June 12, 2020

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

- **Industry News** *(Highway Trust Fund's May 2020 Tax Receipts Drop 79% Year-Over-Year; ACEC/MO 2020-21 Board of Directors Installed; ACEC/MO Year-End Activity Report or 2019-20; ACEC President's Monthly Update; Engineering Influence Podcast on Exploring ACEC's Pathways to Executive Leadership)*

- **Notable Events** *(ACEC/MO Held First Virtual Board of Directors; ACEC Offers Two New Free Member Roundtables; FYI...More Webinars Available; Plan Now to Attend ACEC/MO's Summer Meeting on August 21)*

- **Member Information & Calendar** *(Reminders; Member Firms Named to ENR's 2020 Top 100 Design-Build Firms; Member News; Calendar of Events; Quote of the Week)*

If there is something you would like us to include in the weekly updates, or if you need anything else, please contact the ACEC/MO staff: Bruce Wylie (*BruceWylie@acecmo.org*) or Dawn Hill (*DawnHill@acecmo.org*). We would love to hear from you!

---

**INDUSTRY NEWS**

**Highway Trust Fund’s May 2020 Tax Receipts Drop 79% Year-Over-Year**

Net deposits of tax receipts credited to the Highway Trust Fund totaled only $674 million in May, according to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, down 79 percent from $3.238 billion in May 2019. The unexpectedly large decline highlights the immediate need for Congress to pass the ACEC-backed $50 billion infusion to state DOTs to backstop revenue losses.

“While most current construction projects continue, we know that State DOT budgets are threatened by dramatic revenue losses as a result of declining fuel usage and other economic activity,” said ACEC Vice President Transportation Programs Matt Reiffer. “Some states are already delaying critical transportation projects, and we expect many more to follow.

“The $50 billion infusion of federal aid is urgently needed to prevent program disruptions and allow DOTs to continue planning, design, and construction engineering contracts. This federal backstop will also serve as a bridge to passage and implementation of a robust, bipartisan, and long-term surface transportation reauthorization bill that both the House and Senate are working to advance this summer.”

Click [here](#) to contact Matt Reiffer.
The ACEC/MO 2020-21 Board of Directors were installed on June 9 as part of our quarterly ACEC/MO Board of Directors Meeting. Kenneth Smith, ACEC Vice Chairman, installed the incoming board members. They will officially take office on July 1, 2020. Below are your ACEC/MO 2020-21 Board of Directors.

Chair
Vicki S. LaRose, P.E.

Chairman-Elect
Timothy J. Ross, P.E.

Vice Chairman
Buddy D. Desai, P.E.

Secretary/Treasurer
Kevin L. Wallace, P.E.

Director (1 year)
Daniel W. DeArmond, P.E.

Director (1 year)
Robert A. Gilbert, P.E.

Director (2 years)
Neil S. Brady, P.E.

Director (2 years)
Jason S. Dohrmann, P.E.

Director (3 years)
Shawnna L. Erter, P.E.
ACEC/MO Year-End Activity Report for 2019-20

Under the leadership of Chairman Steve Wells and with the help and guidance of the 2019-20 Board of Directors and active committees and members, your Council accomplished a great deal this year. Following are highlights under the Objectives of our Strategic Plan.

**BUSINESS PRACTICES HIGHLIGHTS**
- Planned and conducted 4 ACEC/MO-sponsored business practice seminars
- Planned and conducted 2-day PSMJ Project Management Bootcamp
- Held 28 different liaison meetings for the year with major public clients
- Successful QBS Advocacy continued with help of Procurement Committee
- Coordinated meeting of Professional Design Alliance
- Surveyed members and published results on key business practice issues

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS HIGHLIGHTS**
- Exhibited at the Missouri Municipal League and Missouri Association of Counties annual meetings
- Attended Missouri Chamber’s Environment & Energy Conference
- Attended meetings with MoDOT, MDNR and MSD
- Planned, promoted and conducted the 2020 Engineering Excellence Competition Judging and Awards Banquet
- Chaired Missourians for Transportation Investment (MFTI) and coordinated efforts with Executive Director

