

Associated General Contractors of Alaska
Executive Board Meeting
February 7, 2016
10:00 AM
Anchorage, Alaska

Minutes

Call to Order – Opening Comments

The meeting was called to order by President Dana Pruhs at 10:06 AM and thanked everyone for coming.

Attendance/Quorum

In attendance in Juneau were President Dana Pruhs Vice-president Dan Hall, Secretary Jim St. George, Treasurer Mike Shaw, Associate member Traci Johnson and Member-at-large Tony Johansen and Ex-officio members Hal Ingalls and Jim Fergusson. Attending by teleconference was Immediate Past-president Meg Nordale

Also in attendance was Executive Director John MacKinnon

Approval of Minutes

Dana asked if anyone had any comments or correction to the minutes of the December 9, 2015 meeting. Jim Fergusson noted the correction to the spelling of his name.

On a motion by Tony Johansen and a second by Mike Shaw, the minutes of the December 9, 2015 E-Board Meeting were approved as corrected.

Guest Speaker: Ben Sparks from the group *alaska'sfuture* or AKfuture.org gave an informative and detailed presentation of their polling data and educational efforts to get the legislature to address the current fiscal problem. Following the presentation was a good Q&A session.

New Business – a. Resolution in Support of a Fiscal Plan. Dana noted that Meg was only available for a while longer and asked for a suspension of rules to take up item 6a while Meg was able to participate

John discussed the purpose of a resolution that it be a strong message of support from the Association. We have done a few during his tenure in support of major issues. They are often passed on to other organizations and posted Resolutions. There was a discussion that the fourth WHEREAS be amended so that it didn't include the actual price of oil and it was re-worded to read:

"with the low oil prices and low production, Alaska is experiencing a massive budget gap;"

The RESOLVED line was amended to say:

"The Associated General Contractors of Alaska supports the implementation of a long-term and commonsense solution that solves the budget challenge through fiscal restraint, permanent fund earnings and new revenues"

On a motion by Meg Nordale, a second by Dan Hall and without objection, Resolution 2016-01 was approved.

Communications

John went through the communications and a number of them resulted in questions and comments. John mentioned the letters of support for some current legislation – HB67, HB249/SB132. He went over the "Thank You" letter that was signed by Meg Nordale and sent to a long list of AGV members who volunteered last year on a variety of Boards. It is Meg's feeling that a letter of appreciation was very appropriate and should come from the past President. Also in correspondence was the letter of appointment to the 7 new Board Members.

John pointed out a couple of publications in which AGC of Alaska was either prominently mentioned or quoted. Also included was an opinion piece by AGC of America President Chuck Greco about Senator Dan Sullivan's Red Tape Act. Chuck had the pleasure of Meeting Senator Sullivan at our annual conference in November.

New Business

b. Minute Taking Service

John reported that at the last meeting, he was directed to look into services for taking meeting minutes and he tasked Margaret with the job. John referenced the memo in the packet with the results. Five firms were consulted and all had the same requirements:

- Meeting members identify themselves and speak one at a time either standing after they have been recognized to speak
- Meetings are recorded and transcribed verbatim to include every "Uh", "well", and "and"

- The verbatim draft transcript will also require considerable editing to get to a final version for approval.

There ensued a number of comments about how other boards take minutes, including voice recognition software.. Their objective was to take some of the workload from John. He was asked to look into some of the voice recognition programs and see if we could try one of them out at the July E-Board meeting in Fairbanks.

Reports

- a. **President Dana Pruhs** – Dana noted that one of the prerogatives of the President is that he can change the order of the agenda. He said that the Vice-president's report would go first.
- b. **Vice-president Dan Hall** reported on the Western Chapters trip to Las Vegas. We had a number of discussions with some of the other oil states (North Dakota, Wyoming) and they're feeling the pinch too. Like Alaska, it isn't quite as bad as the papers would make it seem.

- c. **President Dana Pruhs** – Dana reported on a number of his observations of the meeting. All of the Western Chapters give a brief report on their chapter. One of the items was a demographic report of each of the chapters and he noted that the Alaska Chapter was in line with other chapters of similar size – number of members, chapter staff size and budget. He talked about the fly-in and the good turnout from the board and membership. We had a nice meeting with the Governor and an array of legislators – over 36 in all. The dinner with legislators was also a nice event.

Jim St George added that all of the legislators he met with were concerned about the fiscal issue and that it was their number one priority. He added they all felt it would not be one big package, but a number of smaller bills.

Traci Johnson said it was her first fly in and a good learning experience.

Mike Shaw talked about the recent construction forecast presentation and the importance of our efforts towards a capital budget.

Hal Ingalls mentioned the mornings Legal Bites by Traeger Machetanz and the need to be careful of what one puts in an email. Jim Fergusson added that care should be taken with any electronic transmission and copier device – they all have a chip and a memory.

