March 26, 2020

Items included in this ACEC Missouri Weekly Update are listed below.

- **COVID-19 News** *(COVID-19 Updates from ACEC & ACEC Missouri and Updates on Meetings/Conventions; ACEC Free Online Class: COVID-19 Potential Effects on Overhead Deadlines, Allowable Costs, and Steps to Take Now; How to Manage Your Newly Remote Workforce)*

- **Liaison Committee News** *(Kansas City, Missouri Liaison Committee Meeting; Missouri Department of Transportation - Southeast District Liaison Committee Meeting)*

- **Member Information & Calendar** *(Member News; Calendar of Events)*

If there is something you would like us to include in the weekly updates, please contact the [ACEC/MO office](mailto:). We would love to hear your thoughts. Thanks!

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**COVID-19 NEWS**

**COVID-19 Updates from ACEC & ACEC Missouri and Updates on Meetings / Conventions**

Last week you should have started receiving *COVID-19 News & Updates* emails from ACEC Missouri. This is something new we have put together to help keep members informed on COVID-19. There is an abundance of information that is now available on ACEC's [website](https://acec.org) as well as the ACEC/MO [website](https://acec-missouri.org) to help members and member firms to get through this trying time.

**STATUS OF UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The final two sessions of ACEC/MO's 2020 Future Leaders Academy in April and May have been moved to May and June. We are working with hotels to confirm the new dates and will post that information on our website and in this update once we have it available. The ACEC Midwest States Conference on June 7-9 is still on as scheduled but we'll keep you informed if that changes.

ACEC National has been informed by the Marriot Wardman Park that their 2020 Annual Convention and Legislative Summit can no longer occur at their hotel on the scheduled dates. They are now assessing options on moving forward with a virtual convention, and likely postponing their advocacy program and the Engineering Excellence Awards Gala to a later date. Details concerning a virtual convention will be forthcoming, but they are actively working to bring you an engaging and informative event with the quality content you expect
from an ACEC event. ACEC’s full statement and FAQ on the Annual Convention as well as information on refunds and cancelling hotel reservations can be accessed at the Coronavirus Resource Center by clicking HERE.

ACEC Free Online Class: COVID-19 Potential Effects on Overhead Deadlines, Allowable Costs, and Steps to Take Now

In a free, March 31st online class COVID-19 Potential Effects on Overhead Deadlines, Allowable Costs, and Steps to Take Now, A/E Clarity President Dan Purvine will discuss a wide range of issues related to the effects of business disruption on your overhead rate. Questions to be addressed include:

- Will state DOT overhead submittal deadlines be affected by the COVID-19 crisis?
- Are costs related to the COVID-19 crisis allowable?
- What steps should you take now to support the allowability and proper allocation of your costs?

Registration for COVID-19 webinars is free to ACEC members. Click here to register.

How to Manage Your Newly Remote Workforce

Due to COVID-19, working from home is the new normal right now. Below are some tips on keeping your employees productive and happy. Suddenly, much of the workforce is teleworking. Given the urgency of the public health crisis, companies who didn’t have remote working in place had little time to institute policies for staff, ensure proper technology, or set up training. Here are three ways to manage a newly remote workforce:

Establish routine check-ins. For employees who are accustomed to the buzz of a busy workplace, working from home can feel isolating. According to the 2018 State of Remote Work, loneliness is the biggest struggle to working remotely. Similarly, employees sometimes feel that their supervisors are out of touch with their needs. To combat social isolation and better support employees, establish structured daily check-ins.

Consider setting office hour limits. Worried your staff will be playing video games for hours instead of working on that report? Experts say that overwork is more common. Remote workers sometimes feel compelled to answer email at all hours and put in time on the weekends. People tend to work more from home because it’s harder to ‘leave’ work.

Provide opportunities for remote connection. Consider setting up remote happy hours or cyber lunch dates. To help keep employees connected, hold trivia contests or use a messaging platform to keep everyone engaged.

LIAISON COMMITTEE NEWS

Kansas City, Missouri Liaison Committee Meeting

The Kansas City, Missouri / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on Friday, March 12th and was hosted by CDM Smith and Tetra Tech. Committee members in attendance for the meeting were Bill Barker, John Brummer, Chris Burns, Steve
Hileman, Tony O’Malley and Jessi Veach. The committee began the meeting by approving the meeting minutes from the December meeting. They then discussed organizational changes/new hires from KCMO and consultants (KC Smart Sewer Utility Officer, KC Water, Public Works, and consultant staff changes). An update was given on the consultant performance focus group. They also discussed state and national current legislative issues; and department updates (including KCMO Public Works, KCMO Water Services, KCMO Parks & Recreation, KCMO Aviation, KCATA, KC Streetcar, Coronavirus Update, and KC SmartSewer). The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 25th. To see the complete minutes to include the attachments, go to ACEC/MO’s website.

Missouri Department of Transportation - Southeast District Liaison Committee Meeting

The Missouri Department of Transportation (Southeast District) / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on February 21st and was hosted by MoDOT. Committee members in attendance for the meeting were Mike Busch, Billy Cobb, Aaron Kober, Bob Summers, Ryan Thomas and Todd Welz. The committee began the meeting with introductions and review of the minutes from the previous meeting. They then discussed MoDOT (SE) District staffing changes; design policy updates; Missouri legislative agenda updates; Bootheel bridge bundle update; consultant deliverables; LPA program; and upcoming projects (Design Build Bridge Package SOQ’s, Hwy 67 South, and 2021 Overlay Bundles using on-call list in approximately 7 different project locations). Other topics they discussed included Governor Parson talking about adding another $50 million in cost share; Wayfair tax (internet tax); federal bill in September; Mark Shelton’s retirement; and a MoDOT Program meeting on re-emphasis in practical design and doing the most you can with the money they have. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2020, 10 a.m. in the MoDOT (SE) District office. To see the complete minutes to include the attachments, go to ACEC/MO’s website.

MEMBER INFORMATION & CALENDAR

Calendar of Events

May 15 -- Last Day of 2020 Legislative Session
June 7-9 -- ACEC Midwest States Conference, Branson
August 21 -- ACEC/MO Summer Meeting, Columbia
October 14 -- ACEC/MO EEA Project Entry Deadline
October 19 -- ACEC/MO 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament, Columbia
October 28-31 -- ACEC Fall Conference, San Diego, CA
November 4 -- ACEC/MO EEA Judging
November 13 -- ACEC/MO Fall Meeting, Columbia

Newly added events are italicized. To see a complete calendar of events, go to ACEC/MO's website.