

THE FIRST WORD

June, 2011

Stacy Loeffler Assumes Chairmanship of ACEC OKLAHOMA

New Officers Elected, Budget Approved, By-Laws Changed During Annual Convention

Stacy Loeffler, Principal and Secretary/Treasurer of BKL, Inc. of Tulsa, was installed as the 57th chief elected officer of ACEC OKLAHOMA during the Annual Convention in Branson,

Assuming the Chairman of the Board position from Jim Benson, Loeffler becomes only the third woman since the organization was formed in 1954 to hold ACEC OKLAHOMA's highest office, following in the footsteps of Betty Jackson (1984-85) and Julie Guy (1997-98).

Loeffler joined BKL, Inc., in 1987 following her graduation from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. She became a project manager at the firm in 1995 prior to becoming a principal and owner. She specializes in Structural design, foundations, buildings, and bridges.

She is a Past President of the Tulsa Chapter of OSPE, and is a former recipient of OSPE's "Young Engineer of the Year" award. Other professional memberships include the Society American of Military Engineers, American Public Works Association, American Concrete Institute, and the American Society of Civil Engineers. She is also a member of the Tulsa Downtown Lions Club and is on the University of Oklahoma Civil Engineering Visiting Council.

Married to Mike Loeffler, as Assistant District Attorney for Creek County, they have two children: Greg, a junior at the University of Missouri, and Holly, a senior at Edison Prep in Tulsa. They live on the family "farm" outside of Bristow.

Officers elected to the 2011-12 Board of Directors include:

- * Chairman-Elect: **Alan Soltani**, SAIC, Oklahoma City
- * Vice Chair Membership: **Chuck Mitchell**, Crafton Tull, Tulsa
- * Treasurer: **Joe Davis**, Triad Design Group, Oklahoma City
- * Vice Chair Business Practice: **Brent Schniers**, Garver, Tulsa
- * Vice Chair Education: **Marty Hepp**, Cobb Engineering, Oklahoma City.



Chairman of the Board Stacy Loeffler and Immediate Past Chairman Jim Benson

Jim Benson, Poe and Associates, Oklahoma City, will continue on the Board of another year as Immediate Past Chairman. Also, **Jim Stewart**, PSA Consulting Engineers, Oklahoma City, begins his final year of a 3-year term as ACEC National Director.

During the Annual Convention, the Board and Membership approved the 2011-12 Budget as well as approving amendments to the ACEC OKLAHOMA By-Laws.

The By-Laws changes open a new membership category of "Associate" members. Associate members are businesses which provide support, professional services, or products "complimentary" to our member engineering firms, or, provide services that support the business operations of Member Firms. Businesses eligible for Associate membership would include Architects (not A/E; A only), Contractors, Construction Managers, Management/Marketing Consultants, Law, Accounting, and Insurance, among others.

ACEC ACTION ALERT

3% WITHHOLDING MANDATE – THE TIME FOR REPEAL IS NOW Contact Your Members of Congress Today to Support Repeal

ACEC is teaming with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and over 100 other business associations in launching a major grassroots effort to repeal the onerous three percent withholding mandate.

As you may know, starting in 2013, federal, state, and certain local governments will be required to withhold three percent from contracts and payments owed to engineering firms and other government contractors. Intended to be a tax enforcement mechanism, this new mandate will place significant cash flow and administrative burdens on engineering firms. The mandate will also impose huge costs on your government clients. In fact, the Department of Defense has estimated that it will cost the agency \$17 billion to implement the mandate.

Legislation is gaining support in the House and Senate to repeal the withholding mandate, but we need your help as we work to add additional House and Senate cosponsors to the repeal bills. ACEC strongly supports H.R. 674, introduced by Representatives Wally Herger (R-CA) and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), and S. 89/S. 164, introduced by Senators David Vitter (R-LA), Scott Brown (R-MA), Olympia Snowe (R-ME), and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN). These bills have attracted bipartisan support, but your voice is needed to push repeal of 3% withholding over the finish line.

ACEC Members are encouraged to fax a letter of support to congressional offices **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!!!**

For your convenience, copies of the letters (one for our Congressmen, and, one for our Senators) along with addresses and FAX numbers can be found on the attached "Word" document. **PLEASE SEND INDIVIDUAL LETTERS TO ALL CONGRESSMEN AND BOTH SENATORS.**

NOTE -- Be sure to FAX your letter. Do Not Mail....due to security screenings, it takes about 10 days for a mailed letter to reach a Congressional office. FAX arrives immediately!

Welcome New Members

ACEC OKLAHOMA is proud to welcome five new member firms to the Council.

Two are full "Member" firms:

J C ENGINEERING, PC of Owasso is a one-person DBE firm providing general Civil Engineering services including roadway, traffic, drainage, grading, water and sewer. Joe Kelley is the principal of the firm.

JACKSON & JACKSON ENGINEERING is a 3-person Oklahoma City DBE firm headed by John Derek Jackson. The firm provides both Structural Engineering (Bridges & Buildings) and Civil Engineering (Roadway & Subdivisions).

Additionally, under the new member category just approved in the new ACEC OKLAHOMA By-Laws, three business have joined as "Associate" members.

ADOBE INSPECTION SERVICES, INC., of Tulsa is a DBE firm that provides Construction Inspection and Construction Materials Testing services. Byron Labadie is the firm contact.

DIGITAL MAPPING ASSOCIATES of Wellston, a DBE business owned by Susan Mobley, provides Aerial Survey and Photogrammetry services, and is a DBE firm.

