

ACEC OKLAHOMA UPDATE

May 1, 2020

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Even though many received this from ACEC about a week ago, we're posting this here and asking that everyone contact your member of Congress and our two U.S. Senators. First, **CLICK** on the link below. There is a simple registration process, and then a pre-drafted letter (editable) is provided which will be e-mailed. If you haven't already, we ask that **ALL ACEC OKLAHOMA members email your Congressman and Senators today!** It should only take above 5 minutes, but the rewards could impact the rest of your career! **ACT NOW!!!!**

ACTION ALERT

**Support a robust infrastructure agenda
to promote economic recovery**

ACEC member action is requested to engage House and Senate lawmakers to support an economic recovery agenda that includes significant and sustainable investments in the nation's critical infrastructure and regulatory reforms to move projects forward expeditiously.

[Click Here to Contact Your House and Senate Members](#)

While Congress needs to act to address near-term priorities to keep businesses afloat, ACEC and stakeholder allies are urging lawmakers to begin action on longer-term measures that will kick start the economy and sustain growth in the coming years. ACEC supports an agenda that includes a long-term reauthorization of the FAST Act with sustainable and growing revenues, passage of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to authorize new Corps of Engineers water projects and more funding and financing mechanisms to support water and wastewater projects, and measures to support energy markets, vertical projects, and other priorities in the built environment.

ACEC OKLAHOMA Board Meeting Report No Dues Increase for 2020-21

Your ACEC OKLAHOMA Board of Directors met on Thursday, April 23rd to conduct the regular business of the Council.

Minutes from the January meetings, Treasurer's and Membership reports were reviewed and found to be in good order, and other business was discussed. Here's a brief recap:

- The Board unanimously voted to suspend any dues increase for the 2020-21 fiscal year while also instructing the Budget Committee to keep the 2020-21 Budget basically "flat" for the next fiscal year.
- The Board unanimously voted to suspend the annual "recertification" process for the 2020-21 year. This means that member firms dues statements will be sent in mid-June based on the same "employee count" as the 2019-20 membership year. If a firm's employee count has changed, the firm can notify ACEC OKLAHOMA and a revised dues statement will be issued.
- In the next few days, firm principals will receive a "Member Survey" to assess the COVID-19 pandemic impact on Oklahoma firms. ACEC national has been conducting a similar survey over the past six weeks, and we want to see how Oklahoma fairs

ACEC OKLAHOMA Nominating Committee Report

The ACEC OKLAHOMA Nominating Committee has submitted its report for Officers for the 2020-2021 year.

The Committee, chaired by Immediate Past Chairman Keith Angier, and joined by Past Chairs Brandon Claborn and Marty Hepp, submitted and placed into nomination the following:

- **Chairman-Elect:** Hollis Allen, Walter P Moore, Tulsa
- **Vice Chair Membership:** Mike Vahabzadegan, EST, Inc., Oklahoma City
- **Treasurer:** Adam West, Benham Design, LLC, Tulsa
- **Vice Chair Business Practice:** David Neuhauser, CP&Y, Inc., Oklahoma City
- **Vice Chair Education/P.R.:** Doug Glenn, CEC Corporation, Tulsa

By virtue of election as Chairman-Elect last year Chad Grinsteiner, White Engineering Associates, Oklahoma City, will automatically become Chairman of the Board. Current Chairman Jim Hemphill, Poe & Associates, Tulsa, will remain on the Board as Immediate Past Chairman, and Brent Schniers will continue as the ACEC National Director (3rd year of three year term).

compared to the national survey and regional breakout of that survey.

- The Board unanimously approved a new Strategic Plan for the Council. You can view the plan [here](#). Thanks to the Strategic Planning Committee for their hard work in developing the Plan.
- Chairman-Elect Chad Grinsteiner reported on the President/CEO Search Committee, noting that the first steps for finding a replacement for President Sullins, who is retiring at the end of 2020, were underway.
- Discussed upcoming meetings which may need to be held virtually or possibly be postponed/cancelled.
- Discussed possible virtual "town hall" meetings hosted by ACEC OKLAHOMA, including Principal Roundtables; open meetings with state and local clients such as ODOT, City of Tulsa, City of Oklahoma City, and others; and possible virtual "lobbying" with members of the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please feel free to call or email.

ACEC Free-to-Member Webinars

ACEC is hosting a number of free-to-members webinar in the coming days and we encourage you to participate.

The webinars are:

[**You Are Not Alone: Tools for Transforming Stress**](#) , Thursday, May 7, 11:30-12:30 pm ET.

[**Post COVID-19: Economic Outlook**](#) , Friday, May 8, 1:30-2:30 pm ET.

[**Grow Your Way Through the Next Recession**](#) , Thursday , May 14, 3:30-4:30 pm ET.

ACEC National Board of Directors Cancels Dues Increase

At its first-ever virtual meeting on Saturday, April 25, the ACEC Board of Directors unanimously voted to forego the planned 1.6 percent Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase to 2021 member firm dues, welcomed a new chairman and members of the Executive Committee, and got an introduction to the ACEC Research Institute. Almost 300 members participated in the virtual event.

Not implementing the CPI increase "translates to about \$180,000 in lost revenue," said ACEC President & CEO Linda Bauer Darr. "We will offset this by continuing to review where we can cut our operational costs, examining our outside consulting and membership expenses, and working to keep revenue growing by bringing in new members."

"Even as we move forward in this crisis, our priorities remain close to fully funded at levels before the crisis" Darr stressed. "Our Business Resources and Education, Communications, and Advocacy departments are in overdrive to do more with less."

Charles Gozdziwski, chairman emeritus of Hardesty & Hanover in New York City accepted the Chairman's gavel, and Robin Greenleaf of Architectural Engineers, Inc. in Boston made history becoming the Chair-Elect of ACEC. One year from now, Greenleaf will become the first female Chair of ACEC!

ACEC Coronavirus Resource Center

Just a reminder that to provide you with the most up-to-date information, ACEC has developed a dedicated page to provide member firms with the latest information on the coronavirus and the impact on engineering firms.

The [**ACEC Coronavirus Resource Center**](#) is

You Are Not Alone: Tools for Focus, Presence and Empathy in a Changed World, Thursday, May 21, 11:30-12:30 pm ET.

You Are Not Alone: The Essentials of Effective Energy Management, Thursday, June 4, 11:30-12:30 pm ET.

To join any of these, go to the page linked on each above, click the gray "Checkout" button on the respective page to login to your ACEC National account and register.

- You'll then be prompted to enter your email address and password before you can continue through the checkout process.
- If you do not already have an account created, you can click the **New Visitor Registration** link above the login box to set one up.
- You do not need your ACEC National member number to create an account. Simply using your firm email will allow you to get started.

updated regularly and provides a wealth of information from Federal Agency Guidance and Legislative Summaries, to upcoming Webinars and Member Resources.

We urge you to visit this site DAILY for the latest information!

ODOT DBE Disparity Study

ODOT is conducting a statewide disparity study for its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program for federal-aid contracts to ensure that DBEs have equal access to contracting opportunities and that the current program remains narrowly tailored and administratively successful.

The study team may contact your firm directly, or, you can participate in focus groups and public meetings.

For more information, visit the study website at <http://odot.disparity-study.com/>



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Let's Connect:

