**American Council of Engineering Companies
of Louisiana
Board of Governors’ Meeting
May 15, 2020
(ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING)**

**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, Sherri LeBas, David Dupre and Don Arrington.

**BOG with prior engagements:** N/A

**STAFF:** Doreen Brasseaux and Janet Tomeny

**Additional Guest(s):** Steven Loeb

Chairman Craig called the meeting to order.

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 Ms. Lebas. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Craig called for approval of the April 17, 2020 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Dupre and seconded by Mr Thomassie. Motion passed unanimously.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER’S REPORT:** (Financials Attached)

Mr. Thomassie presented the April 2020 financials noting that he and Ms. Brasseaux are continuing to communicate often monitoring cash flow since COVID19 outbreak. Financials currently represent more than usual past due membership dues invoices, but Ms. Brasseaux feels cash flow can be managed through the end of the fiscal year. Board recommended that the staff should send out a “soft inquiry” on past due invoices. After review of financials submitted, a motion was made by Mr. Dupre and seconded by Ms. Cortez to accept financials. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Brasseaux presented a proposed FY 20-21 budget, including current actuals to date for FY 19-20, noting loss of Deep South Convention and Emerging Leaders program revenue and recommending cuts in travel, President expenses and office expenditures. A final budget will be presented for vote at the June 19 Board meeting.

Mr. Thomassie presented the Nominating Committee’s (Dupre/Trappey/Campbell) nominees for the 2020-21 Board of Governor’s ballot.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** (A. Craig)

* Chairman Craig reported that leadership with MS, AR, AL and LA have been communicating with the Sandestin Resort on their ability to perform their contractual obligations at the Deep South Convention. We are anticipating paying no more than $10,000 penalty between the 4 states, if anything.
* Chairman Craig reported the 20-21 Chapter officer election results (attached)
* Chairman Craig introduced Steven Loeb who gave a powerpoint presentation on the Ethics Public Employee concerns. Mr. Junius advised that we should reach out to the CPA and Attorney associations for support. Chairman Craig advised that Mr. Reaux and Mr. Songy will continue to work with Mr. Loeb and Ms. Brasseaux to send recommendations of strategy.

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

* ACEC MO leadership from the Southeast (AL, MS, LA, AR, TN, GA, FL) met via ZOOM with Gary Raba, Louisiana’s new ACEC board liaison on April 24.
* The ACEC Board held a virtual meeting on April 25 and voted to suspend the increase of membership dues for 20-21.
* ACEC is sending out re-certifications and Mr. Reaux asked if there is a requirement for ACECL to re-certify employee counts. After discussion, it was agreed not to send out annual certifications but to send out correspondence to member firms asking them if they have significant changes to their employee count to please contact us.

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

* Ms. Brasseaux briefed the Board on ACECL’s COVID19 response including regular communications to membership, potential members, and hosting webinars. Webinars with DOTD Secretary, DOTD Chief Engineer, ACEC Steve Hall, and CPRA have been offered and well attended. Next: ACECL Principal Roundtable scheduled for May 26.
* Bylaws have been drafted for the ACECL PAC and forwarded to the attorney for review. The PAC committee is working on a percentage/dollar amount formula to be listed as a voluntary line item on Quarter 1 invoices (July 1st). Board agreed to proceed as planned.
* Continuing Education: Staff expressed concern that due to the COVID-19 health concerns and regulations, participants of the Emerging Leaders Institute would not get the full robust experience including team building exercises and legislative day. It was agreed to cancel the 2020 Program. Ms. Brasseaux reported that the Call for Entries for the 2020 Engineering Excellence Awards will be released this date.
* Ms. Brasseaux advised she would like to form an Engineering Practice/Legal Issues Committee to assist with identifying concerns in the business of engineering. Mr. Poyser volunteered to sit on the Committee, acting as Board Laision.
* Ms. Brasseaux suggested that if the Installation of Officers cannot be performed in Destin in July, we will organize a small dinner/event for Board Members to be sworn in. Chairman Craig suggested this event be “dutch-treat.”

**Chapter/Area Committee Reports:**

**Baton Rouge:** Mr. Bacas reported the next meeting is scheduled for June 8th. After discussion, it was recommended that Chapter luncheons be postponed until August. Virtual meetings on COVID-19 issues could be a possibility for June/July meetings.

**New Orleans:** Mr. Poyser reported the next meeting is scheduled for June 11 and will postponed until August with the possibility of a future virtual meeting.

**Lafayette:**  Mr. Guidry reported the next meeting will be scheduled for August.

**Shreveport:** Mr. Duffy reported the next meeting will be scheduled for August.

**Monroe:** No report.

**Lake Charles:** Ms. Tomeny reported that the Lake Charles luncheon hosting Mayor Nic Hunter is scheduled for June 24.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership:** Report attached. Mr. Dupre advised Board Members to forward the COVID-19 communications to any prospective members and, also sees these valuable resources offered to membership should assist with retention during this crisis.

**Public Relations:** No report.

**Legislative Committee:**  2020 Regular Legislative Session bills summary report attached. Ms. Brasseaux reported she is working with AGC and AIA on possible amendments to HB 758 by Zeringue, pertaining to liquidated damages. Also, she is working on drafting amendments pertaining to an ethics issue relative to employees of companies who do business with their employee’s spouses’ public agency. Ms. Brasseaux reported she also expects a Special Session to commence immediately after the Regular Session.

**CLIENT LIAISON COMMITTEES**

**Transportation:**  Committee and Multimodal reports attached. Mr. Boagni reported that DOTD rebranded the Steering Committee to Consultant Outreach Group (COG) and a draft of the compensation position paper should be presented to the Board at the June Board meeting. Ms. Brasseaux advised ACECL and DOTD will schedule webinars on DOTD’s CCS training for those in New Orleans and North Louisiana.

Ms. Lebas presented the Multimodal report announcing Renee Lapeyrolerie is the new Commissioner of LADOT Multimodal.

**Water Resources:** Ms. Cookmeyer presented attached report. Also, CPRA has agreed to host a virtual CPRA Industry day, along with Parishes.

**Facilities:** Ms. Brasseaux reported that AIA has reached out to resurrect the Incidental Practice working subcommittee. Craig Campbell has agreed to represent ACECL and Ms. Lebas will send Mr. Andrew Labar(?) contact information, a retired electrical engineer.

**LES/Lapels:** Mr. Bayard presented attached report noting LAPELS authorized an emergency policy concerning supervising professional of licensed firms which allows for status modification for the supervising professional(s). Also, LAPELS has not received new board appointments and was told by the Governor’s office that new appointments would not be confirmed in the current legislative session.

**AGC/AIA:**  No report.

**Unfinished Business:** N/A

**New Business:**

Ms. Brasseaux reported that she received an inquiry from the Ascension Parish President asking if we had any concerns with the unsolicited proposal for the privatization of the Ascension Parish sewer system. After discussion, it was agreed that this is a legal question and not an engineering question.

A motion for final membership for Atlas Technical Consultants was made by Mr. Dupre and seconded by Mr. Reaux. Motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** The next Board meeting will be held on June 19, 2020, 10:00 – 2:00 at the Engineering Center conference room. A motion was made by Mr. Reaux and seconded by Mr. Dupre to adjourn the meeting.