Virtual Fall Meeting Agenda and Registration Form

Thursday, November 19, 2020

8:30 a.m.—9:45 a.m. Executive Committee Meeting

10:30 a.m.—11:00 a.m. Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann

Elected in November 2007, the Honorable Delbert Hosemann serves as Mississippi's eighth Secretary of State since 1900. He was re-elected to his third term in Office in 2015. Secretary Hosemann is committed to serving the public with open and fair government. In the short time since he was elected, he has worked tirelessly to ensure the integrity of Mississippi's vote, ethically manage state lands to guarantee the future for our children, and make our State more business-friendly and attractive for economic development.

Secretary Hosemann has long served the citizens of the State of Mississippi. Delbert was Chairman of the Board of Mississippi Blood Services and Treasurer of the Jackson Medical Mall Association and served on the Board of Directors for Jackson State University Development Foundation. He was a Paul Harris Fellow and is a member of the North Jackson Rotary Club. Some of his accolades include the 2016 Mississippi Top 50 in the Elective/Appointed Government Officials Section Fellow, the George L. Phillips Community Service Awards from the U.S. Department of Justice in appreciation for his distinguished service as Chairman of Project Safe Neighborhoods, and for his efforts in the Hurricane Katrina First Responder Assistance Project. Delbert was also awarded the J. Tate Thigpen Award for exemplary leadership, support, and commitment to the American Red Cross.

In his spare time, Secretary Hosemann is an avid hunter and marathoner. He belongs to the National Rifle Association, Delta Wildlife Foundation, and Ducks Unlimited. He has completed both the New York Marathon and the Boston Marathon and represented Mississippi in the Senior Olympics.

Raised in Warren County, Mississippi, Secretary Hosemann comes to the position with a background in Business and Taxation Law. He has his undergraduate degree in Business from Notre Dame, a law degree from Ole Miss, and a Master of Laws in Taxation from New York University. He is a former partner of Phelps Dunbar, LLP, and was selected to the Best Lawyers in America for 18 consecutive years. Secretary Hosemann also served his country in the United States Army Reserve.

11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. ACEC/MS General Membership Meeting
Friday, November 20, 2020

9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

Linda Darr, President and CEO, ACEC National

Prior to leading ACEC, Ms. Darr worked with every major mode of transportation either as an advocate or a government official. Most recently, Ms. Darr was President of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association from 2014-2018. She worked with key stakeholders to maintain and enhance strategic and operational plans for ASLRRRA, and clearly defined and executed the association’s value proposition. Prior to ASLRRRA, she was President and CEO at the American Moving & Storage Association from 2007–2014, and held senior positions from 2001–2007 with the American Bus Association, where she directed the day-to-day activities of the ABA Foundation, the educational and research arm of the association, and secured the first security grant funding available for any surface transportation industry post-9/11. As Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs at the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1998-2000, she oversaw the development of a $60 billion annual budget for USDOT covering aviation, maritime, rail, Coast Guard and highway funding. Additionally, she oversaw the Department-wide effort to reform its processes for review of financing of large transportation infrastructure projects or "megaprojects." Ms. Darr's career in the transportation industry began in 1989 when she joined the American Trucking Associations where she later served as Vice President of International Affairs during the NAFTA negotiations and later as Executive Director of the North American Transportation Alliance on behalf of the three National North American Trucking Associations.

Ms. Darr serves on the Board of the Transportation Institute at the University of Denver and is a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Committee of 100 Association Executives.

Steve Hall, Senior Vice President for Advocacy and External Affairs, ACEC National

Steve joined ACEC in 2001, and currently serves as Vice President of Government Affairs. He is a fourteen-year veteran on Capitol Hill, most recently as Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for Congresswoman Sue Kelly (R-NY). Prior to joining the Kelly office in 1995, he served for two years as Senior Legislative Assistant on the staff of Congressman Bill Zeliff (R-NH), where he handled the Congressman’s work on the Transportation and Infrastructure and Government Operations Committees. Steve also handled transportation and infrastructure issues for Congressman Matthew Rinaldo through congressional consideration and passage of ISTEA in 1991. He began his Hill career in 1987 as a legislative assistant in the office of Congressman John Hiler (R-IN). An avid hunter and angler, Steve lives with his wife Terre and daughter Sarah in Ashburn, VA.
Philip Gunn began serving in the Mississippi House of Representatives in 2004. On January 3, 2012, he became the 61st Speaker of the House of Representatives in Mississippi. This is the first time in 136 years a Republican has held this title in the Mississippi House of Representatives.