REDBUD MARKETING, LLC of Norman is a Marketing and Business Development firm providing services to Architects, Engineers, and Construction Professionals. Kristi Pempin is the owner of this DBE business.

ACEC OKLAHOMA is excited to have **J C ENGINEERING** and **JACKSON & JACKSON ENGINEERING** as our newest Members, as well as **ADOBE INSPECTION SERVICES**, **DIGITAL MAPPING ASSOCIATES**, and **REDBUD MARKETING** as our "charter" Associate Members.

We look forward to having all five of these Member and Associate firms as active participants in the Council, and thank them for their support of ACEC OKLAHOMA!

Welcome!!!!

2011-12 ACEC OKLAHOMA Meeting Calendar

Please mark your calendar today for these important meetings:

Thursday, August 25, 2011

Board & General Membership Meeting (Lunch)
Oklahoma City

October 19-22, 2011

ACEC Fall Conference
Caesars Palace, Las Vegas

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Board & General Membership Meeting (Lunch)
Tulsa

Thursday, January 26, 2012

Board & General Membership Meeting/EEA
(Dinner)
Oklahoma City

Feb 9-10, March 8-9, April 12-13, 2012

Leadership For Engineers
Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Stillwater

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Board & General Membership Meeting (Dinner)
Tulsa

April 15-18, 2012

ACEC Annual Convention
Washington, DC

Thursday, April 26, 2012

ODOT/ACEC Partnering Conference
Oklahoma City, OK

May 31 - June 2, 2012

ACEC Midwest States Annual Convention
(Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas)
Branson, MO

2011-12 Dues Billings

The 2011-12 ACEC OKLAHOMA Dues Statements will be mailed to all member firms in the next few days.

We would like to take this opportunity to THANK YOU for your continued support. It's our honor to serve this great profession, and we look forward to continuing to provide you with the quality of service you expect and deserve!

Oklahoma Congressman Tom Cole Blocks Disclosure of Political Contributions

The U.S. House of Representatives passed an ACEC-backed amendment last week that would block the Administration's draft order requiring government contractors to divulge their political contributions.

The amendment, offered by Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) to the \$690 billion Defense Department authorization bill for FY 12, passed by a vote of 261-163. The legislation now goes to the Senate.

ACEC joined a coalition of business associations to oppose the Administration's draft order, asserting that political affiliation should not impact government contracting decisions.

To see a copy of a letter sent by ACEC and the coalition to President Obama, click here:

www.acec.org/advocacy/committees/pdf/ltr_potus_051711.PDF



ODOT will host the 2011 WASHTO Convention, July 17-20 at the Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City.

ACEC OKLAHOMA Members are urged to participate. For more information, go to:

<http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/washto2011/index.htm>

ACEC OKLAHOMA Office Closed June 21st-29th

The ACEC OKLAHOMA Office will be closed from Tuesday, June 21st through Thursday, June 29th for vacation.

I will be checking my voicemail occasionally and my e-mail regularly. If you need to get in touch with me, please leave a voicemail at the office or send me an e-mail.

I will be in Alaska, and there is a three-hour time difference, but I will get back to you at the earliest opportunity.

President's Monthly Update

June, 2011

David Raymond, ACEC President & CEO

The past month in Washington has been very active – with Congressional consideration of proposed reforms to the Small Business Size standard, new legislation to remove the state volume cap on Private Activity Bonds for water financing, testimony on 3% withholding repeal, and a rally on Capitol Hill to get a new six year transportation bill passed. ACEC members figured prominently in these efforts through their testimony before important House committees and record setting contributions to ACEC/PAC to support pro-industry members of Congress. At the same time ACEC's educational programs maintained a high level of participation in business webinars and on site seminars; in particular ACEC's "fundamentals of A/E business management" course received highest ratings from attendees. As we get into June, ACEC along with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other allies will be launching a major grass-roots campaign to repeal the 3% withholding.

General

- * ACEC joined key business associations and Members of Congress in a "Rally for Roads" on Capitol Hill urging Congress to pass a new six-year federal highway bill.
- * Opposed draft proposal under consideration by Obama Administration to require government contractors to reveal political contributions in advance of being considered for project awards.
- * ACEC/PAC fundraising set record pace; ACEC/Indiana is latest state organization to reach its 2011 goal.
- * Held special orientation session for three new ACEC state executive directors – Eric Madden (PA), Jayne Martinko (WI), and Rob Casto (WV).

Government Affairs

- * Testified in support of 3% withholding repeal at House Small Business Committee hearing; Ian Frost of EEE Consulting presented ACEC's position.
- * Testified on small business size standard at House Small Business Committee hearing; secured extension for deadline on comments in order to develop unified industry position; John Woods of Woods Peacock Engineering Consultants represented ACEC.
- * Introduced legislation to remove the state volume cap on Private Activity Bonds for water and wastewater financing, allowing municipalities easier access to capital for water infrastructure projects.
- * Met with senior officials from the Departments of State and Commerce on how to increase overseas infrastructure work for U.S. firms; 14 member firms participated.
- * Hosted industry roundtable with Congressman Bill Shuster (R-PA), of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, on surface transportation program and pending FAA and water legislation.
- * Hosted industry "meet and greet" at ACEC headquarters for freshmen Congressmen David McKinley (WV) and Pat Meehan (PA).
- * Hosted congressional fundraising events for Reps. Sam Graves (MO) Devin Nunes (CA) and Bill Pascrell (NJ).

