**American Council of Engineering Companies
of Louisiana
Board of Governors’ Meeting
February 13, 2020
The Baton Rouge Capitol Hilton
Baton Rouge, LA**

**BOG present:** Andy Craig, Raymond Reaux, Nathan Junius, Michael Songy, Colby Guidry, Brett Bayard, Bob Boagni, Micha Duffy, Chad Bacas, Kent Poyser, Andree Cortez, Charles Adams, Michael Thomassie, Lisa Cookmeyer and Don Arrington.

**BOG with prior engagements:** Sherri LeBas and David Dupre

**STAFF:** Doreen Brasseaux and Janet Tomeny

**Additional Guest(s):** N/A

Chairman Craig called the meeting to order and presented the inspirational message.

Chairman Craig asked Mr. Thomassie for roll call. Quorum established.

Chairman Craig called for approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Ms. Cortez and seconded by Mr. Reaux. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Craig called for approval of the December 12, 2019 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Reaux and seconded by Mr. Bacas. Motion passed unanimously.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Ms. Brasseaux presented the December 2019/January 2020 financials noting Critical Issues sponsorship revenue, decline in 2019 Deep South Convention and the Fall Conference/EEA income. Ms. Brasseaux also announced she is reviewing proposals to upgrade the website for the 2020-21 budget. After review and additional comments, a motion was made by Mr. Reaux and seconded by Ms. Cortez to accept financials presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** (A. Craig)

* Chairman Craig lead a discussion on the future makeup of the ACECL Board: adding a Lake Charles Chapter; adding an additional board member or reduce the number of Member-at-Large board members (with the addition of the Lake Charles Chapter). After discussion, a motion and vote will be presented at the March 20 Board meeting in order to give adequate time for Bylaw changes for the 2020-21 Board election.
* Chairman Craig presented a proposed 2020-2025 Strategic Plan “one-pager” noting purpose, values and vision along with objectives. Chairman Craig and Mr. Dupre will appoint champions to lead and develop strategies once approved by vote at the March 20 Board Meeting. Ms. Brasseux will develop a more detailed document adding strategies for each objective.

**National Directors Report:**  (R. Reaux)

* ACEC Annual Legislative Conference agenda and EEA to be held in Washington, D.C., April 26-29.
* Mr. Reaux asked for the Board’s approval in supporting the application of Kurt Evans, Digital Engineering, to apply for a board position on the ACEC 2021-2023 National Board. The application deadline is April 2020 with interviews being held at the Fall Convention in San Diego. A motion was made by Mr. Bayard and seconded by Mr. Boagni. Motion passed unanimously.
* Mr. Reaux noted his concern of the Past Presidents Council’s lack of involvement with ACECL and ACECL’s Board. Members of the Board recommended having a representative of the Past Presidents Council to sit on the Board as a non-voting member. Mr. Reaux recommended that Chairman-Elect David Dupre address.

**President & CEO Report**: (Brassseaux)

* ACECL PAC update: The PAC has legally been formed along with the ad hoc committee comprising of the ten (10) PAC Founders Circle members. The Committee met in January (report attached). After Board discussion: no fewer than one (1) ACECL Board member shall sit on the State PAC Board as a trustee; PAC Bylaws to be drafted and approved by attorney; PAC Annual Meeting to be held at the ACECL Fall Conference; the dollar amount/percentage of invoice “ check-off” for PAC contributions will begin on the July 2020 invoices and shall be approved yearly by the Board. A motion to authorize and move forward with invoice “check-off” on the July 1, 2020 invoices, with the approved percentage/dollar amount to be the PAC Trustees recommendation was made by Mr. Reaux and seconded by Ms. Cortez. Motion passed with 14 yeas and 1 nay.
* Public Employee Legislation: Ms. Brasseaux presented proposed language for public employee legislation discussed with PAR, attaching the defining and guiding principles exempting private and independent contractors. After a lengthy discussion and each Board member giving their personal opinion of filing legislation in the 2020 Session, it was agreed to table the legislation for the 2020 Legislative Session (Ms. Brasseaux to inform Senate staff), seek out a Senator (Foil/Hewitt) to hold a Bill for the 2021 Session, and form an ACECL ad hoc committee to continue to work with Senate staff. Mr. Reaux will act as Chair of ad hoc committee and will present a list of committee members to serve at the March 20 Board meeting. Mr. Thomassie suggested the Committee meet prior to scheduled Board Meetings.
* Continuing Education: The 2020 Fall Convention and EEA Gala will be moved to the Baton Rouge Marriott Hotel on November 5th due to additional space needs.
* The Facilities Committee and membership reviewed and submitted comments on the proposed changes to FP&C rules and procedures manual.
* The New Orleans Public Works group is working on a comprehensive letter spelling out compensation fee structure and recommending not to use the FP&C fee curve.
* DOTD will be rolling out new CCS policies on Tuesday, March 4th at the Transportation Conference which will include selection of contractors including scoring and receipt of proposals. Also, ACEC will host alternative delivery panels at the conference.