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS HIGHLIGHTS**
- President, lobbyist and members lobbied extensively and testified on measures supported or opposed by ACEC/MO
- Published weekly detailed bill tracking document for all members to access on our website
- Maintained and solicited for a strong, viable PAC
- Hosted advocacy teleconferences with Senator Blunt and Congressman Graves
- Attended & co-sponsored several Legislative Days with Mercury Alliance
- Hosted ACEC/PAC Fundraiser Golf Tournament
- Met twice with the Governor’s office as part of our Governor’s Liaison Committee

**ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS HIGHLIGHTS**
- Monitored the financial affairs of the Council and prepared the 2020-2021 Budget
- Responded to numerous membership inquiries
• Signed up 3 new members, 2 new associate members, and ended the year with 132 member firms
• Planned and conducted the 2020 ACEC/MO Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting in June by Zoom
• Planned and conducted 3 other ACEC/MO statewide meetings with guest speakers/programs
• Planned and conducted Future Leaders Academy in Jefferson City
• Attended the ACEC Fall Conference and ACEC State Execs Meeting
• Held monthly Board of Directors teleconferences
• Updated ACEC/MO website regularly, prepared and emailed weekly newsletters and new COVID updates to better inform the membership of the affairs of the Council
• Attended weekly webinars and Zoom meetings on COVID-19 for ACEC, ACEC Retirement Trust, ASAE, Missouri Chamber of Commerce, and MSAE

**ACEC President’s Monthly Update**

_from Linda Darr, ACEC President & CEO_

Our Rescue, Recover, Rebuild (R3) virtual advocacy campaign has exceeded our expectations. Member firms and Member Organizations, with the able assistance of our Advocacy team, have overcome the challenges of a pandemic and new technology to take to Congress our call for an infrastructure-based economic recovery.

To date, 2,100 grassroots advocates have sent 1,631 letters and 4,700 emails to Congress and hundreds of social media messages have been sent with the hashtag #RescueRecoverRebuild, stressing the need for long-term investments in America’s critical infrastructure to address years of deferred maintenance while modernizing our transportation networks to lay the groundwork for a post-COVID-19 economic recovery. In addition, members and MOs have held or scheduled 119 face-to-face virtual meetings with U.S. Representatives and Senators. We will continue to advocate throughout the summer for robust infrastructure investment, and I urge you to keep the pressure on Congress to act. Visit the [R3 website](#) to get fact sheets, sample letters to Congress, and social media resources to make your voice heard.

In May, more than 2,500 members participated in our complimentary [R3 Education Series](#) to help firms deal with the business challenges of COVID-19. Our Business Resources and Education team offered 14 free online classes and five roundtables during the month, including our first Private/Vertical-Markets virtual roundtable.

Our Meetings team is cautiously planning several small in-person events in the Fall, starting with the combined HR, IT, and Finance Forums meeting in San Antonio, September 13-15. For the Fall Conference, we will soon survey past attendees to assess the ability and willingness of members to support an in-person event. We continue to evaluate virtual options.

On **June 18 at 1:30 pm ET**, the ACEC Research Institute will host the first of its The Future of Engineering Roundtable Series: [The Impact of Technology on Engineering](#). Already, 304 members have registered to listen in and participate. I invite all of you to join me for what I’m sure will be a fascinating and meaningful discussion.

ACEC put together a detailed report to include the following: Advocacy; Business Resources and Education; Communications & Marketing; ACEC Research Institute; and Membership & MO Services. To see the detailed report, click [HERE](#).

