

# ACEC

American Council of Engineering Companies  
of Mississippi

September 2019  
Volume 25, Issue 1

825 N. President Street  
Jackson, MS 39202  
Tel: (601) 420-2002

[craig@acecms.org](mailto:craig@acecms.org) • [www.acecms.org](http://www.acecms.org)

**"The Voice of Mississippi's Engineering Companies"**

## *ACEC Mississippi's 50th Anniversary*

April 1, 1967, the Consulting Engineers Council of Mississippi, now known as the American Council of Engineering Companies of Mississippi, was formed. Pictured to the right is Hayden Kaiser, Jr. (Jordan, Kaiser & Sessions of Natchez, MS), the first President and leader of our organization. "We are pleased to advise that a CEC of Mississippi has been formed. On April 1, ten consulting engineering organizations agreed to form the Consulting Engineers Council of Mississippi, and steps have already been taken to incorporate the new organization and seek CEC affiliation," Hayden Kaiser, Jr., April 10, 1967.

September 11, 1969, the Consulting Engineers Council of Mississippi became a Mississippi non-profit organization. "Leland Cook, President of Consulting Engineers Council of Mississippi ... he is hereby authorized, empowered and directed in concert with Hayden Kaiser and Brax H. Batson ... to act as incorporators and to make application for and to secure a chapter of incorporation from the State of Mississippi for the purpose of organizing a non-profit and non-share corporation."



# ACEC/MS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Wayne Morrison



I want to begin by thanking Allen Scott for his leadership as President this past year and many thanks to Craig Carter and Jessica Gosa for their hard work. No one realizes how much time and effort goes into planning and executing our legislative duties on the state level, as well as the hours of preparation for our meetings throughout the year. Staying informed with legislative issues, Stephen Clay with The Clay Firm helps make this possible. We are beginning a new year for ACEC-MS where we will witness new state leadership and face various challenges that will affect our engineering community. We need to stay focused on being the engineering community's primary voice, and my hope is that we are able to build alliances with others who share common concerns from ASCE, MES, MAPS and others.

A thank you to those who made excellent presentations at Roosevelt Day on August 23: Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Buildings, Mississippi Department of Transportation, USDA-Rural Development, Mississippi State Department of Health Water Supply, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and Mississippi Development Authority. The information we received on what we can expect to come down the pipeline concerning work and funding was extremely beneficial. There were about 90 attendees present, and it was encouraging to see many younger members in attendance. The idea of having more in-depth meetings like Roosevelt Day has been requested by a few interested parties. ACEC/MS could host two or three hour sessions in the morning a few times a year. If you have any ideas on topics and/or speakers, let Craig know and he can contact the appropriate committee chair. These sessions would offer PDH certificates.

October 13 to October 16 is the ACEC National Fall Conference in Chicago, Illinois. To register, go to [www.acec.org](http://www.acec.org) to view the speaker line-up and the event schedule located in the brochure. If you have never been, I would encourage you to go. Firms as small as mine profit greatly from what is learned there.

ACEC-MS is celebrating 50 years of being a Mississippi non-profit organization! We will celebrate our anniversary at the Fall Meeting set for November 7 and 8, located at our new office, 825 N. President Street, Jackson. Our Fellows Banquet will be held at Albert's at Parlor Market the night of November 7. The Fellows of ACEC is "an elite group of engineers who have made significant contributions to the engineering profession through their experience, knowledge and networking abilities."

I encourage you to consider attending this event, network with our members and maybe leave with some new ideas for your business.

