

ACEC/NC Legislative Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2019

11:30 am

Chair: Jeremy Potter
Vice Chair: Brock Storrusten
Board Liaison: Paul Meehan
Attendees: Jeremy Potter, Brock Storrusten, John Adams, Jack Cowser, Nick Ramirez (phone), Ellen Turco, Patrick Waterman, Paul Steinman, Davis Diggs (phone), Brian Glidewell, Josh Massrock

- 1 Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Introductions of the attendees.
 - b. Thank you to MS Consultants for sponsoring lunch.

- 2 Review and Approve Meeting Minutes from 8/13/2019
 - a. No comments noted. Approved.

- 3 Discuss Committee Objectives
 - a. Please review objectives. No comments were noted.

- 4 Legislative Update
 - a. NC Legislation
 - i. Transportation
 1. The cash balance at NCDOT is an issue and resulted in approximately 900 projects across the state to be stopped.
 2. There are at least two bills being drafted to assist the cash balance crisis.
 - a. Concern was expressed over the potential State Auditor oversight in one of the bills that could slow the process of getting funds to NCDOT.
 - b. The best approach for PEFs to express concern to the NCGA is to tie the cash balance crisis to job layoffs.
 - b. National Level
 - i. FEMA Reimbursement – There was discussion of the delay between President Trump and Lt. Gov. Dan Forest.

- 5 Meetings with NC and US Representatives
 - a. Scott Stone (Candidate for Lt. Gov) – Brock Storrusten

- b. Governor Cooper – Representatives from HNTB had a meeting with the Governor regarding the NCDOT cash balance crisis.
- 6 Recent Events
- a. Environmental & Energy Committee Social – August 14th
 - b. Asheville Member Reception – August 15th
 - c. Southern Transportation Civil Rights Executive Council Symposium – August 19th-22nd
- 7 Upcoming Events
- a. ACEC Fall Conference in Chicago Oct 13-15th.
 - b. NCDOT/ACEC Joint Transportation Conference – October 28th-29th. Capped at 1,200.
 - c. FAR (Federal Acquisition Regulation) Overhead Training on October 28th 8:30-4:30pm. SOLD OUT.
 - d. B&I Symposium – October 31st.
 - i. 8am-11:30am
 - ii. Embassy Suites in Brier Creek.
 - e. Engineering Excellence Awards – November 19th
 - i. 5:30pm-9pm
 - ii. Deadline to register is November 4th.
 - iii. Pinehurst Resort
 - iv. Keystone Award
 - 1. Rep. Dean Arp and Sen. Paul Newton were nominated to be co-winners of the 2019 Keystone Award in thanks to their work on the Indemnification/Duty-to-Defend legislation.
 - 2. The committee voted unanimously to approve the co-winners.
 - f. Charlotte Holiday Reception – December 5th at Old Mecklenburg Brewing
 - g. Raleigh Holiday Reception – December 12th
- 8 PAC Updates
- a. ACEC PAC Update
 - i. 2019 Goal = \$35,500
 - ii. Approximately 70% of goal.
 - b. ACEC NC PAC
 - i. The Task Force is finalizing details of a fundraising idea to be presented to the Board of Trustees.
 - c. ECNC (IE) – Companies can contribute directly to this fund. Please encourage your companies to participate.
- 9 ACEC Committee/Forum Liaison Updates
- a. Board (Paul Meehan) – No update provided.
 - b. Environmental & Energy (Ryan Mitchell) – No update provided.

- c. Transportation (John Adams) – No additional updates beyond previous discussion under item 4. However, there is a call to action by the Chamber of Commerce on October 9th at the NCGA for folks to attend and speak with as many NCGA members as possible to request support for the cash balance issue with NCDOT.
- d. Business Practices (Brock Storrusten) – Currently planning a joint event with B&I for the spring of 2020.
- e. B & I/Econ. Development (Walt Gray) – No update provided.
- f. Senior Leaders Forum (Jim Smith) – No update provided.

10 Open Discussion

- a. New Potential Legislative Efforts
 - i. During the meeting, the following topics were introduced and will be discussed further in the future.
 - 1. Penalty for folks practicing engineering without being a licensed P.E.
 - ii. Looking for more ideas for our next great piece of legislation to help our industry, our business, and our profession. The following items were introduced in previous committee meetings.
 - 1. Company Ownership/Business Entities/Office Requirements - BUSINESS ENTITIES: 21 NCAC 56 .0901 OFFICES and NCGS Chapter 55B. Professional Corporation Act.
 - 2. Design Build Contracting.
 - 3. Electronic Signatures - 21 NCAC 56 .1103 STANDARD CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is anticipated to be at 11:30am on Tuesday, December 10th at the ACEC/NC office, Large Conference Room. The tentative schedule for the remainder of the 2019-2020 year is as follows

- Tuesday, February 11th
- Tuesday, April 14th
- Tuesday, June 9th

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeremy Potter, P.E.



Brock Storrusten, P.E.