

County Engineers Association of Maryland

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

January 26, 2006

Queen Anne's County Exploration Center
Grasonville, Maryland

President Joe Kroboth III called the meeting to order @ 11:00 a.m. with the following attending:

President : Joe Kroboth III

1st Vice President: John Tustin

2nd Vice President: Jim Wilson

Secretary: Mike Warring

Treasurer: Doug Myers (not in attendance)

Directors: Kevin Beachy, John Redden, Ron Bowen** (can't attend), Charles Nolan, Holger Serrano (can not attend), Bob Tenanty, and Steve Zahn

Past Presidents: Ed Adams, and Todd Mohn

Historian: Jim Wright (not in attendance)

Scholarship Committee: (no members in attendance)

Legislative Committee: Bob Martin

Visitors: John Joyce - M.D.E. Wetlands & Waterway Division

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the December 8, 2005 meeting were reviewed. Motion for the approval of the minutes as presented by John Redden, and seconded by Kevin Beachy. Motion approved.

Comments: (no comments or corrections)

Treasurer's Report:

Doug Myers's Treasurer's Report, dated 1/24/06, was distributed to the Board members.. The checking account balance as of 2/06/05 was \$ 46,806.21, while the Money Market balance was \$7,926.93. The receipts totaled \$ 7,600.94, while expenses were \$ 1,576.50. The total balance of both the checking and money market accounts as of 1/24/06 was \$ 60,757.58. Motion to adopt the Treasure's report was made by Charles Nolan, and was seconded by John Tustin. Discussion, motion carried. Doug Myers also sent his financial report of the last three conferences, which revealed net incomes as follows: (1) Fall '04 = \$17,216; (2) Spring '05 = \$8,737; and Fall '05 = \$24,287. Though there was no narrative with the report, it would appear that the expenses for the Spring and Fall meetings in 2005 were about \$36,000, and yet the registration fees at the Fall '05 meeting in Ocean City were almost \$17,000 higher than the Fall'04 and Spring meetings, which accounted for the substantial increase in the net income figure. The BOD members congratulated Conference Chairman John Tustin and his staff for the excellent Fall Conference program.

Secretary's Announcement/New Members: (6) New "Member" Applications @ \$25.00 each:
Paul G. Kurst, Civil Engineering Tech, Queen Anne's County DPW; Nicholas A. Graziano, Project Engineer, Calvert County DPW; David A. C. Carroll, Director, Environmental Protection and Resource Management, Baltimore County DPW; Jordan Loran, Director of Engineering and Construction Unit, D.N.R.; William Craig Persinger, Regulations Inspector, Howard County DPW; and Donald J. Koelsch, Inspector, Howard County DPW.

Secretary's Announcement/New Members: (continued)

(5) New "Associate Member" Applications @ \$45.00 each: Young Ho Chang, Senior V.P., ATCS, PLC; W. Arthur Barrett, Regional Manager, Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Scott T. Gallaher, Senior V.P., Site-Blauvelt, Director of Construction Engineering and Inspection; and John Oliver Smith, P.E., D.E.E., Senior PM, Morris & Ritchie Associates, Inc; and, Adel Hedfi, President, Axiom Systems, Inc.

Motion to approve the applications by Steve Zahn, and seconded by Jim Wilson. Motion approved.

New Business - Guest Comments: Mr. John Joyce, who is with the MDE Wetlands and Waterway Program, and is also the State Coordinator for Flood Insurance Agency. John indicated that he appreciated the opportunity to inform the Board of a recently formed organization named the "Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Managers" from the State of Maryland. Their first organizational meeting was in October of 2005, and currently have a membership of 70, and approximately 50 members were in attendance for their first conference meeting. John advised the Board that FEMA was currently re-mapping the 100 year flood plain analysis for the entire State of Maryland, and that his agency was currently performing a Level II analysis for Ocean City. Jim Wilson asked John if he and his group would like to make a presentation as part of our technical program at this year's CEAM Fall Conference, and he indicated that they would appreciate the opportunity to do so. John Redden asked Mr. Joyce if his group was soliciting Flood Plain Managers from the various Counties to join and participate with his organization. He indicated that they were actively soliciting their participation..

Committee Reports:

Spring '06 Conference Report: **Chairman Jim Wilson** confirmed that the 2006 Spring Conference will take place at the Wisp Resort in the Town of McHenry from May 11-13, 2006. Jim indicated that he will need to get a check of \$500.00 to cover the cost of Postage to mail out the registration packages. He is working with Jeff Rank and Todd Mohn to develop some further announcements of the pending conference on the CEAM web site. He is also going to pick up the electronic files that John Tustin maintained from the Spring and Fall Conferences of 2005. He will be sending out the program announcements in the near future, and indicated that the technical programs subjects had been confirmed, and that the keynote, and welcoming speakers were being confirmed with the help of Dwight Emory and Kevin Beachy.

