

**American Council of Engineering Companies  
of Louisiana  
Board of Governors' Meeting  
October 14, 2016  
AECOM Offices  
Baton Rouge, LA**

**BOG present:** Bob Schmidt, Brad Graff, Raymond Reaux, Andree Cortez, Alison Catarella-Michel, David Leslie, Andy Craig, Lynne Roussel, Kurt Evans, Tony Arikol, Steve Robertson, David Dupre, Craig Campbell, and Michael Thomassie

**BOG with prior engagements:** Nathan Junius, Ryan Spillers, and Laurence Lambert

**STAFF:** Dan Mobley and Janet Tomeny

**Additional Guest(s):** Mark Lambert and Austin Wilder

President Schmidt called the meeting to order and approval of the Agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Ms. Catarella-Michel to approve the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

President Schmidt called for the approval of the September 23, 2016 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Mr. Reaux that the minutes be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

No report.

**TREASURER'S REPORT (Financials Attached)**

Mr. Craig advised that he and Mr. Mobley reviewed the attached report with Mr. Graham via telephone conference. Mr. Graham reported on the September 2016 financials noting that current cash on hand of \$175,030 with accounts receivable at \$28,186. Annual meeting expenses have not been reconciled as we are waiting on the State of Alabama to provide the hotel expenses. A motion was made by Ms. Catarella-Michel and seconded by Mr. Leslie to approve the September, 2016 financials. Motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership:** Mr. Reaux reported that he met with Ms. Tomeny and Mr. Mobley to discuss the 5% membership growth phase per the strategic planning session. As there are 17 board members, he recommended that each board member receive 2 firms to recruit out of the listing that Ms. Tomeny has provided. Ms. Tomeny reviewed the incentive plan currently being offered.

Mr. Evans reminded that during the strategic planning session it was noted that we may not be fully utilizing our member firms talents, and may want to consider all resources on establishing a membership committee, i.e., marketing and business development personnel.

Mr. Campbell advised that this may be a good time to recruit the petro chemical industry as they are going through regulatory changes.

**Continuing Education:** Mr. Evans reported that the ACEC Fall Conference will be held October 18-20 in Colorado Springs. Project Outlook is set for November 17<sup>th</sup> at the Baton Rouge Renaissance and still waiting on CPRA to commit. Critical Issues will be held on February 16-17, 2017.

#### **Public Relations:**

Mr. Craig reported that the magazine will be finalized and distributed early November. Mr. Lambert reported that the next ACECL newsletter should be issued by end of October.

Mr. Lambert reported that he would like to issue a Project Outlook news release to members encouraging them to register prior to the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. The week prior, he will issue to news media.

**Legislative Committee:** Mr. Mobley reported that the 2016 Legislative Session will be a fiscal session. LAGC has informed that they will not object to removing the \$25M floor and the pilot program on CM@R. Also, Mr. Evans reported that he will sit with LES and LASCE legislative chairs to discuss the definition of "engineering" and other legislative agendas. After Board discussion, legislative items to be discussed: definition of engineering; definition of incidental; CM@R revisions; and Hammett Act. Mr. Evans asked Mr. Mobley to schedule a meeting with LES legislative team. Mr. Arikol expressed his concern of lifting the floor on the CM@R bill and expressed desire to sit on committee.

Mr. Evans advised that on October 25<sup>th</sup> ACECL will host an 8:30 a.m. breakfast fundraiser for Steve Scalise and will distribute a \$2,000 ACEC PAC check. ACECL will also host a luncheon for the Legislative Roadshow on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### **CLIENT COMMITTEES**

**Transportation:** President Schmidt reported that the last Governor's Transportation Task Force meeting was held this morning at BREC. This is the last meeting organized by MPOs across the State and the Task Force will prepare a report by end of the year for the Governor. General Basilica, Ken Naquin and/or Ann Trappey will be invited to next Board Meeting to give update.

Mr. Mobley advised that he has received a report from Mr. Wedge on the DOTD Traffic Engineering Division issues. He has not received authorization to distribute the report but Mr. Wedge advised that things are "moving." Mr. Mobley will schedule up a lunch with Mr. Wedge to get specific answers and will continue with the chain of command to get an outcome.

Mr. Lambert reported that the preliminary findings from the public poll on transportation were favorable. The polling groups will meet soon to decide on format to announce results. 612 persons were surveyed and results reflected 66.6% in favor to increase gas taxes for dedicated monies to transportation needs only.

