

County Engineers Association of Maryland

CEAM Spring Conference Business Meeting Minutes May 15, 2009 Rocky Gap Lodge, Flintstone, Maryland

The meeting was called to order by President John Redden 10:30 a.m.

A roll call of the Counties by the Secretary indicated the following County "Voting Members" to be present:

Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert (no), Caroline, Carroll (no), Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick (no), Garrett (no), Harford, Howard, Kent, Montgomery, Prince Georges, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's (no), Somerset, Talbot, Washington, Wicomico, Worcester, and City of Baltimore (no). Secretary announced that there was a quorum.

Minutes:

Secretary Mike Warring stated that he had emailed the minutes from the Fall 2008 Conference Business meeting from September 19, 2008 Clarion Resort and Conference Center in Ocean City, Maryland during the past week so that the voting members could read the minutes prior to this business meeting. There were no questions, or editorial comments from the voting members, and so the Secretary asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from the 2008 Fall Conference Business Meeting. A motion to adopt the minutes, as presented, was made by Ron Lepson (Howard County) and was seconded by Karl Weed (Kent County). The vote to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

Board of Directors Report: President John Redden presented his report from the Board of Directors as follows:

1. Professional Development Hours/PDH Certificates – John reported that Mike Hinchy (Charles County) was preparing certificates from the CEAM indicating credits for various technical presentations during our technical sessions at the semi-annual conferences.
2. MDQI Programs – John pointed out that CEAM was a "supporter" of this program that was initiated by the SHA, and that with our recently activated "Awards Committee" we hope to be able to submit our list of completed projects nominated for consideration to the NDQI review committee.
3. SHA Liaison Committee – this committee was initiated, and headed by former President Ed Adams in an effort to establish effective communications between CEAM and the SHA. As a result of effective communications with the SHA by Ed, Neil Pedersen has met with the Board during their December monthly meeting, and we expect him to visit with the Board at this December's meeting too. The Board feels that this forum will produce more effective communications with the SHA, and also provide a better understanding of the budgetary issues facing the Counties.
4. Maryland Association of Counties – John indicated that through our Legislative Committee headed by Bob Martin and Stu Taub, that we have established more effective communications with MACO, especially on legislative matters that affect the County members. It is the hope of the Board that thru more active participation in the Affiliate Technical presentations at the MACO semi annual meetings, that CEAM will become a more recognized Affiliate member of MACO, which is our goal to disseminate technical information to the elected officials of the State.

Treasurer's Report/Annual Budget - Doug Myers distributed copies of his Monthly report, and after an explanation of the numbers, the President asked the members for a motion to accept the Treasurer's monthly report – Motion was made by Bob Tenanty (Dorchester County), and was seconded by John Tustin (Worcester County) to accept the report. The vote by the members was unanimous. Doug then reviewed the yearly operating budget, and after some discussions, a motion was made by Ralph Taylor to accept the budget. A second of the motion was offered by Bob Tenanty, and the budget was adopted by the voting members present.

Committee Reports –

- **Nominating Committee** – Chairman Jim Wilson announced the following slate of Officers and Board Members to be sworn in at the evening ceremony, and will assume their office on July 1, 2009:

Officers:

President: Greg Africa:

First Vice President: Ed Plank:

Second Vice President: Hudson Myers;

Treasurer: Douglas Myers;

Secretary: Mike Warring;

Board Members:

Mike Mertaugh; Mike Hinchy; Steve Walsh; Scott Flanigan;

Bruce Johnston; John Nolan; and Bob Sebastian.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed slate of officers and members of the CEAM Board of Directors. Vote to approve as presented was unanimous.

- **Program & Conference Committee** –Ed Plank reported that he and Greg and the P & C committee are progressing well with the development of a sound technical program, and that he is currently confirming the technical speakers' availability. A suggestion from the floor was made to try and include a SHA representative to discuss the ARA program, and John Norris thought that it might be a good idea to include Walter Woodford to be a speaker on future technical programs, since he serves on the MdTA Board, and also has a background with the SHA, and last but not least, Woody is also a "Lifetime" Member of CEAM. The dates of the Fall Conference are September 17th through the 19th, and the conference will be located at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center.
- **Legislative Committee** – Co-Chairman Bob Martin reported that there were several bills that his committee has heard about, and would be following this legislative session to include: SB273; HB299; SB544; and SB47 & HP1078. Bob suggested that he and Stu would be working especially close with Michael Sanderson during this 90-day session in January. Bob also voiced his concern that the Governor need to make another \$200 million dollar cut in the budget, which he feels will probably come from additional HUR Funds cut to the Counties.
- **Membership Committee**: Mike Warring presented a report from Chairman Todd Mohn that states the following membership details: Members = 280; Associate Members = 228; Retired Members = 34; Life/Honorary Members =16 for a total membership of 558. The Membership Committee will be conducting 3-5 regional meetings to promote expansion of our membership rolls.

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- **Scholarship Committee** – Dale Coppage stated that the Scholarship Committee had increased the value of the four CEAM scholarships to our planned goal of approximately one-half of the annual tuition, or \$4,200.00 each per year. The committee is also meeting with officials of Morgan State University in an effort to create a CEAM engineering scholarship at this University. They hope to have a MIOU signed before the Fall Conference, and will be asking the Board for additional funding to support the MSU scholarship.
- **Awards Committee** – Jim Montgomery is the Chairman of this committee, which also includes the following members: Todd Mohn; Jim Wilson; Bob Taylor; and Jim Wilson. He will be sending out a memo to members to submit their nominations for the various individual, and project awards to be given out at the Fall Conference. Jim also noted that nine of the projects nominated for CEAM recognition were also submitted to the MdQI committee for recognition. The first CEAM awards ceremony took place at the Fall 2008 Conference on September 19th.
- **Associate Member Advisory Committee** - Darl reported that the Associates would be asked to provide additional subjects for our Fall Conference to be sure that the P & C committee is aware of the technical information that the Associates, and Members would like to hear. It was suggested that 3X5 cards would be given out at the Fall meeting in order to gain the needed insight for future technical programs.
- **NACE Report** – Kevin Beachy, who serves as the CEAM liaison to NACE reported that the national convention took place at Peoria, Indiana from 4/18-4/25/09, and Kevin pointed out that he had submitted his overview of the many facets, and highlights of the Convention to President John Redden. He said that many of the convention sessions were very long, and there were 40 states represented by the attendees. Kevin also stated out that 14 states had 100% participation by all of the Counties.

Old Business: There were no Old Business items brought to the floor for discussion.

New Business:

- Gary Rohrer - stated that he felt that CEAM as an organization needed to be more involved with MACO regarding proposed legislation. He recalled testimony by several DPW directors before the legislature when the first set of cuts in HUR redistribution to the counties began several years ago. He suggested that we needed to be more visible to the leadership of MACO in order to protect our roads maintenance budgets and programs. He urged the Board to become more active, and visible to the Senators and Delegates before any further cuts in HUR funds took effect.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the Business meeting was offered by Steve Young, and was seconded by Karl Weed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Michael Warring, P.E., Secretary
CEAM Board of Directors