Fall '06 Conference Report: **Chairman Jim Wilson** announced that the conference for 2006, and 2007 will take place later than our previous conferences in '04 & '05. This year the conference is set from September 21 - 23, 2006. The Clarion Hotel will be the conference headquarters, and the golf tournament site is being negotiated between the Beach Club and the Bay Club, which is where we have held the past two year's tournaments. Jim is looking for additional topics, and was quite sure that the HUR subject, and the related disbursements to the Counties will be a worthwhile subject for the Fall Conference.

Committee Reports: (continued)

Legislative Committee: Chairman Bob Martin reported that 702 bills had been submitted for this session to date. To date, there were no significant new bills that seemed to be a focused, or have an impact on the County Public Works departments, except for the final dollars that will be re-distributed to the 23 Counties from this session. In addition, Bob indicated that John Groeger, Director of DPW for St. Mary's County had advised Bob that he was concerned about the Bridge Inspector Certifications the SHA circulated to the counties. Dave Logan, SHA Bridge Division, was contacted to determine for what purposes the surveys were sent to the counties. The survey was distributed in response to a request of Derek Constable of the FHWA relative to a recently completed "Compliance Review of the Bridge Inspection Program". The FHWA position is that the County Program Manager should meet the Federal specifications requiring either 1) a two week course or, 2) if a P.E. with five years of bridge inspection experience, a three day refresher course would be required. **The SHA is strongly opposed to the FHWA position.** The SHA's position is that the counties do not need to have a FHWA certified bridge inspector on staff as long as the SHA manages the bridge inspection program and the county bridges are inspected by either certified SHA staff or by certified SHA consultant inspectors. Currently, 14 Counties already have "certified" bridge inspectors on their staff. There were also some comments from various Board members about the shortfall in the State's pension funds for retirees in the State system, and of course, it seems that MACO and the MML are headed on a collision course on the matter of "annexation" laws, and guidelines with regards to the current powers of a County to withhold a more intense zoning that was proposed as part of the annexation, if the County was not in agreement with the Municipality's annexation plan. It was noted that this subject will be the first subject discussed after the keynote speaker at the Spring Conference at Wisp.

Membership Committee: Chairman Todd Mohn reported that his committee consisting of Jim Wilson, Charles Nolan and Kevin Beachy were going to address the following issues: (1) Create a "Corporate Membership" Category - which would be much larger than any current fee rates, and could include multiple members on the one membership; (2) Carefully Review the Master List of Members, and verify the exact status of many "inactive" members; and (3) Discuss the potential need to offer pro-rated annual dues rates for joining during the four quarters, and possibly be given a proportional reduction in the required annual dues.

Budget Committee: (no report)

By Laws Committee: Chairman Mike Warring - no report

Associate Member Advisory Committee: Charles Nolan and Steve Zahn expressed their ongoing program to solicit additional members for their committee, in hopes that there can be "continuity" provided through the participation of Associate Board members, who have successfully served their two year term and are desirous of passing along their experience and program knowledge to interested Associate members, who are desirous of serving on the CEAM Board if nominated by future Nominating Committees to serve. They indicated that they would report back to the Board at the next meeting with their list of new members of this committee.

Committee Reports: (continued)

Scholarship Committee: (no report)

Awards Committee: (Chairman Jim Montgomery - not present) The Board reviewed some of the previously discussed awards and certificates for several long standing members, who have retired recently. In addition, the Board reviewed their desire to extend invitations to these outstanding retired members to attend the Fall Conference as the organization's guests, where they will be recognized for their achievements and outstanding service to CEAM. These awards will be discussed with specificity at the future Board meetings. A formal motion was presented by Kevin Beachy and seconded by Jim Wilson to make a formal invitation to two selected members for this year's Fall Conference. Motion approved unanimously.

Utility Relocation Committee: Chairman Ed Adams reported that he still hasn't been successful in arranging a date to have the State representative for VERIZON to meet with the Board with regards to pending issues over the time frame, and charges from VERIZON for pole/line relocations within the County's established public right of way. Ed indicated that he would work on this matter in the near future, and advise the Board when he has obtained a date.

Old Business:

Highway User Revenues: President Kroboth reported that the general Assembly cut the Administration's fully funded HUR budget by \$48.5M as part of an effort to balance the FY '06 budget. However, they also directed that MDOT redirect \$25.8M of its Community Safety & Enhancement Program funds (CSEP) back to the "local governments" using the same re-distribution formula developed for HUR funds. However, these funds are stuck in a "political limbo" as the Governor says that the legislature is not empowered to re-direct his budget monies. Hopefully, there will be a compromise, and these monies will be released back to the Counties, which would reduce the shortfall of full funding of HUR funds in FY '06 down to \$22.7M. Hopefully with the help of MACO lobbying efforts, these differences will be alleviated, and the funds will eventually be released to the Counties. There was a distribution table hand out, which was prepared by MACO for these \$28.5M of funds. Ed Adams suggested that a representative from MACO should be invited to the Board's next meeting in February to discuss this issue.

