**American Council of Engineering Companies**

**of Louisiana**

**Board of Governors’ Meeting**

**July 27, 2017**

**The Sandestin Resort, Destin, FL**

**BOG present:** Bob Schmidt, Raymond Reaux, Kurt Evans, Lynn Roussel, Nathan Junius, Steve Robertson, Brad Graff, David Dupre, Andree Cortez, Andy Craig, and Michael Thomassie

**BOG with prior engagements:** Ryan Spillers, Alison Catarella-Michel, Craig Campbell and Michael Songy

**STAFF:** Dan Mobley and Janet Tomeny

**Additional Guest(s)**: Tony Arikol, Tony Mumphrey, Steven Loeb and Kevin Crosby

Mr. Schmidt called the meeting to order and acknowledged the 2016-2017 Board and thanked them for their leadership while he served as President. Mr. Schmidt introduced the election results of the 2017-2018 Board of Governors. (Listing attached). Mr. Schmidt passed the president’s gavel to newly elected President Kurt Evans.

President Evans thanked Mr. Schmidt for his leadership and advised the Board he would like to start each Board Meeting with an inspirational moment (attached).

President Evans asked Mr. Dupre for roll call. Quorum established.

President Evans asked for approval of the Agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Reaux and seconded by Mr. Schmidt to approve the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

President Evans called for the approval of the June 16, 2017 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Reaux and seconded by Mr. Graff. Motion passed unanimously.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**: President Evans reported his goals as President for the 2017-2018 term; (1) continuing current educational programs and adding a coastal studies certificate with TWG and CPRA and a Business Forum being led by a newly formed Business Forum Council made up of members of the Past Presidents Council; (2) 100% participation of Board Members to the ACEC PAC; (3) Board Members joining open national ACEC Committees; and (4) implementation of ACEC/L’s five Strategic Plan Goals.

President Evans announced a slight reorganization of ACECL’s committees and announced committee chairs and board liaisons. President Evans asked that each committee chair have a written report emailed to him and to the ACECL staff five (5) days prior to each scheduled board meeting. Also, President Evans reported that there are currently two (2) Members-At-Large positions vacant on the 2017-2018 Board with Mr. David Leslie resigning due to moving to Texas and Mr. Bob Boagni changing employers from GEC to GPI. GPI are national ACEC members and as soon as their application is received and approved by the Board, Mr. Boagni will be asked to be approved to sit on the Board.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** (Financials Attached)

Mr. Dupre advised that he has reviewed the June 2017 financial reports with Mr. Mobley, Mr. Craig and Mr. Graham (attached) and total cash on hand ending June (checking/savings) is $152,151 with total assets of $182,335. Mr. Dupre reported 2017 year end reported membership dues increase of nearly $11,000 due to the 2% increase of dues, member firms coming off incentive plan and addition of new member firms. Also, $9,500 of membership dues were written off due to seven (7) member firms being dropped due to non-payment of membership dues. Mr. Mobley will submit list of names of member firms to Board.

Mr. Mobley reviewed the Profit & Loss worksheet and checking account registry noting all are in line with projections. A motion was made by Mr. Craig and seconded by Mrs. Cortez to approve the June 2017 financials. Motion passed unanimously.

**National Director’s Report:**  Mr. Schmidt advised he would reach out with ACEC National and our ACEC Board Liaison in his new position as National Director. He also reported that he has asked Mr. Matt Reiffer to participate in the La. Transportation Conference. Mr. Arikol also reported that President and CEO Dave Raymond will be retiring in March, 2018 and Peter Strub has been selected to serve on the Selection Committee.

**Executive Director’s Report:**

Mr. Mobley reported that Ms. Tomeny traveled to ACEC Offices in Washington, D.C. attending a one day membership training. Ms. Tomeny reported that the Membership Department conducted their first training session on July 17th with a total of 24 participants. Staff from 17 MOs met to discuss a wide-range of topics and conducted open conversations on membership sales strategies, membership records, recruitment, retention, dues billings and certification.

Mr. Mobley reported that he received a call from a member firm advising that Ascension Parish is not selecting the top rated firms for work and asked if this is against state laws. After discussion, it was advised by Mr. Loeb that there are no state statutes stating a political subdivision has to go through an RFP process. Procedures depend entirely on the Parish Charter/Ordinances, unless state/federal monies are being used. Mr. Loeb advised we should monitor as this could be a public employee issue.

**Chapter Presidents’ Report:** President Evans advised that the Chapter Presidents will be sitting on the Membership Committee, headed by Mr. Reaux, to assist in membership enrollment and retention. President Evans asked each Chapter President to communicate with members at each meeting, sharing pertinent information on what ACECL is doing and to also bring back any information or concerns from members. Also, President Evans advised that pursuant to the bylaws, a Vice-President should be elected as well to assist in the President’s mission and goals.

**Baton Rouge:** Mr. Thomassie reported that Representative Julie Stokes spoke at the June 12 meeting and the next meeting will be held on September 11th. He will also meet with ACEC/L staff for future speaker recommendations and possible partnership with AIA-Baton Rouge and ASCE.