- d. **The Executive Director** – John discussed his activities for the past 6 weeks since he returned from leave over Christmas. It has been non-stop in a number of areas. The annual Construction Forecast – getting it finalized with Scott Goldsmith and ISER. The presentations in Anchorage and Fairbanks this year. The Anchorage venue had some challenges, and Fairbanks, being a smaller

venue, went off much better. More audience engagement. Next year they'd go back to a smaller venue in Anchorage.

He mentioned the labor conference that preceded the Western Chapters meeting. There were a couple of new issues to be aware of, but overall, he believes that Alaska is not behind the rest of the country in our labor negotiations.

He noted that we had spent over nine full days in negotiations with the Operators Union and were still far apart on the economic terms. He contrasted that with the very cooperative session they recently had with the trowel trades and how well both sides worked together.

He noted the upcoming negotiations with the roofers and the hope to get a contract and a new rate prevailed at the federal level to take care of the problem that had been ongoing since 2011.

He mentioned the National Convention coming up next month in San Antonio and the Alaska dinner, co-hosted with Spenard Builders Supply that was being arranged with the assistance of a former Anchorage resident Bob Stiles.

And Casino night coming up on Friday night. It is sure to be a packed event, with 150 tickets sold out in advance, and a number of Dealers from both the Board and membership.

- e. **Financial Report** – John presented the financials, noting a couple of items in the year over comparison. He noted that the dues revenue reported in October appears to have been a timing issue – late reporting of 3rd Quarterly Volume Dues and the as of 1/31/16, dues are up over 6% compared to YTD 2015. He brought attention to the 2015 Conference revenue up almost 15% over 2014. Attributing that to the successful efforts of increasing sponsorships and increased full conference registrations.

He noted that one of the problems with the Events revenue/expense reports is that as the example of Sporting Clays shoot, they often cross fiscal years. He said the next report would show them as complete and not with the fiscal year cut off problem.

In looking at the Expense page, he noted that all budget items reflect the amended budget as proposed on December 9 meeting. For the next meeting he would show original and amended amounts. He noted that one of the items was a reduction in Personnel Costs and added that we are on track to meet that. January 31 was the halfway point of the fiscal year and those expenses are just under half of the budget amended. He also noted and reiterated the CEF reimbursable in the Employee Expense line.

f. **Membership Report**

John talked about the membership report and noted the email he had sent everyone explaining the lower number for February. It was an annual drop due to late membership renewals.

John introduced Lauren Sharrock, AGC Membership Director who gave a presentation on the Association Management System (AMS) software that we are presently implementing.

Lauren talked about the problem we've had with any change to any members information, and the numerous places those changes had to be made. One mistake and sometimes information didn't get to the right people. It had caused many problems in the past.

Last summer, she was tasked with researching an AMS that would save all the unnecessary steps we'd been struggling with. She mentioned the grant from the ACIAP that funded some of the cost to implement the program and the first two years of use. Like most software these days, it is cloud based.

Comments

John noted the upcoming Spring Board meeting April 14 & 15. He mentioned the excellent turnout at last year's meeting, in large part due to the invitation Meg sent to all Board members. Dana said he would like to do that again this year. John added he was looking into speakers for Friday afternoon after the Board meeting. Adding that he was trying to get Don Young to come to lunch again, like happened two years ago. There was discussion this past year among the Hard Hats of giving Don a special award for his years of service and support of the industry. Dana suggested names of a couple of possible speakers, including the new University President, the new Fairbanks Borough Mayor and the Interim President of the AGDC.

Traci Johnson mentioned the All-Stars program and the effort to revamp it.

Dana said he'd like to see some better recognition of the All-Stars at some point during the year.

Dan Hall said we need to put more effort into getting the other Board members involved – perhaps an invitation to join a committee along with their "Welcome to the Board" letter.

Dana asked about the status of the By-laws committee. Traci Johnson and Jim St George have been added to the review committee.

Dana noted that he'd like the next Teleconferenced meeting to be Tuesday, March 29, and asked that Margaret send the invitation in Outlook, along with the call-in numbers.

Unfinished Business

- a. **Strategic Action Plan Update** – John pointed out the three pages of “updates” to the SAP recommendations since the last meeting in December. He brought particular attention to #27 *“Conduct an annual performance review to ensure alignment of staff with Board's strategic direction and goals, achievement of performance expectations and re-contracting as needed”* noting that this hasn’t been done yet this winter, adding, however, that staff is very cognizant of all the SAP items and keep them in mind on almost a daily basis. He said this is probably the first Strategic Plan that he’d ever seen that was not just collecting dust. He encouraged the Board to read it, as this report is #1 in the recommendations of the SAP.

Executive Session – The Board recessed into executive session for the purposes of discussing the findings of the committee appointed to work on a possible contract renewal of the Executive Director.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:43 PM