**Chapter/Area Committee Reports:**

**Baton Rouge:** Mr. Bacas reported Jay Hardman, Executive Director of the Port of Baton Rouge, spoke at the February 3rd meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for March 9 hosting the U.S. Commercial Service, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, on international engineering commodity opportunities.

**New Orleans:** Mr. Poyser reported Lauren Averill, Jefferson Parish Coastal Management, spoke at the January 9 meeting and the U.S. Commercial Service will also speak to the NO Chapter on March 12.

**Lafayette:**  Mr. Guidry reported DOTD District Administrator Bill Olivier will be the speaker on February 18.

**Shreveport:** Mr. Duffy reported newly elected Louisiana Representative Raymond Crews was the guest speaker at the January 27 luncheon discussing the 2020 Legislative Session. Bossier Parish Engineer & Administrator will be speaker on March 5th. Mr. Duffy and Chairman Craig have discussed potential candidates for Chapter President for 2020-21 Term and will reach out, possibly Mark Snow with Aillet, Fenner.

**Monroe:** Mr. Arrington reported newly elected Louisiana Representative Foy Gadberry spoke at the February 19 luncheon with 20 in attendance. Also, Doreen Brasseaux gave an overview of ACECL and hosted potential ACECL member HGA.

**Lake Charles:** Report attached.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership:** Report attached. Chairman Craig noted that the Membership committee participated in a conference call on February 10 to discuss Chapter membership recruitment.

**Public Relations:** No report.

**Legislative Committee:**  Committee meeting is scheduled for March 9th at 2:00 p.m. to review filed Bills. Ms. Brasseaux will be watching for possible legislative bills on plastic pipe, billing verification software and AIA incidental practice of engineering legislation. Also, LABI is looking at supporting an alternative to a gas tax - using surplus monies from the ½ penny sales tax to fund DOTD administrative costs currently in TTF, which would free up monies for infrastructure.

**CLIENT LIAISON COMMITTEES**

**Transportation:**  Committee and Steering Committee reports attached. Mr. Boagni reported he and Ms. Brasseaux will meet with DOA on the possibility of getting exception for DOTD to negotiate with consultants on lump sum for direct costs using travel regulation criteria. Ms. Brasseaux reported she and Mr. Basilica met with DOTD Traffic Division on timeline complaints of DOTD approvals, with no successful outcome to resolve issues.

**Water Resources:** Report attached. Ms. Cookmeyer advised next meeting will be scheduled for late February.

**Facilities:** (See President & CEO Report)

**LES/Lapels:** Mr. Bacas reported on LES/LAPELS proposed legislation to make changes to the licensing law allowing an engineer who has passed the PE Exam with 20 years of progressive experience be licensed in Louisiana without having taken or passed the FE exam.

**AGC/AIA:**  No report.

**Unfinished Business:**

**New Business:** A motion for preliminary membership for Braun Intertec Corporation was made by Mr. Bayard and seconded by Mr. Reaux. Motion was passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** The next Board meeting will be held on March 20, 2020, 10:00 – 2:00 at the Offices of GEC, Goodwood Boulevard.

A motion was made by Mr. Bacas and seconded by Ms. Cortez to adjourn the meeting.