest.
3. DNREC Sediment & storm Water Regulatory Advisory Committee (RAC) met on February 11, 2009. At this meeting, DNREC presented Proposed regulations changes. The Committee members have started the detailed review of these changes which will be completed by March 31.

Kent County Partnering Committee:

Mr. Michael Riemann, P.E., Chair

1. The Committee met with the officials from the City of Harrington in November.
Comprehensive Plan: The city is updating the plan. Phase one includes update of the future growth areas and the land use. Phase two includes a full comprehensive plan update which will be Completed by the middle of 2019.
Subdivision Ordinance: The City has adopted a new Subdivision Ordinance which includes a three step process: concept, preliminary, and final.

Source Water Protection Ordinance: This ordinance became effective in December 2008. This ordinance is similar to one recommended by DeIDOT.

Zoning Code: This code is updated to the General code which will be available on City's website.

Building Permit/Inspections: The City has contracted with the Kent County to issue building permits and perform building inspections.

Sewer Moratorium: The moratorium is lifted and the City is currently in a process of expanding its sewer infrastructure by adding a spray irrigation system. This will be completed by 2010.

2. Discussions are ongoing with the State Planning Office and the State Fire Marshall's Office on various items.

Legislative Committee

Mr. Ted C. Williams, P.E., Chair

1. The committee and the Executive Board discussed the visits to the Legislative Hall and the Legislative Day at the Legislative Hall during the current session of the General Assembly.
2. Mr. Ted C. Williams has been appointed to the Council on Transportation.
3. The Committee and the Executive Board discussed various items regarding our members' working with the State Departments. A brief with legislative issues affecting Delaware's engineering industry has been prepared after many discussions. ACEC Delaware will present this brief to the Legislators and the Governor's Office.
4. Our Government Relations representative attended the General Assembly's Housing Committee meeting to oppose the Workforce Housing Bill. The Bill is voted out of the Committee but had unfavorable support from the Committee and is not expected to be worked on soon.
5. House Bill 65: This Bill would increase the size of Sussex County Council from five to seven members. At present, this Bill is in the Housing & Community Affairs Committee.
6. House Bill 70: This Bill would ban covenants of government entities or home owner associations from prohibiting the use of wind energy system within community. This Bill is in the House Energy Committee.

Membership Committee

Mr. Ted F. Januszka, P.E., Chair

1. The firm of Meridian Architects and Engineers of Milton has joined as a member as of March 1. Ms. Jessica Nichols, P.E. is the contact person at the firm.
2. Efforts are being made continuously to increase the membership.

National Director

Mr. Stephen L. Johns, P.E., P.L.S.

1. National director attended ACEC Fall 2008 convention.
2. Discussions are continued with DAPE on Delaware Center for Engineering .
3. How national dues are calculated will be up for discussion at the National meeting. ACEC Delaware Executive Board will discuss this item at its March meeting.

New Castle County Partnering Committee

Mr. Stephen L. Johns, P.E., P.L.S., Chair

1. Water management Code: The County is waiting for the final reply from the Committee of 100.
2. Pressurized Pipe: The County has stated that DelDot's Subdivision Manual should be used to guide the design of storm drain systems. The goal is for the design storm flow to be below the pipe soffit. Culvert designs that may be influenced are governed by the Dam Safety Law.
3. Green Technology: The County is currently working on guidelines for green roofs, permeable paving and a revised bio-filtration basin.
4. Minor Changes to Record Plans: The Committee had given its input on this item to the County.
5. GIS: The Committee has mentioned to the County that the revised Internet was not fast and user friendly.
6. Construction Shutdowns: The County has provided a draft construction shutdown site check list. They may require notes on similar to this on site construction plans, along with a note stating the owner understands that if the construction is shutdown, the minimum requirements must be implemented.
7. Sediment & Storm Water Submission Checklist: The County has provided the checklist for the Committee's comments.
8. Sanitary Sewer Design Review Time Frames: reviews are currently being completed in about four weeks or less. Now, this will go down to three weeks soon. Special services has hired three people who can now help with reviews.
9. Southern Sewer District: Infrastructure is in and operating. Plans for expansion are on hold due to the current economic conditions.
10. Northern Sewer District: The County is still not ready to open up capacity in Brandywine Hundred. Their goal, as required by EPA, is to close the CSO, which they expect to accomplish in 2018.
11. Check lists and Guidelines: Special services is working on revising the sewer plan checklists.
12. Design Policies: Special Services is also looking at, and updating their design policies.
13. Work Force Housing Stay: The Stay was in force until January 31st. The revision to the Work Force Housing Ordinance will be reviewed at the workshop and subsequent Council meeting.
14. Electronic CCR Reviews: The County is working on a system to allow the CCR supervising engineer to submit reviews directly into the Hansen System data base. This will reduce some paper work for the County.
15. Discussions were held on Two Step Process, Smart Code Ordinance and OR/BP/I Ordinance.
16. City of Wilmington: The Committee met with the City of Wilmington at a "cluster" meeting on November 10, 2008. The City is preparing an RFP for writing new subdivision Regulations and has asked the Committee to help.
17. City of Newark: The Committee has approached the City earlier for partnering arrangement. The City has a new city manager and the Committee will send a new letter to him soon.

Program Committee

Mr. Mario J. Gangemi, P.E., Chair

1. ACEC President Mr. David A. Raymond visited ACEC Delaware in January and made a presentation on “What the New Administration Will Mean For Your Wallet and the Engineering Industry”.
2. Dr. Michael J. Chajes, Dean, College of Engineering, University of Delaware will make a presentation on March 18, 2009 at the Wilmington/Christiana Hilton at 12:00 noon.
3. Mr. Alan Levin, Director, Office of Delaware Economic Development, State of Delaware will be the key note speaker at our 2009 annual meeting. This evening meeting will be on May 27, 2009 at White Clay Creek Country Club at Delaware Park in Wilmington.

Sussex County Partnering Committee: Position Vacant

Transportation Committee

Mr. Michael A. Angelo, P.E., Chair

1. The Committee discussed fixed fee, escalation (CPI to be utilized as base line up to maximum at 5%) and direct expenses with DelDOT officials.
2. New Salary Increase Procedure: DelDOT data base is in place and a typical requests should be generally approved within a week.
3. New Profit Calculation: No problems are reported with the new Method put in place by DelDOT.
4. Contract Award/WO Review/Supplemental Review and NTP Procedures: DelDOT is working to reduce processing time for these items.
5. Consultant Control Coordinator: DelDOT has asked to fill this Position. Due to hiring freeze, approval has not been granted.
6. Eminent Domain Legislation: This will be brought up during current legislative session.
7. New DelDOT Plan Review Procedures: DelDOT has provided a letter to the Committee on these procedures which will streamline the current process for addressing DelDOT plan comments.
8. County Partnering Committee Meeting/ DelDOT District Offices: The Committee will work on scheduling these meetings.
9. Hot Topic Committee: This committee is being formed and will work with DelDOT Secretary.
10. Stimulus Package: DelDOT is expecting \$1290 millions from the infrastructure stimulus package. The Committee also received detailed information from ACEC National.
11. Land Development Coordinator: DelDOT is undertaking a process review of the Subdivision Permit Process. DelDOT has requested that ACEC Delaware firms participate in the review.
12. QA/QC Meetings: DelDOT is developing a QA/QC Program to be posted on the Design Research Center. QA/QC meetings will be held with ACEC Delaware firms during next two months.

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