Fall Conference Reservations for '07 & '08 - President Kroboth reported that Chuck Beall had been in contact with the Princess Hotel in an effort to seek a more competitive room rate than we had been previously offered by the Clarion. The Board hopes to hear some results of this investigation by the next meeting in February.

MACO Award - Past President Ed Adams was given a plaque acknowledging Ed's recent successful term as President of CEAM.

Old Business: (continued)

Letter to MACO -Summer Conference - As part of President Kroboth's "initiatives" during his term as President was to get CEAM more involved in a pro-active role with the MACO organization through our participation in the technical program presentations at their semi-annual conferences. Accordingly, President Kroboth sent a letter to the Executive Director, David Bliden, dated 1/23/06 indicating our desire to be more involved with the technical program planning, as well as our willingness to bring the most current subject matters before them that are directly affecting the Public Works facet of local governments.

New Business:

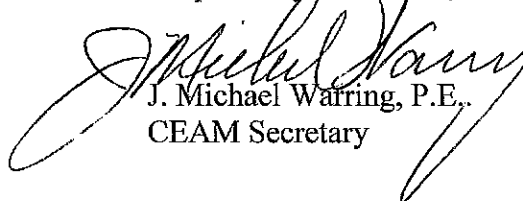
Open Discussion:

- Todd Mohn recommended that the Board establish a permanent post office box address, and as such recommended that CEAM rent a box in Centreville for a rate of \$60.00/year. It was agreed that this administrative suggestion would be good, given that the web master works for Todd's Department. Motion by Jim Wilson, and seconded by Bob Tenanty. Motion approved.
- Kevin Beachy asked if any other Counties had any experience with the new " earmarked " projects, which are simply highway construction projects, which use Federal monies, but also have been "adopted" by a legislator from Capitol Hill. Funding is slow and complex, and in many cases, this involvement by national legislators is actually increasing the cost of completing the project. As discussions ensued, some questions were raised as to whether you can refuse federal funding for a particular project. Apparently, local governments may be required to fund the project, and receive reimbursement from the Feds through the SHA, which could present budgetary problems with certain Counties depending on the size of the project.

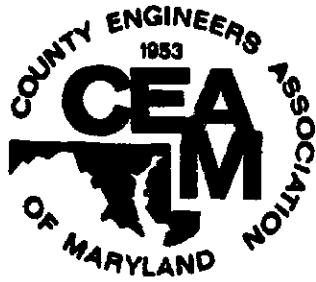
Adjourn:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m. Motion by Steve Zahn, seconded by Ed Adams to adjourn. The next meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, **February 23, 2006 @** 11:00 a.m. in the Queen Anne's County Exploration Center, Grasonville, Maryland

Respectfully Submitted,



J. Michael Warring, P.E.,
CEAM Secretary



COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND

	<u>CHECKING</u>	<u>MONEY MARKET</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
BALANCE AS OF 12/06/05	\$ 46,806.21	\$ 7,926.93	\$ 54,733.14
<u>RECEIPTS</u>			
Memberships	6,280.00		6,280.00
Scholarships	840.00		840.00
Fall Conference '05	435.00		435.00
Dividends		45.94	45.94
	<u>\$ 7,555.00</u>	<u>\$ 45.94</u>	<u>\$ 7,600.94</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Directors Lunch	234.09		234.09
Fall Conference '05	(58.91)		(58.91)
Spring Conference '06	412.68		412.68
Professional Fees	475.00		475.00
Website	78.00		78.00
Postage	185.00		185.00
Mailing Services	0.64		0.64
Secretarial Services	250.00		250.00
	<u>\$ 1,576.50</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,576.50</u>
BALANCE AS OF 1/24/06	<u><u>\$ 52,784.71</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,972.87</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 60,757.58</u></u>

Douglas E. Myers, Treasurer

CEAM Conference Financial Report

	<u>Fall 2005</u>	<u>Spring 2005</u>	<u>Fall 2004</u>
Revenues:			
Member/guest registration fees	\$ 52,230	\$ 34,950	\$ 34,415
Sponsor donations	8,025	9,725	15,700
Scholarship donations	<u>120</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total revenues	60,375	44,675	50,115
Expenses:			
Meeting rooms/breaks/banquet/mixer	25,351	27,766	23,304
Golf/tennis tournament	6,201	4,560	3,830
Room charges	-	903	992
Entertainment	600	500	475
Postage/supplies	818	1,459	542
Attendance gifts	2,013	500	3,396
Speaker gifts	300	250	-
Scholarship donations	120	-	-
Refunds	<u>685</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>360</u>
Total expenses	<u>36,088</u>	<u>35,938</u>	<u>32,899</u>
Net income	<u>\$ 24,287</u>	<u>\$ 8,737</u>	<u>\$ 17,216</u>