



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Kentucky

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THE KENTUCKY TIMES

ENGINEERING EDITION

A Note from Your ACEC-KY Executive Director Russ Romine

Spring is in the air and it has been a busy month at the Kentucky Engineering Center. We've hosted training classes, committee meetings, held the quarterly Board of Director's Meeting and quarterly Membership Meeting (which included a presentation of the Kentucky FAME program, followed by a fascinating tour of the Toyota Motor Manufacturing plant), hosted the 2017 Engineering Excellence Awards, and closely followed the final days of the 2017 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. As we turn the calendar to April, things don't seem to be slowing down.

I would like to congratulate all the firms that participated in this year's ACEC-KY Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) program. We had a variety of entries in this year's competition that were designed by quality professionals, aimed at addressing a host of issues. Special congratulations to this year's winner of the Grand Conceptor Award, Stantec, for their Hatchery Creek Stream Restoration project. Here's a list of all the winners in this year's competition:

- Grand Award to Bell Engineering for the Somerset Water Treatment Plant Expansion project – City of Somerset, client
- Grand Award to Bell Engineering for the UK Nicholasville Road FEMA Flood Mitigation project – University of Kentucky, client
- Grand Award to EA Partners, PLC for the Kingdom Come State Park Access project – Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (District 11, Manchester), client
- Grand Award to Gresham, Smith and Partners for the J.D. Nichols Campus Plaza project – NTS Development Company, client
- Grand Award to Integrated Engineering, PLLC for the Water Street Storm Sewer Phase 1 project – City of Richmond, client
- Grand Conceptor Award to Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. for the Hatchery Creek Stream Restoration project – Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, client

I encourage all firms to consider participating in next year's ACEC-KY EEA competition. This is a great program that gives you an opportunity to showcase your firm and be recognized for the exceptional work that you do for your clients.

Looking ahead to April, I'm excited to attend my first ACEC Annual Convention and Legislative Summit in Washington, DC in three weeks. This year's event will be held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, April 23-26. Registration is still open, so act quickly if you want to attend. A link to register can be found at www.acec.org. In addition to the convention events, a delegation from ACEC-KY will be meeting with Kentucky's members of Congress and/or their staff. As the face and voice for engineering businesses in Kentucky, strong advocacy for our issues is vital to our mission. We look forward to discussing a variety of issues that can help propel the nation's economy forward, and advance the business interests of our member firms. If you would like to join our delegation for these meetings, please contact me as soon as possible.

As mentioned above, the Kentucky General Assembly just wrapped up the 2017 Regular Session. Both legislative chambers adjourned sine die shortly before midnight, last night (March 30). For a short session, there was a lot of activity and a lot of issues were covered. Issues ranging from charter schools, to prevailing wage, to driver licenses (Real ID), to drug addiction. One issue that remains to be addressed is comprehensive tax reform. As Governor Bevin outlined in his State of the Commonwealth Address in February, comprehensive tax reform must be tackled, and it must be tackled soon. In addition, the Governor said it must include addressing the pension system crisis.

Continuing on the topic of tax reform, in last month's newsletter, ACEC-KY President Brad Montgomery discussed our participation in the newly formed Kentucky Infrastructure Coalition (KIC). As preparations are made for a (likely) August special legislative session, ACEC-

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KY and KIC are working hard to identify needs and develop solutions that can be part of the package that becomes comprehensive tax reform. As Brad mentioned at our Quarterly Membership Meeting last week, there is no issue currently more important for ACEC-KY than advocating for adequate funding for a robust state transportation program. As tax reform is debated, and tough decisions are made, state transportation funding must be part of the discussion.

Details of our legislative strategy will be unveiled in the days and weeks ahead. We will need your support as we all engage members of the legislature to articulate the need, and suggest solutions. Ensuring that funds are available to maintain our existing transportation system, and design and develop the system of the future, is vital to all of Kentucky.

That's a quick summary of the many activities we have going on. If you have any questions, or would like to further discuss these issues or other issues you may have, please let us know. I hope you take time to get out and enjoy the beauty that is springtime in Kentucky!

All the best!

Russ

ACEC-KY Quarterly Meeting on March 22nd

We had a great time at Toyota on March 22nd. With about thirty members in attendance, we started with a general business meeting, hearing what our committees have been up to you, followed with lunch. As everyone finished up lunch, we got to hear a presentation from Jack Lewis who is involved in the AMT (Advanced Manufacturing Technician) Program through Kentucky FAME. It was very interesting to hear how the program works, how many applicants they tend to have and how many they are actually able to sponsor in the program. We also were able to learn how the program is structured

- where they students attend class two days a week and work three days a week

- so they are able to earn a good living while obtaining



their degree.

Following Jack's presentation, we got to go on a tour of the Toyota facility which is always interesting to see how a car is built from start to finish. Thanks to all who attended and for Toyota for hosting us!

ACEC-KY EEA Awards Reception on March 29th

The ACEC-KY EEA Awards reception was held this past Wednesday night, March 29th at Bourbon on Main in downtown Frankfort from 5-6:30 pm. We were trying out a new format and it seems to have been well received.

We want to congratulate all our award winners on a job well done! It was a great group of projects in this year's competition.

Grand Award "Somerset Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project"

Firm: Bell Engineering
Client: City of Somerset



Grand Award "UK Nicholasville Road FEMA Flood Mitigation Project"

Firm: Bell Engineering
Client: University of Kentucky



Grand Award "Kingdom Come State Park Access Project"

Firm: EA Partners PLC
Client: KYTC D-11



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Grand Award

*"J.D. Nichols
Campus Plaza
Project"*

Firm: Gresham
Smith &
Partners
Client: NTS
Development
Company



Grand Award

*"Water Street
Storm Sewer
Phase 1"*

Firm: Integrated
Engineering,
PLLC
Client: City of
Richmond



Grand Conceptor Award

*"Hatchery
Creek Stream
Restoration
Project"*

Firm: Stantec
Consulting
Services, Inc |
EcoGro

Client: Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources



More photos from the reception:



Those in attendance heard from a representative from each firm about the projects.



ACEC-KY DATES TO NOTE

April 23 – 26, 2017

ACEC Annual Conference
Washington, DC

June 21, 2017

ACEC-KY Board of Directors Meeting
ACEC-KY Quarterly Membership Meeting
TBD

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

2017 KSPE Annual Convention

Cincinnati Marriott at RiverCenter - Covington, KY
April 19 - 21, 2017

Spring Dendrology & Native Tree Identification

Bernheim Arboretum - Clermont, KY
June 1, 2017

2017 KSPE ANNUAL CONVENTION

CINCINNATI MARRIOTT
AT RIVERCENTER

REGISTRATION OPEN
ONLINE NOW!

↓
COVINGTON, KENTUCKY

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ON APRIL 19-21, 2017