

County Engineers Association of Maryland

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

February 28, 2008

Clarke School of Engineering

University of Maryland

College Park, Maryland

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

President: Jim Wilson

1st Vice President: John Redden (not in attendance)

2nd Vice President: Greg Africa

Secretary: Mike Warring (on vacation)

Treasurer: Doug Myers

Directors: Mike Mertaugh, Darl Kolar, Ed Plank, Stu Taub (not in attendance), Holger Serrano, Tom Meunier

Past Presidents: John Tustin, Joe Kroboth

Historian: Jim Wright (not in attendance)

Scholarship Committee: Dale Coppage

Legislative Committee: Bob Martin (not in attendance)

Visitors: Jeff Rank – Acting Secretary, Radka Nebesky – Assoc Director of Development, University of Maryland, Ali Haghani, Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Deborah A. Vidmar – Asst Director for Employer Relations, and Christopher Payne – Roger H. Willard Scholarship Recipient for 2007-2008 school year

Review/Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the January 24, 2007 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Mike Mertaugh, seconded by Darl Kolar, for approval of the minutes. Motion approved. Comments: None

Treasurer's Report:

Doug Myers presented his report dated 02/25/08 to the Board members. The checking account balance as of 01/21/08 was \$60,656.43, while the Money Market balance was \$8,748.80. The receipts totaled \$4,075.00 while expenses were \$2,481.83. The total balance of both the checking and money market accounts as of 02/25/08 was \$70,998.40. Motion to adopt the Treasurer's report was made by Holger Serrano, seconded by Mike Mertaugh. Discussion, motion carried.

Doug distributed the draft 2008-2009 budget for review (see addendum). This budget will be voted on at the Spring Conference. Please send any comments or questions to Doug. A question was raised regarding the definition of "Contingency Fund Allocation" and Doug stated that this was just a device used to balance the budget.

Jim Wilson asked for a review of credit card fees and transactions to date to get a sense of how much credit cards were being used. Jeff will prepare an analysis and distribute by the next board meeting. (see attachment)

Secretary's Announcement/New Members:

(2) New "Member" Applications – Washington County Highway Department – Ricky Martz, Section Supervisor; and Caroline County Department of Public Works – Richard Barton, Public Works Director (New Voting Member to Replace Chuck Emerson, who retired).

(2) New “Associate” Member Applications – CMX Engineering – Mark Jascewsky, Senior Project Manager; and CNA, Inc. – Joseph Fortino, Associate.

Motion to accept these applicants for membership in CEAM was made by Darl Kolar, seconded by Holger Serrano. Discussion, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Program & Conference Committee: (Co-Chairmen John Redden & Greg Africa)

Greg is meeting with the Holiday Inn in Solomon’s Island to confirm everything in mid-March. Darl is taking care of the golf sponsorships and Stu is taking care of the conference sponsorships. Greg stated that the conference speakers will be finalized by mid-March as well. MD Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. has confirmed as the keynote speaker. Registration packets were mailed out last week and the materials have been posted on the website. Greg stated that he is already getting interested parties for fall lined up.

Joe Kroboth asked about our contract status with the Clarion OC and Jim stated we are in the second year of a three-year contract with them. Tentatively the fall dates are to coincide with SunFest.

Darl has tentatively scheduled Mr. Mitch Smith for the anchor presentation on Friday morning. His presentation would be titled “Technology of Mental Performance” (see attachment). Also, Darl has also suggested Mr. George Forrest, former St. Mary’s County Administrator, for a technical session speaker. Please review Mr. Smith’s attachment and give Darl any comments regarding the booking of these speakers.

Scholarship Committee: (Mike Errico (not present) and Dale Coppage – Co-Chairmen)

Dale reported that extra proceeds from the last conference have been approved for distribution to the scholarship fund. Currently, we are funding half of the tuition for 4 students at UMCP. Dale stated that he called Morgan State and UMES regarding the possibility of extending the scholarships to these schools. Morgan State has not returned his calls and UMES does not have a BS program in Civil Engineering, just an AA program.

Radka updated the Board on the current students receiving the grants and the status of our program. She discussed how our departments and firms are involved in the engineering program and how jobs can be posted. Radka distributed the handout “Brief History of the CEAM’s Roger H. Willard Scholarships” (attached) and discussed with members. She also discussed student statistics, also attached.