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 31, 2019—EEA Call for Entries 2020 Intent to Enter
- November 7-8, 2019—ACEC Mississippi's 50th Anniversary and Fall Meeting
- December 20, 2019—EEA Projects are Due



for everything CONCRETE

### MCIA can:

*A non-profit  
trade association  
representing the concrete,  
concrete block, cement,  
aggregate, and related  
industries doing business  
in Mississippi*

- ▶ Expand Your Network
- ▶ Put Knowledge at Your Fingertips
- ▶ Speak to Your Organization
- ▶ Provide Proven Training

601-957-5274

MississippiConcrete.com



# 50 Years of ACEC Mississippi





# ACEC President's Update: Linda Bauer Darr

## MO Services

- ACEC's award-winning magazine Engineering Inc. will switch to a seasonal publication schedule (four issues per year) beginning in February, 2020; the magazine will still deliver the best coverage of the business of engineering, including advocacy updates, marketplace news, Member Firm innovations, and starting next year, in-depth profiles of Member Organizations.
- ACEC National hosted its first ever MO staff training session on August 7 and 8; 22 staff from 14 different Member Organizations attended, including five Executive Directors; a second training session is being planned for early 2020.
- ACEC has released a [customizable Value Proposition for MOs](#) as part of the NAECE Executive Toolkit; this tool allows MOs to add local accomplishments, testimonials and content, while maintaining the overall ACEC brand and messaging.
- The next webinar in the NAECE Executive Toolkit Series, "Sponsorship and Non Dues Revenue Best Practices," is scheduled for Thursday, September 19th at 2:00pm EDT; [click here](#) to register and receive your calendar invite.

## General

- Produced a new podcast episode on the [business case for a diverse workplace](#), featuring an interview with Chandra Storrusten, CEO & Chief Value Creation Officer at Visible Value; remember, our Engineering Influence podcasts are [found here](#) and to date we have archived 20 for your listening pleasure!

## Advocacy and External Affairs

- Held a monthly advocacy conference call with the MOs; the next call is scheduled for September 19 at 1:00 p.m. EDT – contact [Steve Hall](#) for further details.
- Senator John Barrasso (R-WY), the Chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, joined members of ACEC's Executive Committee during their summer meeting in Jackson Hole to discuss his \$287 billion surface transportation reauthorization bill.
- ACEC sent a letter to the Treasury Department requesting guidance on the application of the R&D tax credit to the engineering industry in order to streamline audits and provide improved direction to firms that claim the credit.
- Met with Treasury Department staff to discuss solutions to the problem of governmental entities requiring payment in exchange for allocating the Section 179D energy efficient commercial tax deduction to the designer.
- Submitted pre-publication comments on EPA/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers proposed compensatory mitigation rule changes.
- ACEC Superfund and Emerging Contaminants Work Group submitted four recommended program performance measures to EPA's Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation.
- The ACEC Water, Energy and Environment Committee held its 2019 Summer meeting in Denver; presentations covered water project finance, electric and water utility cybersecurity requirements, watershed flood resilience, UAMP advanced nuclear power station deployment, Colorado River management, microgrid market development and more; the committee took positions on energy and water measures pending in Congress, and identified topics for advocacy and awareness development e.g., federal resilience program performance, and cybersecurity webinars (certifications, water systems).
- Participated in National Governors Association infrastructure stakeholder summit focused on multimodal investments and technology innovations for congestion relief and economic development.
- Hosted P3 Coalition meeting that featured USDOT's Chief Infrastructure Funding Officer.
- Sent recommendations to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers updating EP 715-1-7, the Engineer Pamphlet providing guidance to USACE contracting staff; the recommendations address industry concerns over the Corps' policy of competing task orders and include updated best practices for effective selection of a firm for a specific task order under a multiple award IDC.
- Met with members of Senate staff on passage of United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA).
- Met with GSA staff on numerous open FAR cases and issues related to procurement.
- Contacted all MO executive directors, updating them on their respective PAC budgets and encouraged them to meet with the delegation members during the August recess.



AMERICA'S ROADWAY RESOURCE  
is  
IN YOUR BACKYARD

Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions is proud to be your go-to roadway resource. Let one of our specialized team members assist you on your next project, and find the answers you're looking for today.

 **Ergon Asphalt  
& Emulsions, Inc.**

Learn more at  
[ErgonAsphalt.com](http://ErgonAsphalt.com)