

County Engineers Association of Maryland

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
April 23, 2009
Conference Room of
The Chesapeake Exploration Center Building
Kent Narrows
Grasonville, Maryland

President John Redden called the meeting to order @ 11:05 a.m. with the following attending:

President: John Redden
1st Vice President: Greg Africa
2nd Vice President: Ed Plank
Secretary: Mike Warring (out of town)
Treasurer: Doug Myers (not present)
Directors: Mike Mertaugh, Darl Kolar (not present), John Nolan, Mike Hinchy, Steve Walsh, Tom Meunier (not present) and Bob Tenanty (not present)
Past Presidents: Jim Wilson and John Tustin
Historian: Jim Montgomery
Scholarship Committee: Co-Chairmen Mike Errico (not present), and Dale Copping (not present)
Legislative Committee: Co-Chairmen Bob Martin & Stu Taub (not present)
Promotion Committee: Chairman Bill Baker
NACE Representative: Kevin Beachy (not present)
Visitors: Jeff Rank – Acting Secretary for M.Warring, Hudson Myers from Harford County, and Doug Rose and Reese Ruppertsberger from the MD Safety Hwy Foundation

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the March 26, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by John Nolan, and was seconded by Greg Africa. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Doug Myers was unable to attend the meeting, and his report dated 4/16/09 was distributed to the Board members. The checking account balance as of 3/23/09 was \$58,888.27, while the Money Market balance was \$8,934.07. The receipts totaled \$10,753.00, while expenses were \$482.58. The total balance of both the checking and money market accounts as of 4/16/09 was \$ 78,092.76. Motion to adopt the Treasurer's report was made by Jim Wilson, seconded by Ed Plank. Discussion, motion carried.

Secretary's Announcement/New Members:

(1) New Associate Member – Daniel R. String, P.E. – Project Manager for Green Stone Engineering, LLC. Motion to accept these applicants for membership in CEAM was made by Mike Hinchy, seconded by Ed Plank. Discussion, motion carried. (280 Members – 31 are unpaid; 228 Associate Members – 46 are unpaid; 34 retired – 7 unpaid; and 16 Life & Honorary Members – Total Membership = **558 of which 84 are unpaid, or 15%**

New Business

Maryland Highway Safety Foundation – Doug Rose of JMT and Reese Ruppertsberger, executive director of the MD Hwy Safety Foundation) visited the Board and discussed the mission of this new foundation, built upon the efforts of the 100th anniversary of the Maryland

state road system. The organization was described and materials were presented (see accompanying documents). They discussed the passing of the “texting” ban in the General Assembly as well as their efforts in promoting highway safety. Howard County Executive issued an executive order banning the use of cell phones in county vehicles. They are putting together a website which will be up within the next six weeks. It was suggested that they conduct a presentation at our fall conference and they agreed.

Committee Reports

SHA Liaison Committee: (Chairman Ed Adams) – Discussion concerning proposed stimulus projects. Counties would rather have HUR money restored than get the federal stimulus money. Prince George’s, Worcester, and Wicomico counties will be doing road resurfacing projects with the stimulus funds. Project lists are due to SHA by June 17th. Many member counties are faced with cutting services due to HUR cuts.

Program & Conference Committee: (Co-Chairmen Ed Plank & Greg Africa) – John Nolan brought up the issue concerning non-members attending the conference but not joining the organization. It was suggested that the “non-member” price for conferences be increased to encourage joining the organization. After discussion it was suggested that we keep the non-member registration fee the same at \$25 but forward the contact information of non-member conference participants to the membership committee for future recruitment efforts.

Ed Plank stated the following conference registration statistics: 88 member registrations, 10 non-member registrations, and 21 spouses registered. There are 119 individuals signed up for the Wednesday night dinner and 125 signed up for the Thursday night dinner. Seventy-eight golf registrations and 3 tennis registrations.

Scholarship Committee: (Mike Errico and Dale Coppage – Co-Chairmen) – No report

Legislative Committee: (Chairman Bob Martin) – Bob mentioned that Mike Sanderson from MACo will be speaking at our spring conference. Bob passed out the final version of the “Cuts to Local Aid” chart (attached) and discussed the following bills:

Bills that passed:

SB47/HB1078 – requires MDE to post notice of a permit application on MDE’s website and provide a method for interested parties to electronically request any additional notices related to the application

HB420 – extends for the three-year statute of limitations in place for civil suits for violations under the Environmental Article to local governments by giving the locals three years from the date that they knew or should have known of the violation.

SB1065/HB1569. -. Established new provisions regarding judicial review with respect to dredge or fill of wetlands and repealed some provisions relating to contested cases.

HB1058 – requires MDE to provide the state and local elected officials notice of application to use sewage sludge.

SB262 – authorizes MVA to impose a one year driver’s license suspension on a person who is convicted of any alcohol or drug related driving offense more than once in a five year period.

SB263/HB 305 – make conviction for a violation of an alcohol restriction, or any other restriction, on a driver's license imposed by the MVA as a misdemeanor subject to two months in prison and a fine up to \$500

SB 98/HB 72 – prohibit drivers from writing or sending text messages in a car that is moving or is located on the travel portion of the roadway.

SB 277 – authorizes the use of speed cameras in and around work and school zones limited to speeders who are exceeding the speed limit by 12 mph or more.

Bills that failed:

SB672/HB 1457.-. would have required counties and municipalities to establish a residential stormwater user fee to pay for stormwater management costs.

SB 735/HB 1217 – would have required the MVA to establish an Ignition Interlock System Program.

Membership Committee: (Chairman Todd Mohn) – No report

Budget Committee: (Chairman Doug Myers) – No report

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

Associate Member Advisory Committee: (John Nolan & Darl Kolar – Co-Chairmen) - No report

Awards Committee: (Chairman Jim Montgomery) – Jim reported that we nominated 6 different projects to the MD Quality Initiative and 4 of them were selected for awards. There was a very successful turnout by CEAM for the MDQI program. Jim handed out awards committee award recommendations (attached); they are adding a category for mid-sized projects (from \$500,000 to \$5,000,000. Jim also delineated the difference between life members and honorary members. Jim Wilson suggested we put up a display board of last year's winners at the conference. Nominations for this year's awards are due by the end of June for presentation at the fall conference.

Promotion Committee: (Chairman Bill Baker) – No report

Old Business

- **MD T² Center Advisory Committee (Greg Africa) –** Greg reported that at the last meeting they discussed the funding status of the Technology Transfer program and the course lineup for 2010. Tuition fees cover about 60% of the total cost of the courses. There is an online catalog at <http://www.mdt2center.umd.edu/courses/index.html>
- **Utility Issues –** Steve Walsh reported that Baltimore County is still involved with its lawsuit with Verizon and BGE.

New Business

Maryland Highway Safety Foundation – Jim Wilson suggested that CEAM make a donation to the MD Hwy Safety Foundation to endorse the organization. John Redden suggested a “supporter-level” donation in the amount of \$1,000. Jim Wilson made a motion to donate to the Maryland Highway Safety Foundation an amount of \$1,000. Seconded by Ed Plank. Motion passed.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Ed Plank, seconded by Mike Hinchy to adjourn. The next meeting of the Board will be held at **11:00 on June 18th** at the Chesapeake Exploration Center, Queen Anne’s County.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Rank, for
J. Michael Warring, P.E.
CEAM Secretary