**American Council of Engineering Companies
of Louisiana
Board of Governors’ Meeting
June 18, 2021
The Engineering Center/ZOOM**

**BOG present:** David Dupre, Andree Cortez (ZOOM),Andy Craig (ZOOM), Bob Boagni, Chad Bacas, Kent Poyser, Colby Guidry, Chad Poche, Sherri LeBas, Butch Babineaux (ZOOM), Brett Bayard, Michael Thomassie, Michael Songy (ZOOM), Lisa Cookmeyer (ZOOM), and Nathan Junius (Telephone)

**BOG with prior engagements:** Micha Duffy and Don Arrington

**STAFF:** Doreen Brasseaux and Janet Tomeny (Zoom)

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

Chairman Dupre called the meeting to order and asked Ms. Tomeny for roll call. Quorum established.

Chairman Dupre called for approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Bacas and seconded by Mr. Poyser. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Dupre called for approval of the May 21, 2021 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Bayard and seconded by Mr. Guidry. Motion passed unanimously.

**Secretary/Treasurer Report:** (Financials Attached)

Ms. Brasseaux presented the May 2021 financials noting the total checking/saving account balance of $209,587. After discussion and overview, a motion was made by Mr. Bacas and seconded by Mr. Poyser to accept financials presented.

Ms. Brasseaux advised the Board she is conferring with CPA Phil Graham regarding the costs of performing an audit to ensure all ACECL procedures are in compliance. Also, the SBA loan will be paid in full in the amount of $35,509.35.

Ms. Brasseaux presented the 2021-2022 budget (attached) noting a $7,299 surplus. A motion was made by Mr. Poyser and seconded by Mr. Guidry to approve the 2021-2022 budget presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Chairman Report:** (D. Dupre)

* Chairman Dupre reported on the 2020-2021 Board accomplishments including financial security through COVID, infrastructure investment legislation, active committees and strong membership retention and recruitment. (Full report attached)
* Bylaws Committee: Ms. Cortez advised that the Committee has reviewed and submitted proposed changes. The report is being drafted and will be presented to the Board for review and approval in the Fall.
* 2021-2022 BOG Election Results: Mr. Dupre reported the election results (attached) and distributed 2021-2022 proposed Board Meeting dates.

**National Directors Report:** (A. Craig)

* ACEC Fall Convention will be in-person at Marco Island, Florida on October 27-30, 2021. Also, Chairman Robin Greenleaf will be attending the Deep South Convention, along with Gary Raba hosting the Regional MO Leadership roundtable.
* Mr. Dupre acknowledged the twelve years Mr. Craig has served on the ACECL Board and thanked him for his dedication and service.

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

* Virtual Business Forum being planned for September & October with HR, Business Development and Risk Management components, along with a possible motivational speaker.
* LABI has its annual meeting scheduled for September 14th in Baton Rouge and selling tables of 10 for $1,500. Ms. Brasseaux asked for approval to purchase a table. A Motion was made by Ms. LeBas and seconded by Mr. Bacas to purchase one (1) table at the cost of $1,5000 to the LABI Annual Convention. Motion passed unanimously.
* An ACECL Employee Handbook was developed for staff noting expectations and rules/regulations. Ms. Brasseaux emailed the Handbook to the Board previously and asked for any comments/feedback.
* New Board member orientations have been scheduled with Ferlito, Racca & Delaune. Working with Mr. Aillet on schedule.
* Emerging Leaders – Session 1 was held on May 11-12th with sessions on personality traits, conflict resolution, and ending with advocacy. Additionally, a full day was spent at the State Capitol in Committee Hearings and Senate/House chambers. A Legislative luncheon, sponsored by Forterra Pipe, was held with Sen. Hewitt, Rep. Gadberry, Commissioner Dardenne and Assistant Commissioner Mark Moses in attendance. Also, on June 10th a virtual session was held with Mel Lester presenting on Mastering Remote Interactions with Clients and Coworkers. Next Sessions: Financial Side of Project Management and Networking & Business Development to be held on July 8th.
* Deep South Convention – July 22 – 24, 2021. Rooms are sold out and Louisiana registration numbers currently represent 40% percent of attendees. The ExCom ACEC leadership meeting will be held on Thursday from 9 – 12, with the ACECL Board Meeting from 2-4.