Speaker Gunn credits his ability to reach across the aisle to his time spent at Baylor. While earning his B.B.A., Gunn met students from every state in the nation and from countries around the world. Being exposed to this diversity set the foundation for Gunn’s career. His time in the legislature has proven he is a leader not only in the House of Representatives, but also throughout the entire state. As a result through the years, he has served on the Executive Committee of the Mississippi Republican Party and has served as Chairman of the Republican House Conference since it was formed in 2006. Gunn was instrumental in organizing the Republicans in the House of Representatives for the first time in modern history.

Gunn’s biggest reward from attending Baylor has been his wife Lisa, whom he met at school. The experiences they shared, and the memories they made have bonded them in a special way. The Gunns have been married for 30 years and are the proud parents of Meredith, Alex, Andrew and John David. They have one grandson, Axel Elias Gunn. They live in Clinton, Miss.

After graduating from Baylor, Gunn earned a J.D. from The University of Mississippi Law School, where he was elected Student Body President. He is an attorney at Wells, Marble, Hurst PLLC in Ridgeland, Miss. In 2010, Gunn was named “One of Mississippi’s Top 50 Leading Attorneys” in the Mississippi Business Journal’s Leadership in Law Class of 2010. In 2012, Gunn received the State Legislative Achievement Award from the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform as a result of the Attorney General “Sunshine” Act being passed during the 2012 Legislative Session.

Gunn is actively involved in his community. He is a current member of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce. Before being elected to the House of Representatives, he served on the Clinton Public School Board. He is a former Elder at Morrison Heights Baptist Church in Clinton and former Chairman of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Board of Trustees in Louisville, Ky.
When Dennis Truax came to Mississippi State University in 1976 to pursue a master’s degree in civil engineering, he expected to obtain his degree and then leave to become an environmental engineering consultant in Maryland. When the consulting firm he was going to work for delayed its opening, Truax decided to stay at MSU and continue to teach and do research. After completing his master’s degree, Truax went on to become an instructor in the department and was promoted to assistant professor after completing his doctorate in the field in 1986. Twenty years later, Truax was tapped to lead the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Truax twice has served on the American Society of Civil Engineers Board of Directors and currently is on the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors. Through ASCE, he served on a taskforce that evaluated ways to make Engineers Without Borders a more sustainable organization. At MSU, he helped launch and now advises the student chapter. Last year, the group completed implementation of nine water wells in rural Zambia, providing sources of clean drinking water to approximately 10,000 people. An MSU Engineering Without Borders team is returning to Zambia this summer to finish the project.

Closer to home, Truax is helping facilitate the construction of MSU’s planned new building for the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. The new facility will have state-of-the-art research and teaching labs, offices and classrooms. Truax said the facility will enhance the department’s ability to instruct, attract and teach new students and attract new faculty. Although there have been many changes during Truax’s 41 years at MSU, he said one constant is that the students are not deterred by adversity.

Mark Humphreys has served as the Executive Director of the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors since 2015. Prior to that time he served as the Executive Director for the Licensure Board in South Dakota. Mr. Humphrey is a native Mississippian and currently lives in Madison County, MS with his wife and children.
Virtual Fall Meeting
Registration Form
November 19-20, 2020

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Firm: _____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________

Email: _____________________________________________________________

Spouse/Guests: ______________________________________________________

Check One: Member: ☐ Sponsor: ☐ Non-Member: ☐

Member Registration Fee: $50 per person
Non-Member Registration Fee: $75 per person
Meeting Sponsorship: $100 per firm (includes 1 representative) Make sure to email your company logo to jessica@acecms.org.

Make all check payable to ACEC/MS.
Registrations may be mailed to 825 N. President Street, Jackson, MS 39202 or emailed to jessica@acecms.org.
For all other questions please feel free to call us at 601.420.2002.

***Note:
Make sure to include your email address above. Zoom links will be emailed closer to time of the meeting.