**American Council of Engineering Companies
of Louisiana
Board of Governors’ Meeting
September 21, 2018
The Engineering Center
Baton Rouge, LA**

**BOG present:** Raymond Reaux, Kurt Evans, David Dupre, Andree Cortez, Craig Campbell, Michael Songy, Alison Catarella-Michel, Michael Thomassie, Sherri LeBas, Don Arrington, Lisa Cookmeyer, Nathan Junius, Brett Bayard, Chad Bacas and Bob Boagni

**BOG with prior engagements:** Micha Duffy and Andy Craig

**STAFF:** Dan Mobley and Haleigh Gray

**Additional Guest(s):** Ralph Junius, Richard Van Wootten, John Basilica, Tom Hunter, Butch Babineaux, Mark Lambert, Kimberly McDaniel, Dianne Hammonds and Steven Loeb

Chairman Reaux called the meeting to order and asked Secretary-Treasurer Cortez for roll call. Quorum established.

Michael Thomassie presented an inspirational message on team work.

Chairman Reaux asked for approval of the Agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Ms. Cortez to approve agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Reaux called for approval of the August 17, 2018 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Ms. Michel. Motion passed unanimously.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Ms. Cortez presented the August 2018 financials. (Attached) After review and comments, a motion was made and seconded to accept financials presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:**

Chairman Reaux reported that after the August Board meeting, the ExCom met to determine the direction to be taken on the contract negotiations with the New President & CEO. The contract with Doreen Brasseaux was signed and accepted with a start date of November 5, 2018.

Chairman Reaux presented the 2018-2019 Committees along with the Chairs and Board Liaisons to the Board.

Chairman Reaux asked for suggestions on the Continuing Education Committee to get Board members more involved for events then to send out to membership to get members more involved as well.

Chairman Reaux thanked the Board for the committee goals for the start of the year.

**National Directors Report:**

Mr. Evans reminded the Board about the ACEC Fall Conference to be held in Las Vegas and requested those attending to make a list of speakers of interest to bring back to our membership in Louisiana.

Mr. Evans reported on key topics from ACEC Last Word; the Water Resources Development Act was passed by the House and is going to the Senate and is expected to be approved next week; the twenty percent tax for the pass-through program expires in 2025 and Congress is working on doing away with the expiration date and making it permanent; and the Federal Highway Administration released $225 million for rural bridge replacement rehabilitation and Louisiana is not included on the list. Mr. Evans suggests this is something the Board needs to investigate.

**President & CEO Report**:

Mr. Mobley briefed on the CPRA Burris trip he and Ms. Cortez attended.

**Chapter/Area Committee Reports:**

**Baton Rouge:** Mr. Bacas reported that he is working on a speaker for the October 8th meeting.

**New Orleans:** Mr. Junius reported the next meeting is scheduled for October 11th. Speaker will be Lauren Averill with Jefferson Parish Coastal Management Department.

**Lafayette:** Mr. Bayard reported the next meeting will be a joint meeting with LES scheduled for October 17th. Speaker will be Bill Oliver from DOTD.

**Shreveport:** No report.

**Monroe:** Mr. Arrington suggests meeting once or twice a year.

**Lake Charles:** Mr. Babineaux reported the next meeting is scheduled for October 24th. Speaker will be Port of Lake Charles Director, Bill Rase.

**Alexandria:** Chairman Reaux reported he was not able to connect with Glenn Turner. He asked Mr. Junius to connect Mr. Turner to organize a luncheon meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership:**
Mr. Duprereported that he and the Chapter Presidents had a membership meeting this morning. He went over the recruitment and retention goal for the year. He suggested every Board member recruit one firm from the attached membership recruitment document.

**Continuing Education:**Project Outlook will be held November 15th and Mr. Dupre is open to suggestions for speakers Mr. Mobley confirmed Dr. Loren Scott and Dr. Shawn Wilson. Mr. Mobley will reach out to Michael Ellison and LED.

**Public Relations:**Ms. Cortez reported Ms. Sherri Burton will head up the Committee. She is currently looking for one additional Committee member; if interested please let her know.