**Chapter/Area Committee Reports:**

**Baton Rouge:** Mr. Bacas reported Mr. John Spain, BRAF, was the speaker at the June 14th luncheon. Also, an ACECL Resolution was presented to the family of John Graves. Next meeting will be held on August 9, 2021.

**New Orleans:** Ms. Tomeny reported that Robert Delaune is working on speakers for the August and September luncheons.

**Lafayette:**  Mr. Guidry reported Chance McNeely will update the Chapter on the 2021 Legislative Session at the July 14 scheduled meeting.

**Shreveport:** No report.

**Monroe:** Ms. Brasseaux reported that a meeting request has been sent to Congresswoman Julia Letlow to meet with the Monroe Committee, possibly a lunch or breakfast meeting.

**Lake Charles:** Mr. Babineaux reported Mr. Kevin Melton, Chennault Airport will speak at the June 29th scheduled meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership:** (Report attached). Mr. Thomassie reported two (2) membership prospective luncheons have been scheduled for July at the ACECL offices. Also, Ms. Brasseaux scheduled a breakfast with Premier Geotech and has been in contact with HGA.

**Legislative Committee:**  (Report Attached) Mr. Bryan Jones gave a full recap on outcomes of the 2021 Legislative Session noting the success of additional infrastructure funding (not certain if the Governor will sign) and the two (2) ACECL bills, HB 323 (replaced “design services” in Hammett Act with “architecture, engineering, landscape architecture and land surveying” ) and HB 113 (codified criteria in the state ethics code that provides for when a spouse of a public servant can work for a company seeking a contract with their spouse’s agency).

Ms. Brasseaux reported there will be a Special Session in March 2022 for redistricting prior to the 2022 Regular Session.

**CLIENT LIAISON COMMITTEES**

**Transportation:**  (Report attached) Mr. Boagni presented Chairman Basilica’s Transportation Committee report noting the Committee met on May 27, 2021. The Committee is continuing to work on the FAR Credits Clause impact on forgiven PPP Loans and are considering drafting a white paper on the negotiations process from firms’ perspective in anticipation of DOTD developing a training/manual. Also, the Ascension Parish newly approved 9-month moratorium was discussed anticipating other parishes to follow. General discussion whether ACECL should be active in these moratoriums.

Ms. LeBas presented the Multimodal report (attached) noting the aviation program was funded $28,156,483 and the ports funded at $39,400,000 for FY21-22.

**Water Resources:** (Full Report attached). Ms. Cookmeyer reported the Committee met on June 17th with legislative updates relating to water resource issues and how ACECL may support state agencies with federal funds coming to the State. Ms. Brasseaux also reported she is working with The Water Institute on the possibility of a public model repository symposium in the Fall.

Mr. Bayard reported he has met with Dr. Emad Habib, Director of the LA Watershed Flood Center at ULL. Dr. Habib expressed interest in a symposium with engineers and the public on possible solutions for flood risk management on the Vermilion River. The ACECL Lafayette Chapter may co-host/sponsor such a symposium with LES & ASCE.

**Facilities:**  (Report Attached) Ms. Brasseaux reported that the Committee met on June 9th with Craig Campbell giving an update on the incidental practice issue. Next Committee meeting will take place last week of June. Also, Ms. Brasseaux connected with Assistant Commissioner Mark Moses and newly hired FP&C Director Jason Sooter and will be sending procedure concerns to FP&C via email.

**LES/Lapels:**  No report.

**AGC/AIA:**  Ms. Brasseaux reported that ACECL continues to have regular breakfast meetings with LAGC (Ken Naquin). Looking into a potential roundtable discussion between contractors and engineers with regard to the Bentley InRoads program.

**Unfinished Business:** No report.

**New Business:** No report.

**Next Meeting:** Next meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2021 at the SanDestin Resort in Florida.

A motion was made by Mr. Poyser and seconded by Mr. Poche to adjourn the meeting.