

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

January 17, 2009

1. Committees and Programs:

• **Business Practices:**

- Along with Lauren Evans and Velma Lane of Van Gilder Insurance, met with Cam Mc Nair, City Engineer, Steve Gess, Contracting Manager, and Wynetta Massey, Deputy City Attorney to discuss city contract. Velma will put contract revisions in writing to submit to the city.
- Responding to request of the Jobs Creation and Economic Growth committee concerning laws/regs that impact members' businesses.
- Attended DCC meeting with AIA/AGC/ACEC leadership which is developing a white paper on importance of stimulating the economy through capitol construction. This white paper will be presented to the legislature's Job Creation and Economic Growth Committee.

• **Public Relations:**

- 2009 Magazine was with the January issue of Colorado Construction Magazine; the 2010 magazine theme is now being developed.
- Seven Outstanding Woman in Engineering Nominations were received. This award will be presented at the Feb. 24th General Meeting.
- The new format for our monthly newsletter debuted in January.
- Comcast agreed to broadcast our Bridge Maker and Documentary-A Century of Change videos throughout January-March. City of Colorado Springs, Lakewood, Wheat Ridge, Glenwood Springs and Mesa County agreed to broadcast the E-week video that included our videos and E-week videos during February.

• **Transportation:**

- ACEC/CO members are meeting with Rep. Spencer Swalm concerning his proposed legislation on tolling.
- Jim Brady, committee chair and Mark Boggs, Legislative committee chair with Marilen Reimer and lobbyists Bill and Lacey Artist met with Senator Josh Penry about upcoming transportation funding legislation.
- ACEC/CO members continue to meet with CCA and their lobbyists concerning the proposed FASTER transportation funding legislation that was announced by Governor Ritter this past week.
- Continue to meet with Pam Hutton, chief engineer for CDOT, concerning the Governor's Efficiency Report.

• **Legislative:**

- Invited legislators to our annual Legislative Day Lunch on Feb. 3rd at the Red Room on Colfax, East of Grant. At this time about 20 legislators have agreed to attend.
- Bills are being tracked and referred to the respective committees for advice to support, oppose or stay neutral. Please see the legislative page of our website for information on the bills we are tracking.
- Attended a program concerning Amendment #54, and its impacts on members who have sole source contracts with the state and their inability to make political contributions.
- Designing a new "Legislative Voice" newsletter to keep members updated on legislation that ACEC/CO is tracking.

• **Environmental**

- Continue to plan the workshops with CDOT and FHWA on Quality NEPA documents that will be held in February and April. Members are being asked to submit and present examples of their quality documents.

• **Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) Colorado:**

- QBS Study that was done by CU-Boulder and Georgia Tech will be published in February. Study shows QBS still very effective.

- **Water Resources:**
 - 20 members met with Assistant State Engineers Kevin Rein and Scott Culbertson and Colorado Water Conservation Board Director Jennifer Gimbel concerning upcoming water legislation and projects.
- **Expert Witness: (Leslie)**
 - Processing 5 applications for certification. Any applicants that complete the certification process by June 30, 2009 will be grandfathered into the ACEC national Expert Witness Designation program along with the rest of ACEC/CO Expert Witness Certificants.
 - Planning the May expert witness practices seminar.
- **Education/Scholarship (Kim):**
 - Scholarship applications are due February 6th. ACEC/CO awarding \$28,000 in scholarship for students in Colorado's engineering schools.
- **Website/Technology (Leslie):**
 - Discussed podcast center and pricing for podcasts.
 - Reviewed website.
- **Awards (Leslie):**
 - Requesting nominations for George Washington Award and General Palmer Award. Awards are presented at the April Annual Meeting. See Awards page on the website for the nomination forms.
- **Women's Forum (Kim):**
 - Planning spring program and a future program with "Women in Design" organization.
- **Programs (Jennifer):**
 - Brian Coggen presented program on the economy for our January breakfast series; Craig Van Kirk of CSM will do the February program on "What drives the cost of oil and gas?"
 - Promoting 2009 Future Leaders Supervisory Series. Graduation for those who attended the 2008 classes will be January 27th; Rich Weingardt will give the keynote on leadership.
- **Membership:**
 - 28 members attended the quarterly Colorado Springs meeting with Robin Kidder of City of Colorado Springs. He gave a presentation concerning Pikes Peak RTA's future projects.
 - Value of Membership Survey is being sent to members this week.