

County Engineers Association of Maryland

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING December 3, 2009 Conference Room of The Maryland Association of Counties Building Annapolis, Maryland

1st Vice President Ed Plank called the meeting to order @ 11:00 a.m. with the following in attendance:

President: Greg Africa – Can't attend (medical procedure)

2nd Vice President: Hudson Myers

Secretary: Mike Warring

Treasurer: Doug Myers

Directors: Bob Tenanty, Bob Sebastian, John Nolan, Mike Hinchy, Steve Walsh, Scott Flanigan, and Bruce Johnston (can't attend)

Past Presidents: John Redden; John Tustin; John Norris; Joe Kroboth (can't attend)

Historian: Jim Montgomery

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

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

Membership Committee: Todd Mohn

NACE Representative: Jim Wilson

Visitors: Neil Pedersen – SHA Administrator; Andrea Mansfield - MACO

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the October 22, 2009 meeting were distributed to the Board members by electronic email on 11/24/09. Motion was made by to approve the minutes as presented by John Nolan, and was seconded by Hudson Myers. Motion approved. Comments: None

Treasurer's Report:

Doug Myers was unable to attend the meeting, and his report dated 11/30/09 was distributed to the Board members. The checking account balance as of 10/20/09 was \$ 60,603.77, while the Money Market balance was \$ 8,939.11. The receipts totaled \$ 4,800.00, while expenses were \$ 1,220.45. The total balance of both the checking and money market accounts as of 11/30/09 was \$73,122.43. Motion to adopt the Treasurer's report was made by Scott Flanigan, and was seconded by Bob Sebastian. Discussion, motion carried.

Secretary's Announcement/New Members:

There were **two new Associate Membership** applications submitted since the last Board meeting. (1) **David C, Mitchell** –President/CEO E. Stewart Mitchell, Inc.; and (2) **Diane Rogers** – Office Manager for ECO Heating Systems, Inc. (Strasburg, Pa.). Motion to approve the new Member applications was made by John Nolan, and was seconded by Scott Flanigan. Motion Carried. Currently the membership headcount as of this meeting is as follows: **272** Members; **222** Associate Members; **35** retired; and **18** Life & Honorary Members – Total Membership = **547**

Committee Reports:

SHA Liaison Committee: (Chairman Ed Adams) – Introduction of Neil Pedersen – SHA Administrator - Neil suggested that based on budget estimates that he has seen, there will be another \$300 million dollars cut from the SHA budget this year, and he stated that both his agency, as well as some legislative members are most aware of the impact on the local government highway department budgets. Due to further reductions in FY10-11 budgets, he expects that they may need to utilize Federal Trust Funds to meet operational budgetary needs at the SHA. On the Federal side, two appropriations as part of the stimulus funding are still in effect, however, he has been advised that the funds will be reduced by 30% for the FY '10 budget. He also stated that the new jobs bill is directed to providing moneys for "Inspections". His prediction for future funds being distributed from the Feds to the SHA will continue to be reduced, unless there is new federal legislation and funding as part of a job stimulus bill extension. Neil expressed his gratitude to CEAM and the Directors of the various DPW Departments from the 23 Counties for the completeness, and responsiveness of their submissions for the ARRA moneys that were granted to the State. There were several questions posed to Neil, and for the most part, he suggested to just be prepared to submit packages for Federal moneys, when they become viable from the Feds and the SHA. John Norris suggested that maybe the Feds needed to consider the old "CETA" funding programs as part of Public Works projects and a stimulus bill? He also suggested that as an organization that we need to be sure that MACO received all of the technical support needed from CEAM to assist in the task of trying to obtain all available state and federal funds.

MACO Representative – Andrea Mansfield – Andrea thanked the Board for the voting member's participation and the timely completion of the survey entitled "Impact of Highway User Revenue Reduction" that was based on the recent 90% reductions to the HUR funds distributions to the 23 Counties and the City of Baltimore. There was still some remaining information needed from the various Counties, but she offered that they would continue their efforts in obtaining the needed info in order to illustrate the negative impacts of HUR fund reductions. In addition she also distributed copies of letter to the legislature stating MACO's concerns about the restricted time frame for the Counties to apply for Federal ARRA funds. Further, Andrea also discussed a letter that MACO sent to the Chairman of "Miss Utility" stating the organization's opposition to proposed legislation ("Underground Utilities – Revisions") that would have the marking of county maintained storm drain systems as part of the Miss Utility notification process.

