

# County Engineers Association of Maryland

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

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

President: Greg Africa

1st Vice President: Ed Plank

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Hudson Myers (can't attend)

Secretary: Mike Warring

Treasurer: Doug Myers

Directors: Mike Mertaugh, Bob Sebastian, John Nolan, Mike Hinchy, Steve Walsh, Scott Flanigan and Bruce Johnston

Past Presidents: John Redden; and John Tustin. Note: Jim Wilson, Ed Adams and Joe Kroboth couldn't attend)

Historian: Jim Montgomery

Scholarship Committee: Co-Chairmen Mike Errico (can't attend), and Dale Coppage

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

Membership Committee: Todd Mohn

Promotion Committee: Chairman Bill Baker (can't attend)

NACE Representative: Kevin Beachy

Visitors: None

## **Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes for the June 18, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by to approve the minutes as presented by Ed Plank, and was seconded by John Redden. Motion approved.

Comments: No revisions or changes.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Doug Myers was (unable) to attend the meeting, and his report dated 7/20/09 was distributed to the Board members. The checking account balance as of 6/16/09 was \$ 58,616.96 while the Money Market balance was \$ 8,934.07. The receipts totaled \$ 2,005.00, while expenses were \$258.86. The total balance of both the checking and money market accounts as of 7/20/09 was \$ 60,363.10. Motion to adopt the Treasurer's report was made by John Nolan, and was seconded by Ed Plank. Discussion, motion carried. Treasurer also presented a financial report of the recent conferences for review by the Board.

## **Secretary's Announcement/New Members:**

**(3) New Members – Donna W. Daugherty** – Highway Engineer for Charles County's Department of Planning and Growth Management; **Pam Siemer** – Director of Development, Corporations & Foundations – U of Md. Clark School of Engineering; **David F. Remaniak** – Civil Engineer III – Q.A. County's DPW

**(2) New Associate Members – Patricia E. Dablock** – President of Diversified Property Services, Inc.; and **Francis W. Winterwerp** – Realty Specialist – Diversified Property Services, Inc. Motion to accept these applicants for membership in CEAM was made by Scott Flanigan, and was seconded by John Nolan. Discussion, motion carried. (275 Members; **216** Associate Members; **37** Retired; and 16 Life & Honorary Members – Total Membership = **544**)

**Committee Reports:** President Africa stated that he had received confirmatory replies from all of the existing committee Chairmen of the “standing” committees except for Todd Mohn and John Nolan. He then asked both gentlemen if they would accept his request to continue in their chairmanship role for the next year. Both replied in the affirmative. President Africa then suggested that he didn’t believe that we needed to maintain the “Promotions Committee” and the “Education Committee” that was created in 2008 because of the overlapping duties with the Membership and Program and Conference Committees respectively, and asked the Board for their concurrence. The Board agreed with the proposed action, and the President said that he would express his gratitude to the Chairs, and advise them of the Board’s actions.

**Program & Conference Committee: (Co-Chairmen Ed Plank & Hudson Myers) -** Ed Plank reported that the Fall Conference details are set, and that registrations were coming at a fairly rapid pace, and that registration forms are still posted on the web site. He also reported that his office was receiving golf registration forms, and that hopefully our attendance will be at least in line with past years for our Fall Conference. Ed then noted that we did not have a location set for our 2010 Spring Conference yet, and that the Program and Conference Committee had been discussing the possibility of tying down at least the 2010 Spring Conference at the Holiday Inn Select conference facility in Solomon’s Island. President Africa was assigned the task of trying to tie down this facility at least for the 2010 conference, and possibly the 2011 event also depending on their schedule, rates, etc. Ed also reported that he had received a very competitive proposal for our future Fall Conferences from the Princess Royale Hotel and Conference facilities in Ocean City for 2011 and 2012. In addition, the Clarion had also presented a 5 year proposal of room rates starting in 2011. Ed noted that the Princess Royale on the surface was offering room rates that were about \$50 +/- lower than the Clarion based on his initial review. Ed also suggested that the Committee felt that John Tustin and Mike Warring would take the “lead” in setting up a field visit to the renovated hotel and conference center, and possibly be able to report back to the P & C Committee the results and comparative analysis of the two proposals. President Africa made a motion to accept these two representatives to investigate the alternative proposal for a multiple year contract, and his motion was seconded by John Nolan. Motion approved. John and Mike agreed to make their visit, and possibly be able to state initial findings of the two proposals by the next Board meeting in August

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**Scholarship Committee: (Mike Errico and Dale Coppage – Co-Chairmen) –**Dale presented a multiple page report of the Scholarship Committee last meeting that featured the execution of an MOU with Morgan State University that establishes a yearly \$4,000 scholarship for deserving senior level Civil Engineering students. Dale and Mike both recently met with Radka Nebesky’s replacement at the U of Md. Clark School of Engineering, and reported on the highlights of their discussions with Pam Siemer (who replaces Radka), Leslie Borak, who is Assistant Dean, and Josefina Simpson, who is the Director of Alumni Relations for the U of Md. Dale suggested that he believes that the Board should hold one of it’s future meetings at the U of Md again, and that he will work with the Board in an effort to find a date that is suitable for all. Finally, Dale reported that the endowment fund like every other performing market fund had taken about a 21% downturn, and the CEAM Endowment fund value as of December 2008 was \$428,660.00.

The lack of growth in the endowment will not provide funding for FY 2009-2010 scholarships.

**Scholarship Committee:** (continued) - The Scholarship funds as of 6/15/09 were as follows: Cash = \$14,243, while the investments totaled \$25,364 for a total amount of \$39,607.00. There was a motion for the Board to approve the execution of the MOU with Morgan State University regarding the establishment of the annual \$4,000 scholarship to a senior level C.E. student, and accordingly, a motion to have the MOU signed by the President was made by Greg Africa, and was seconded by John Redden. Motion approved by the Board. Dale reported that the U of Md. Wanted to send a thank you note to the CEAM donors who have contributed to the **Scholarship Fund during the dues renewal process each year**, but the Board felt that this ought to be a function of the Scholarship Committee in order to protect the confidentiality of the donors. Then in order to fund the needed \$20,400.00 needed this year to fund the four (4) scholarships at U of Md., the \$4,000 needed for the single scholarship at Morgan State, it was decided that a \$15,000 contribution was needed from the CEAM account, and that the remaining balance of \$5,400 would be taken out of the Scholarship Fund, that is administered by the Committee. A motion was made by President Africa, and was seconded by Mike Warring to make this transfer from the CEAM general fund. Motion approved by the Board. **Pam Siemer and Mike King from the University will give a presentation at the August meeting on the Scholarship Fund and the University of Maryland's endowment fund.**

**Legislative Committee: (Chairman Bob Martin)** – Bob reported that there were still going to be additional budget cuts in the State's budget, and that in order to meet these restrictions, that he suspects that the County's share of the HUR funds will once again be the target of the Governor and Legislature. Because of that he feels that we ought to work closely with MACO in presenting data from all of the Counties on the negative impacts to the County roads and bridges due to the continual reduction of distributed HUR funds, and have these facts prepared in support of MACO for this year's session. He also recommended that we invite Michael Sanderson from MACO to our August Board meeting in preparation for this potential depletion of these needed funds, especially to the 18 "Rural" counties. The Board agreed and asked Bob to please contact MACO, so that we can hear first hand his forecast of additional budget impacts at the Board's August meeting.

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**Membership Committee: (Chairman Todd Mohn)** – Todd reported that we presently have 544 members in our CEAM organization consisting of 275 Members; 216 Associate Members; 16 Life Members; and 37 "Retired". Following Todd's report of the Membership Committee activities, Jim Montgomery suggested that there ought to be a push to enlist more Members from the Municipalities, and he offered to contact the Director and other key staff from the City's DPW Department.

**Budget Committee: Chairman Doug Myers** – No Report

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

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**Associate Member Advisory Committee: (John Nolan & Bob Sebastian – Co-Chairmen)** – No report other than they are working on an agenda for the Associate's business meeting on Friday at the Fall Conference. In addition, they will be beating the bushes trying to drum up support for the various sponsorships available at the Fall Conference

**Awards Committee: (Chairman Jim Montgomery)** - Jim took a moment to announce the following members of his committee for this year: Bob Taylor; Todd Mohn; Jim Wilson and Gary Rohrer. He stated that he spent approximately \$700.00 for the awards at last Fall's Conference, and suggested that the budget may be closer to \$800.00 this year. He also felt that Neil Pedersen should be offered an "Honorary Membership" in honor of his cooperation and support to the CEAM organization, as well as his contributions as a speaker at our conferences in the past. A motion was offered by John Nolan, and was seconded by John Redden. Motion was approved.

**Promotion Committee: (Chairman Bill Baker-can't attend))** – No Report

**SHA Liaison Committee: (Chairman Ed Adams – can't attend)** – No Report

#### **Old Business**

- **NACE Updates – Kevin Beachy, State Representative** – Kevin stated that there was a new web site for "NACE", and that this site offered some great insight on the shrinking budgets within the County governments nationwide. The web site, which is titled "Local Roads Matter" <http://countyengineers.org/LRM/index.html>. Kevin also announced that he would be retiring from Allegany County September or October, and offered that the President may want to select another person to serve as the NACE representative for CEAM?
- **Conference RFP for Outsourcing Registration Services – John Redden & Mike Warring**- This selection process has been out on hold by the Board at this time.
- **MACO Conference Technical Program Summer 2009** – Greg Africa will be in charge of getting the speakers there for the two CEAM technical programs.
- **VERIZON Coordination/Follow-up – Mike Warring** – No Action at This time

**New Business:** No new business items for the Board to discuss.

#### **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Ed Plank, and was seconded by Bruce Johnston to adjourn. The next meeting of the Board will be held at 11:00 on August 27<sup>th</sup> at the Chesapeake Exploration Center, Queen Anne's County.

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Respectfully Submitted,

J. Michael Warring, P.E.  
CEAM Secretary