**Legislative Committee:**Mr. Thomassie reported on the public employee issue. Mr. Thomassie, Mr. Reaux, Mr. Evans, Mr. Loeb, Mr. Jones and Mr. Mobley met earlier in the week to discuss this specifically. Mr. Loeb also invited Mr. Frasier, an attorney who specializes in the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics. Next step will be for Mr. Mobley to meet with Representative Henry.

The Board discussed hiring legal expertise on the Public Employee issue. A Motion was made by Ms. Michel to spend no more than $3,000 on research for the public employee issue and seconded by Mr. Dupre. The Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Reaux stated that he would like to hold an ACECL Legislative Day in March or April 2019 at the State Capitol and incorporate a short Board meeting.

**CLIENT LIAISON COMMITTEES**

**Transportation:**

Ms. Michel, Ms. McDaniel and Ms. Hammonds gave an update on the three Traffic Engineering Pilot classes. After a lengthy discussion on requirements and concerns it was suggested that ACECL form a small group to meet with DOTD within the next 30 days.

A Motion was made by Mr. Songy to assemble a group of 4 to meet with Mr. Ed Wedge. Mr. Campbell seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

**Highways**: Mr. Basilica presented the 2018 -2019 Transportation Committee goals and objectives.

**Multimodal:** Mr. Hunter presented the 2018-2019 committee goals. Ms. LeBas also reported that a meeting with Mr. Clark and Mr. Jones is scheduled for October 1st.

**Water Resources:**
Ms. Cookmeyer presented the 2018 -2019 committee goals. She also reported she will be setting up a meeting with both CPRA and the S&WB of New Orleans.

**Facilities:**

Ms. Donna Sentell reported that LAPELS currently do not have direct access to plans filed with the State Fire Marshal’s Office and will not until Phase 2 of the Fire Marshal’s new computer system is completed, which could take up to 3 years.   Ms. Sentell advised that when LAPELS receives a complaint, they contact the individual who is being investigated and ask for the plans, as they are held liable by LAPELS.

Mr. Campbell updated the Board on AIA/ACECL working committee to define the definition of incidental.  The agreed proposed language by the committee (see attached Professional & Occupational Standards document disbursed by Ms. Sentell), was presented to LAPELS at its last Board meeting and it was determined to be a conflict even under the stated thresholds.  The matter was deferred.  Next step: The architects will come back with edits and the committee will hopefully come to an agreement.  Also, Ms. Sentell advised that LSBAE has requested LAPELS to promulgate the rules at the same time as LSBAE.  Ms. Sentell reported on LAPELS rules change timetable and at best she sees this being completed no earlier than June 2019.

Ms. Sentell also advised that LAPELS has 2 investigators on staff along with Joe Harman, technical advisor, and an Enforcement Committee.

**LES/Lapels:**Ms. Michel presented the 2018-2019 committee goals.

**AGC/AIA:**
Mr. Songy presented the 2018-2019 committee goals.

**General Counsel:** Chairman Reaux recommended that the Board should read the Savoie Amicus Brief as it pertains to public employee.  Mr. Loeb advised that he has a Public Employee PowerPoint presentation and will send electronically to Mr. Mobley for distribution to the Board.  Also, Mr. Loeb reported that the I-12 barrier wall lawsuit is moving in a good direction with many engineering firms being dismissed.

**National PAC:** Chairman Reaux reported that ACECL is $7,600 short on meeting the PAC Goal with 70% of Board participation.

**New Business:** Chairman Reaux asked for preliminary membership approval for ADG Baton Rouge, LLC; Fourrier & de Abreu Engineers; M&E Consulting, Inc. and Duhon & Pleasant Consulting Engineers, LLC. A motion was made by Mr. Bayard to approve all four firms and seconded by Mr. Evans. The motion passed unanimously.

**Special Announcement:** Mr. Mobley reported no entries for the Robby Cangelosi Award have been received to date.

**Next Meeting:** The next Board meeting will be held on October 19th at the Engineering Center at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Reaux suggested prior to the October Board meeting there be a meet and greet breakfast with the new President & CEO.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Mr. Dupre to adjourn the meeting.