

THE FIRST WORD

September, 2018

ACEC OKLAHOMA / PSMJ Project Managers Bootcamp October 11-12, 2018, Oklahoma City **Early-Bird Discount Deadline September 12th**

Just a reminder that ACEC OKLAHOMA will be hosting the critically acclaimed **PSMJ Project Managers Bootcamp** in Oklahoma City on October 11-12, 2018.

Early-Bird Discount registration deadline is Wednesday, September 12th. After that, all prices increase!

ACEC OKLAHOMA is bringing the program to you at a **HUGE cost savings!** The "going rate" for the Bootcamp through PSMJ is \$1,795.00 per person, which doesn't include travel, hotel, meals, time, etc. to some far away location.

Registration for the ACEC OKLAHOMA PSMJ Project Managers Bootcamp is only \$1,395.00 per person.....a savings to you of \$400.00 per person IF YOU REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 12TH. And, to sweeten the pot a little more, if you send at least 3 people to the Bootcamp, the registration fee for the 3rd person and any additional attendees from your firm will receive a **25% discount** off the already low price of \$1,395.00!!!

Registration fee includes all meeting materials, along with continental breakfast, lunch, and breaks both days.

Registration information has been sent to all member firm and is available on the ACEC OKLAHOMA website.

Consulting Engineers PAC Successful in Run-Offs; Focus Now on General Elections

Consulting Engineers PAC went 4 for 4 during the Run-Off Elections on August 28th.

Representative John Pfeiffer easily won his run-off. Nicole Miller and Denise Crosswhite Hader, both running for open House seats, advanced to the General Election. And, Bill Coleman won his run-off, and with no opposition in November, will be the next Senator from the Ponca City area.

At the August 18th PAC meeting, the Trustees and Voting members also authorized contributions to three Senate and four House incumbents for the General election race. We will begin distributing those checks in early September.

Another Consulting Engineers PAC meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, September 25th, at which time the Trustees and Voting Members will consider additional races and possible contributions.

We urges all members to support Consulting Engineers PAC. Personal credit card contributions can be made on the ACEC OKLAHOMA website, under the "Advocacy" tab. Or, you can mail your Personal check to the PAC.

Leadership For Engineers

Registration is open for Class # 10 of ACEC OKLAHOMA's "Leadership For Engineers" program.

Five of the fifteen available seats are filled, and we expect the rest of the class to fill quickly. If your firm has not yet registered someone, we urge you to do so quickly.

Info is available on our website: www.acecok.org

CALLING ALL MARKETING ROCK STARS!

ACEC OKLAHOMA is assembling a marketing committee. We are looking for marketing professionals proficient in website, social media, and client relations with strong writing skills.

If you are interested in joining the committee or have questions, please contact our committee chair, Kristi Pempin via email: kpempin@redbudmarketing.com or phone (405) 550-2695.

President's Monthly Update

July, 2018

Linda Bauer Darr, President & CEO

As we begin the Labor Day weekend, our thoughts go out to our members in Hawaii who suffered the effects of the torrential rains from Hurricane Lane. As storms and other natural disasters wreak havoc on lives and the built environment, I continue to be inspired by the role our members play in improving the resilience of our infrastructure and rebuilding when necessary. Since coming on board a few weeks ago, I have had the pleasure of speaking with some of you on the phone and have greatly enjoyed and valued your insights and expertise on our Council. I look forward to continuing that process at the upcoming "listening sessions", which will give me a chance to hear from MO leaders in central locations. Both the volunteer leadership of the MOs and executive directors are invited and encouraged to attend. August marked the conclusion of the Council's rigorous annual audit by CliftonLarsonAllen, which gave us a clean bill of financial health. Good work by our ACEC Financial Oversight Committee and the ACEC Finance team led by Barry Doyle! Have a safe and enjoyable long weekend.

Government Advocacy

- The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released the first proposed rule to implement the new 20% Section 199A passthrough tax deduction that ACEC secured for A/E firms; the Council will submit comments on the proposed rule and invites input from member firms.
- The Environment and Energy Committee's summer meeting featured presentations covering Marcellus shale developments, emergent contaminants in drinking water, Army Corps implementation of an infrastructure permit streamlining initiative, and cybersecurity.
- Submitted comments to FHWA on proposed "safe harbor" indirect cost rate policy, noting potential benefits for small and DBE firms but seeking uniformity and consistency in implementation by state DOTs.
- Endorsed the Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Act (H.R. 6510), a bipartisan bill to provide dedicated revenue for the National Park Service and other federal lands programs to address infrastructure improvements and deferred maintenance needs.
- Joined with industry colleague organizations in support of S. 3033, the Water Quality Certification Improvement Act of 2018, which seeks to streamline state water quality certification authority under the Clean Water Act to facilitate interstate natural gas pipeline projects.
- Submitted comments to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) in support of targeted improvements to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to streamline project delivery.
- ACEC joined the Partnership to Protect Workplace Opportunity in raising concerns about a Pennsylvania Department of Labor proposal to double the state overtime pay threshold and automatically update it every three years; this proposal is similar to the federal Department of Labor overtime pay rule that was overturned by a federal judge.
- In August, the Executive Committee approved Minuteman Fund grants for the following MOs and initiatives:
 - ACEC/Virginia & ACEC/Metro Washington (joint grant): Support for legislative effort to close QBS statutory loophole in Virginia.
 - ACEC/Missouri: Support for transportation funding ballot initiative.
 - ACEC/New Mexico: Support for indemnification legislation effort.
 - ACEC/Mississippi: Support for amicus brief on issue of protecting professional engineering licensure.
- ACEC/Alabama achieved their ACEC/PAC goal for the fifth year in a row (and for the 13th time in the last 14 years); ACEC/New Hampshire hit its ACEC/PAC goal for the first time ever (due in large part to the active support and involvement of the state's Emerging Leaders group).