Mr. Mobley reported that he has not had any luck with Mr. Wedge returning his call on the status of the last questions presented to DOTD in regards to the procurement initiative. Mr. Mobley advised he would reach out again. President Schmidt suggested we invite Mr. Wedge to a Board Meeting.

**FP&C:** Mr. Campbell reported that he has a meeting set Tuesday on the status of the general conditions issue and suggested we get with AIA on how they handle.

**Fire Marshal:** Mr. Campbell advised that the plan stamping issue has stalled, even after we have convinced the Fire Marshal, AIA and LAPELS that this is a serious issue. Mr. Mobley will contact the Fire Marshal to check on the status of the super computer's phase 2 which will have the ability to flag the plans. Mr. Campbell

also noted that LAPELS will need to enforce as this is a life safety issue. Mr. Arikol suggested another meeting with LAPELS be set and then next step would be a declaratory order. Mr. Mobley will set up meeting.

**CPRA:** Mr. Mobley advised that a meeting has been scheduled with CPRA on October 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the possibility of a CPRA-ACECL consultants' initiative.

**DEQ:** Ms. Cortez advised that she and Mr. Arikol will be meeting with Jonathan McFarland on November 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Department of Health & Hospitals:** Mr. Arikol met with Amanda McLaughlin and advised that the new drinking water rules will be issued for review at the end of the year and the recent increase in customer annual fees has left DHH in a good financial state.

## **INDUSTRIAL & FEDERAL AGENCIES COMMITTEES**

**Corps of Engineers:** Nothing to report.

**USDA Rural Utilities Services:** Nothing to report.

## **LIAISON COMMITTEES**

**AIA:** Nothing to report.

**LAGC:** Nothing to report.

**LES:** Ms. Roussel advised that LES will be hosting a legislative Town Hall Meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Schmidt also noted that the President of LES has contacted him in regards to the possibility of partnering for future summer conventions. President Schmidt will try to meet with him prior to the November 7<sup>th</sup> luncheon. Mr. Mobley advised we have a contract with MS, AL and AR for summer of 2017 and he and board members will meet with counterparts while attending the National conference in Colorado.

## **LAPELS:**

**ASCE:** Nothing to report.

## **General Counsel Report:**

Not in attendance.

## **National Director's Report:**

Mr. Arikol advised there is nothing on National's ACEC Board Meeting agenda for vote in Colorado. Also, Mr. Arikol recommended that all should sign up on a National committee and expressed the importance of supporting the PAC.

## **Chapter Presidents' Report:**

**Baton Rouge:** Mr. Thomassie reported that the October 10th meeting hosted Ann Trappey who gave an update on the Governor's Task Force on Transportation Infrastructure. Next meeting will be held in January, 2017.

**New Orleans:** Mr. Evans reported that Dr. Norma Jane Mattei spoke on October 13<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Junius will invite Mr. Bob Turner with the Levee Board for the November meeting.

**Lafayette:** Mr. Campbell reported that he will sit up a meeting for November or early December with possibly ULL President to speak.

**Shreveport:** Mr. Graff reported that on November 30<sup>th</sup> Wyatt Sanders will be giving a lunch and learn. Mr. Graff will also organize a roundtable discussion on a possible event for recruiting purposes and future Shreveport Chapter leadership.

### **Executive Director's Report:**

Mr. Mobley distributed Angele Davis-Kelley's strategic planning report and he recommended that she come back for a ½ day session to discuss implementation. After discussion, it was agreed to have her come back in December to assist in developing a task oriented process and to have her every 6 months to review outcomes.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Mr. Arikol reported that three (3) great applications were received for the Robby Cangelosi Award and the Past Presidents' Council subcommittee voted on Kimberly McDaniel with Cobb Fendley. A motion was made by Ms. Catarella-Michel to accept Ms. McDaniel as the 2016 award recipient and seconded by Mr. Evans. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Catarella-Michel volunteered to notify Ms. McDaniel.

Mr. Evans advised that the Port of New Orleans would like to form a committee with ACECL to review the Port's selection process. Mr. Evans will chair committee with Sergio Girau and Lisa Cookmeyer to serve. A motion was made by Mr. Dupre and seconded by Mr. Reaux. Motion passed unanimously

### **New Business:**

A motion for final membership approval for McManus Consulting was made by Mr. Craig and seconded by Ms. Cortez. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion for preliminary membership approval for Providence Engineering & Design, LLC was made by Mr. Dupre and seconded by Mr. Campbell. Motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** The next Board Meeting will be held at the Baton Rouge Renaissance Hotel on Friday, November 18th beginning at 8:00 a.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Mrs. Cortez. President Schmidt adjourned the meeting without objection.