**New Orleans:** Mr. Junius reported that Derek Boese, CAO, Southeast La Flood Protection Authority-East, spoke on June 8th. Mr. Junius advised he polled members with major concerns being reported on future infrastructure funding; QBS; indemnification language; new technology; education (STEM) and the possibility of project management requiring licensing. Next meeting will be held on August 10th. Also, ACEC will partner with LAGC-NO and AIA-NO on a mayoral forum to be held at Holy Cross School, tentatively set for the afternoon of August 28th.

**Lafayette:** Mr. Reaux reported that on July 12th Mr. Brett Bayard, the newly appointed Vice-President, invited Anthony Kendrick with Construction EcoServices to speak on green infrastructure for storm water management.

**Shreveport:**  Mr. Graff reported that the Shreveport Chapter convened a “brainstorming” meeting in July discussing strategic plan ideas; community outreach programs and future programs/speakers.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership:**  Mr. Reaux deferred reporting to later in meeting when presenting his strategic planning report.

**Continuing Education:** Mr. Craig reported the Deep South Convention attendance was on line with last year with 158 engineers registered, with Louisiana adding an additional 8 attendees; and the ACEC National Fall Convention will be held in Orlando in October. Mr. Dupre reported Project Outlook is scheduled for November 16 in Baton Rouge, with planning to begin immediately following Deep South. Also, Critical Issues is confirmed for February 1-2, 2018. Mr. Evans also advised that LES has asked ACECL to partner on a possible FE, PE preparation program.

**Public Relations:** Ms. Cortez reported that the Public Relations Committee has had an introductory conference call and Chair, Fannie Bennett, is reaching out to those committee members to start developing a vision/plan for ACECL pursuant to the approved strategic plan.

**Legislative Committee:** President Evans reported that this years’ emphasis on 2018 legislation will be the public employee issue, with LES officially agreeing to support ACECL. Mr. Loeb will “dust off” files and ACECL will communicate with LES on moving forward, possibly making a presentation to LES. Mr. Mobley advised that Rep. Franklin Foil has agreed to carry the bill again. Also, CMAR revisions will be filed in the 2018 Session.

**Client Liaison CommitteeS**

**Transportation:** Mr. Schmidt reported that General Basilica will co-chair the Transportation Committee with emphasis on roads & highways and Tom Hunter will co-chair with emphasis on ports, airports, rail and multi-modal. Mr. Schmidt also commented that the ACEL/DOTD four year initiative to improve DOTD’s consultant selection procedures has been paused due to the gas tax initiative and needs to move forward as the consultant community is very interested in this endeavor. Mr. Schmidt noted a recent DOTD project advertisement wherein only 2 of the 6 selection factors were going to be evaluated.

Also, Mr. Schmidt advised that he has asked Matt Reiffer from ACEC to speak at the Transportation Conference on the federal infrastructure plan, along with S. Loeb and R. Reaux to present on CMAR. President Evans asked that Mr. Schmidt reach out to Tom Hunter with AECOM for reporting.

**Water Resources:** President Evans presented Mr. Delaune’s report (attached).

**Facilities:** Mr. Campbell’s report was presented by Mr. Robertson (attached).

**LES/LAPELS:** Ms. Roussel reported that LES had their Summer Meeting in June with new Board Members taking office. President Evans asked Ms. Roussel to reach out and invite the organizations to speak at future ACECL board meetings.

**AGC/AIA:**  No report.

**General Counsel Report:** Mr. Loeb advised that he attended the LES and LAGC conferences this summer and he was approached about CMAR and would like to discuss movement with President Evans sometime over the next few days. Also, Mr. Loeb would like to get with the DOTD and Facilities committees to discuss modifications of state contracts wherein departments do not have the responsibility of policing the code of ethics.

Also, due to DOTD not wanting to “play ball with the engineers and contractors” it appears the I-12 flood lawsuit will go back to state court and this will entail huge legal fees for defendants and therefore Mr. Loeb expects policy limits will be used to settle.

**National PAC Update:** President Evans advised that Kenny Smith and Sergio Girau will be representing Louisiana as PAC Champions.

**Unfinished Business:**

Each of the five (5) Strategic Planning Task Force leaders, Messrs. Reaux, Schmidt, Evans, Arikol and Craig, presented and discussed their teams’ strategic plan to the Board. (Copies of reports attached). President Evans asked Board Members to review and submit any comments to ACEC Staff. Also, the implementation of the plans will be discussed at the August board meeting and Mr. Reaux suggested that once completed, the Plan should be placed on the website and an article announcing same to members through Mark Lambert.

**Special Announcements:** Mr. Mobley introduced guest Kevin Crosby, past Chairman of LAPELS.

**New Business:**

President Evans moved for a motion to go into Executive Session. A motion was made by Mr. Graff and seconded by Mr. Dupre. Motion passed unanimously.

After Executive Session adjourned, President Evans asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. A motion was made by Mr. Reaux and seconded by Mr. Dupre. Motion passed unanimously.

President Evans asked for a motion to grant approval for him to negotiate a contract extension with Executive Director Dan Mobley. A motion was made by Mr. Reaux and seconded by Mrs. Cortez. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Dupre and seconded by Mr. Schmidt. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned by President Evans.

**Next Meeting:** The next Board Meeting will be held at the Engineering Center, Baton Rouge, on Friday, August 18, beginning at 10:00 a.m.