Legislative Committee: (Chairman Bob Martin – not present)

Jim Wilson spoke with Bob Martin and mentioned a hearing on March 11th concerning House Bill 921, dealing with illegal sign placement and the prospect of roads departments being able to recover funds in district court to offset the costs of removing these signs from along the roadways. This issue was discussed with no recommended action to be taken.

Membership Committee: (Chairman Todd Mohn – not present) – Jeff reported that as of February 26, 2008 there were 280 Regular/Voting members, of which 34 were in arrears with their dues; 221 Associate members, of which 51 were in arrears, 38 Retired members, of which

6 were in arrears and 12 Life & Honorary members. This represents a total of \$3,175 in dues yet to be paid for 2008. Jeff distributed copies of a report depicting the members with dues still outstanding. Second dues notices were mailed January 15th with a due date of February 15th.

Budget Committee: Chairman Doug Myers

No report (distributed draft 2008-2009 budget during Treasurer's Report, above).

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

Associate Member Advisory Committee: (Stu Taub & Darl Kolar – Co-Chairmen)

Darl reported that John Nolan has been nominated to take Stu's place as Associate Director for the upcoming year and he has agreed. Also, nominations for the associate member committee are Bob Sebastian, Frank Kaul, Matt Allen, and Jim Markle. The committee will have one more position added this year. Darl has one more year left as an associate director.

Awards Committee: (Chairman Jim Montgomery – not present)

Jim received an email from Jim stating that he would attend the March BOD meeting to present award nominations for fall conference presentation.

SHA Liaison Committee: (Chairman Ed Adams – not present) No report.

Old Business:

- **NACE Updates – Kevin Beachy, State Representative**
Kevin Beachy reported that he authored an article for the March NACE newsletter concerning funding issues and the strategic highway plan for Maryland, along with other issues affecting the profession in the state (attached). Kevin will be going to Portland in April for the NACE conference to represent MD and CEAM. He will also be speaking at the event on the topic of "Replacement Strategies for Rural Roads which can be Accomplished by County Forces" and/or "Low Volume Road Issues."
- **Conference RFP for Outsourcing Registration Services – John Redden & Mike Warring**
Jim Wilson and Greg Africa reported that Michele Dinkel (MACO Staff member) has expressed interest in organizing future conferences for CEAM. This would be an outside project for her, outside of her position with MACO. Greg will be following up with her.
- **MACO Conference Technical Program Winter 2008**
No report.

New Business:

- **Discussion with MACo / MDOT**
Jim discussed meeting the MACO and MDOT held in February he attended along with Steve Young, Ed Adams, and other CEAM members. MDOT asked what they could do to assist the counties in getting required resources. They asked us to compile a survey for all counties to complete to identify problems and find out why we don't have the resources to address these problems. They still want someone from our Board to meet with them to attain more data. They requested a volunteer to work with MACO and

MDOT so next year they present the Counties' cases to the legislature. Joe Kroboth has agreed to be the point person with assistance from John Tustin.

Joe Kroboth noted that Washington County has resorted to hiring lobbyists to go to Annapolis on the County's behalf and they have seen results from this effort. He also noted that MACO used to provide an attorney to come to our meetings and give us periodic updates, but they no longer provide this service.

- **Nominations for CEAM Board and Officers for 2008 – 2009**

John Tustin, Ed Adams, and Joe Kroboth presented nominations for the Board of Directors for 2008-2009 (see attachment). Jim reviewed nominations with the Board, offered his endorsement and thanked the committee for their effort. Motion to accept the slate of officers and directors by Mike Mertaugh, seconded by Greg Africa. Motion passed.

- **Verizon Issues – March 2008 Meeting**

No report

- **University of Maryland Department of Civil Engineering**

- **Internships / Engineering Co-op**

Ms Deborah Vidmar, Assistant Director of Employer Relations at the Clark School of Engineering, distributed employer- and hiring-related materials to the BOD and give a brief overview of co-op and internship practices at the school.

- **Department Update**

Dr Ali Haghani, Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, gave an overview of the department including the profile of a typical incoming freshman, job prospects, and distributed materials concerning the 100th anniversary of the Civil Engineering program at UMD and its Centennial Celebration.

- **March Meeting at the Exploration Center in Kent Island, Queen Anne's County**

Adjourn:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. Motion by Mike Mertaugh, seconded by Holger Serrano to adjourn. The next meeting of the Board will be held at 11:00 on March 27, 2008 at the Exploration Center on Kent Island, Maryland.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Rank
Acting CEAM Secretary