

County Engineers Association of Maryland

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
January 22, 2009
Conference Room of
The Chesapeake Exploration Center Building
Kent Narrows
Grasonville, Maryland

President John Redden called the meeting to order @ 11:00 a.m. with the following attending:

President: John Redden

1st Vice President: Greg Africa

2nd Vice President: Ed Plank

Secretary: Mike Warring

Treasurer: Doug Myers (can't attend)

Directors: Mike Mertaugh, Darl Kolar (can't attend), John Nolan, Mike Hinchy, Steve Walsh, Tom Meunier (can't attend) and Bob Tenanty

Past Presidents: Jim Wilson; John Tustin; Joe Kroboth; Todd Mohn (Membership Committee Chair)

Historian: Jim Montgomery (can't attend)

Scholarship Committee: Co-Chairmen Mike Errico, and Dale Coppage (neither in attendance)

Legislative Committee: Co-Chairmen Bob Martin & Stu Taub (can't attend)

NACE Representative: Kevin Beachy

Promotion Committee: Chairman: Bill Baker

Visitors: _____

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the December 4, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by to approve the minutes as presented by Mike Hinchy, and was seconded by greg Africa. Motion approved. Comments: None

Treasurer's Report:

Doug Myers was unable to attend the meeting, and his report dated 1/19/09 was distributed to the Board members. The checking account balance as of 12/1/08 was \$ 51,748.94, while the Money Market balance was \$ 8,910.70. The receipts totaled \$ 5,830.00, while expenses were \$ 452.54. The total balance of both the checking and money market accounts as of 1/19/09 was \$ 66,060.47. Motion to adopt the Treasurer's report was made by Mike Hinchy, seconded by Ed Plank. Discussion, motion carried.

Secretary's Announcement/New Members:

(9) New "Members" – Kevin J. Sabolcik – Chief of Structural Design Division for Baltimore County's DPW; **Eric Bryan Burdine** – Project Manager II for Carroll County's Bureau of Building Construction; **James D. Arnoult** – City of Gaithersburg's Director of Public Works; **Alfred H. Foxx** – Director of Transportation for City of Baltimore DPW; **Margaret B. Martin** – Chief of Transportation Engineering & Construction for City of Baltimore's DPW; **City of Aberdeen: Matthew Michael Lapinsky** – Director; **D. David Ranney, Jr.** – City Engineer; **Stephen Michael Walls** – Associate Engineer; **Brian Matthew Shatto** – City Inspector; **Richard M. Kosko** – Engineering Technician;

(2) New “Associate Members” – Craig Steigerwalt – Civil Engineer with URS Corporation office in Hunt Valley; and **Jim W. Blake** – Vice President with Greenman –Pedersen, Inc. Annapolis Junction.

Motion to accept these applicants for membership in CEAM was made by Ed Plank, and was seconded by Greg Africa. Discussion, motion carried. (**228** Associate Members-88 unpaid; **279** Members – 52 unpaid; **36** retired – 13 unpaid; and **16** Life & Honorary Members – Total Membership = **559**

Committee Reports:

Program & Conference Committee: (Co-Chairmen John Redden & Greg Africa) – Ed Plank reminded the Board that the Spring '09 CEAMN Conference was scheduled at the Rocky Gap Lodge from Wednesday, May 13 thru Friday, May 15th at noon. He also advised the Board that all 8 technical subjects for the Thursday day-long sessions were being refined, and that he had confirmed that the President of the Washington County Board of Commissioners (host County) will be there for opening comments on Friday morning, and at the suggestion of the Board, Kevin Beachy will also extend an invitation to the President of the Allegany County Board for some additional welcoming remarks at Friday morning's session.

Scholarship Committee: (Mike Errico and Dale Coppage – Co-Chairmen) – (can't attend) – No Report

Legislative Committee: (Co-Chairman Bob Martin and Stu Taub – Stu can't attend) – Bob reported that there were several Senate Bills pre-filed that he has read including: SP #4 [MDE will require an “Environmental Justice Review” o certain construction permits]; SB #15 – [Use of Highway User Funds to construct Pedestrian Bicycle Trails at new School construction projects approved by the State's Board of Public Works], SB #38 & HB #36 – states that local governments who have the authority to reduce speed limits cannot do so without the preparation of a traffic/engineering study]; SB # 120 – requiring MDE to establish an “Environmental Leadership Group” to handle a “contested case” to be heard by this select group appointed by the MDE Secretary]; HB#6 – “Malfunctioning Traffic Signal” – stipulates that drivers who approach a malfunctioning signal must slow down , etc.]. Bob also reported that in the most recent news, that the State will further reduce the HUR funds to be distributed to the local governments by \$350M this year in an effort to balance the state budget.