Program & Conference Committee: (Co-Chairmen Ed Plank & Hudson Myers)

- (1) Details of the 2010 Spring Conference in Harford County – Hudson Meyers – Hudson reported that the P & C Committee has concluded that for this year's Spring Conference to be located in Harford County should be just a one-day affair starting at 8:00 am with registration, coffee and danish, a business lunch meeting for all conferees to include the swearing in of the new Board of Directors, and that technical sessions, and the one-day conference will end at 4:00 pm. The date is tentatively set for May 20th (or during the week of May 17th) based on his discussions with the "Richland Hall facility, which is just off of I-95. The entire function, to include room set-ups, coffee and Danish, and lunch should equate to a fee of \$30.00 per registrant. Hudson also discussed that for this Spring meeting, that the golf tournament will be separate and a stand alone event from the technical session, although the committee feels that it should be scheduled the day before the session to allow for those with long distance travel requirements can take advantage of the many motels in this area of Harford County. Mike Warring also indicated that he will once again try to negotiate the lowest possible fee for the tournament, which will still permit the organization to raise as much revenues as we can with the golf registration fees compared to the costs, as well as raising moneys for our revenue goals with support from our Associate Members thru golf hole sponsorships signage.

- (2) 5 year contract extension with the Clarion Hotel** - Recommendation to execute the five-year contract with the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel (Mike Warring and John Tustin led the negotiations between the Clarion and the Princess Royale Hotels) based on the negotiated and substantially reduced room rates, to include a reduction in the room rates (*using the new rates for the 2004 Fall Conference) for this Fall's 2010 conference. Vice President Plank signed the contract for the 5 year contract beginning 2011 thru 2015.
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Scholarship Committee: (Mike Errico and Dale Coppage – Co-Chairmen) - Dale advised the Board that the University would like to host the next Board meeting on February 25th, and the Board agreed that this would be good for the Board to receive an update on the Engineering curriculum at the Clarke School of Engineering, as well as possibly meeting the CEAM scholarship recipients for this year.

Legislative Committee: (Co-Chairmen Bob Martin – can't attend and Stu Taub) – No Report

Membership Committee: (Chairman Todd Mohn) – No Report – (see: status of Membership under the Secretary's report).

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

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

Associate Member Advisory Committee: (John Nolan & Bob Sebastian – Co-Chairmen) – No Report.

Awards Committee: (Chairman Jim Montgomery) – Jim reported that he had finally received the \$800.00 billing for the awards distributed at the Fall '09 Conference, and that the Treasurer had addressed the payment of this bill. Further, Jim pointed out that the Committee had submitted all of the CEAM project submissions to the MdQI committee for consideration, and that the Committee was hopeful that some of these projects would also receive due recognition at the MdQI conference in January.

Old Business

- **NACE Updates – Jim Wilson, State Representative** – Jim stated that he had received update of ongoing business from NACE, and that he would prepare reports to the Board at a future meeting date
- **MACO Conference Technical Program Winter 2010 – Greg Africa -Theme** – Effect of reduced HUR fund distribution to the Counties - short and long-term considerations. Apparently Doug Rose has developed a detailed presentation based on [pavement life, and Todd also offered his support in the program if the President need him for a perspective from a smaller jurisdiction..
- **VERIZON Coordination/Follow-up – Mike Warring** – No Report or action at this time.

New Business: No New Business items were brought before the Board

Adjourn:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m. Motion to adjourn by John Nolan, and seconded by Bob Sebastian to adjourn. The next meeting of the Board will be held at 11:00 on January 28th, 2010 at the Chesapeake Exploration Center in the Kent Narrows.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Michael Warring, P.E.
CEAM Secretary