Membership Committee: (Chairman Todd Mohn) – in an effort to gather more membership from local governments, the Membership Committee decided to prepare a letter of invitation signed by the CEAM President to join CEAM to many municipalities throughout the State, and that the response has been very encouraging to include 7 of the nine new “Member” applications this month were from Municipalities

Budget Committee: Chairman Doug Myers – (can't attend) – No report

By Laws Committee: (Chairman Mike Warring) – No Report

Associate Member Advisory Committee: (Darl Kolar [can't attend] & John Nolan – Co-Chairmen) – John presented a report prepared by Darl regarding his investigations into how we can qualify any of our technical programs into “Registered Continuing Education Program” (RCEP) Credits. It would appear that there will be a substantial fees (>\$3,000) to be paid, and the presenter has to file the fees, and course info rather than CEAM being able to perform these tasks. Darl offers to gather even more info on this subject, but at this point, it seems to be a difficult matter to execute.

Awards Committee: (Chairman Jim Montgomery) – In Jim’s absence, Jim Wilson offered that those projects that were offered by CEAM Members have been presented to the “MDQI” awards group, and hopefully, these projects from CEAM will be honored by the MdQI Conference too.

SHA Liaison Committee: (Chairman Ed Adams): – (can’t attend) - No Report

Promotion Committee: (Chairman Bill Baker) -- Bill passed around some “stress relievers” for consideration by the Board as registration gifts for conferees at the Spring '09 Conference. He suggested that the soft device be in the shape of construction equipment too. Further, Bill felt that we may need to update our CEAM web site, and to possibly add “links” to other technical organizations like ACEC, and MAE?; and on a more immediate basis, Bill’s committee felt that we needed to purchase another CEAM Banner so that we had more than the one, which is quite old. Bill also offered that maybe the P & C Committee should consider using a tri-fold program for the Spring Session with a holder including our logo so that the conferees would have a holder for their programs. He also suggested that maybe the BOD should consider having a “exhibitor’s booth” at the MACO Summer conference in OC? There were many negative comments offered as to why this wasn’t a good idea.

Old Business

- **NACE Updates – Kevin Beachy, State Representative** – Kevin presented a memorandum from Tony Giancola, the Executive Director of NACE that was sent to all State Representatives that was entitled “Local Projects Face Continuing Hurdles in Stimulus Package on Capitol Hill. His memo also included the names of the members of the House of Representatives that belong to the newly formed “Transportation and Infrastructure” Committee. The pending bill includes \$90 Billion for Infrastructure projects, but it remains to be seen how much of these moneys will filter down to the Local Governments.

- **Conference RFP for Outsourcing Registration Services – John Redden & Mike Warring** – Mike reported that a former Washington County Commissioner was interviewed by Joe Kroboth, Ed Plank, and himself, and she appeared to be a perfect, qualified person for this outsourcing assignment, however, she accepted a full-time assignment with a local agency in Hagerstown, and is no longer available as a candidate. Another point is that the other candidate has conflicting schedules that will prohibit her from serving CEAM in this capacity for our Fall Conferences. Based on this, the Board has suspended this investigation/ search until further notice. There was also a general discussion about the need for the organization to hire an “Executive Director” as part of the administrative needs of this statewide organization of 560 professionals should possibly be examined in the near future. There were discussions about how to create the needed funds for paying this individual, and finally someone suggested that we ought to set up a committee to define the “scope” or a job description like was done for Jeff Rank’s position.
- **MACO Conference Technical Programs by the Affiliate Organizations 2009 – John Redden-Theme – Subject Matter?** There was a discussion about the need for more involvement by CEAM during the “Affiliates” programs, and that for the most recent program on “Infrastructure” we didn’t even participate, nor were we involved with the development of the technical programs. To this date, MACO seemingly sends out email alerts to recent Past Presidents of CEAM, which suggests that we are not effectively communicating with the Staff of MACO. Mike Warring suggested that maybe one of the duties of the “Immediate Past President” of CEAM besides serving as the Chairman of the “Nominating Committee” would be to serve as the MACO Liaison on behalf of CEAM? There was some limited discussion, and Jim Wilson seemingly liked the idea, but there were no motions made to create this new responsibility for the “Immediate Past President” during the meeting.
- **VERIZON Coordination/Follow-up – Mike Warring** – No Report of any action except that Mike did leave a voice mail message with the representative from the Shore to please advise which Engineering Rep for Verizon would be the appropriate person to contact at this point.

New Business:

President John Redden had asked if any other Board members had encountered the problem of the title of “Engineer” for various positions within the County staff where the position was filled with a non-degreed person with engineering aptitudes. Various people responded that this has been done elsewhere throughout the State, and in fact to classify a staff person an “Engineer” requires a college degree in Engineering.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Ed Plank, and was seconded by Bob Tenanty to adjourn. The next meeting of the Board will be held at 11:00 on February 26, 2009 at the Chesapeake Exploration Center, Queen Anne's County.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Michael Warring, P.E.
CEAM Secretary