**Engineering Influence Podcast on Exploring ACEC’s Pathways to Executive Leadership**

Geordie Aitken and Rod Hoffman, the faculty of ACEC’s Pathways to Executive Leadership program, stopped by the Engineering Influence Podcast to discuss the importance of giving mid-level engineering executives the tools necessary to succeed in the C-Suite. To listen to the entire podcast, click [HERE](#). More information about the Pathways program can be found [HERE](#).
ACEC/MO Held First Virtual Board of Directors Meeting

ACEC/MO hosted the first-ever Board Meeting by Zoom on June 9th. Members in attendance included: Ed Alizadeh, Marc Alper, Neil Brady, Dan DeArmond, Mike DeBacker, Dave Diestelkamp, Jason Dohrmann, Kevin Eisenbeis, Shawnya Erter, Bob Gilbert, Tom Gredell, Joe Hagerty, Vicki LaRose, Dan Meckes, Linda Moen, Tony O’Malley, Kimberly Robinett. Tim Ross, Kevin Wallace and Steve Wells. Guests attending the meeting included Linda Darr, ACEC President, Kenneth Smith, ACEC Vice Chairman, and Mark Rhoads, ACEC/MO Lobbyist. ACEC/MO staff in attendance were Bruce Wylie and Dawn Hill.

Linda Darr, ACEC President, gave a report that highlighted what ACEC has been doing these last few months to include: dealing with issues from COVID-19; the board approved no dues increase at their last board meeting; ACEC helped push for PPP loans as well as the PPP Flexibility Act; and they launched a grassroots advocacy campaign centered on an infrastructure first recovery agenda. Also during the meeting, attendees discussed the following items: year-end committee and financial reports; reviewed and approved the 2020-21 Budget; and ratified and approved 2020-21 ACEC/MO Board of Directors. To see the complete minutes from the meeting, contact the ACEC/MO office.

ACEC Offers Two New Free Member Roundtables

ACEC will host complimentary virtual member roundtables for firms in the Private/Vertical market sector and for medium-sized firms (51-200 employees).

The Private/Vertical Roundtable will be on June 22, 3:30-4:40 pm ET. The session will provide a platform to share ideas and discuss the issues facing your business, including disruptions and opportunities in different markets, such as commercial real estate, health care, manufacturing, and higher education; safety (including on private-client job sites); cash flow and accounts receivables; client development; and any other member concerns regarding the private/vertical markets.

On June 26, 12:00-1:00 pm ET, the Medium Firm Roundtable will offer an opportunity for members with a platform to discuss the issues facing mid-sized engineering firms, as well as share ideas on how our industry can help our communities during the crisis.

Registration for each program is limited to 80 participants, so sign up soon. Click HERE to register for the Private/Vertical Roundtable and HERE to register for the Medium Firm Roundtable.

FYI...More Webinars Available

- They Agreed (or did not Agree) to DO WHAT? — 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17. This program is hosted by the ACEC Business Insurance Trust and Greyling. Join Roseanne DeBellis, a Divisional Assistant Vice President at Great American Insurance Group, as she addresses contract concerns: Why is your contract important; Key Contract Provisions, Claims Studies; and How Can You Protect Yourself.
Defending against Cyber Threats: What You Need to Know — 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23.
Cybersecurity threats evolve at a relentless pace, and it's critical for organizations to adapt quickly to protect themselves and their employees. Learn strategies to help stay ahead of the threats, and what Empower is doing to keep your sensitive data secure. Speakers will discuss the following: risks and trends - the current cybersecurity landscape; controls and processes that help protect your plans; and what you and your employees can do to optimize data security.

Plan Now to Attend ACEC/MO's Summer Meeting on August 21

ACEC/MO's Summer Meeting & Working Committee Session is scheduled for Friday, August 21, 2020 at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Columbia. This is the first meeting of our new fiscal year. Below is a draft agenda for the day. At this time, we plan to have this meeting in person but we'll keep you updated if that changes. If we don't have it in person, then we'll have it virtually. Be looking for registration information soon. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to join us.

AGENDA:
8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. -- Registration
9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m. -- Committee Meetings: Business Practices & Governmental Affairs
10:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m. -- BREAK
10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. -- Committee Meetings: Engineering Excellence, Environmental & Transportation
12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m. -- Lunch / Speaker: TBD
1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m. -- Board of Directors / Membership Meeting

MEMBER INFORMATION & CALENDAR

Reminders...

ACEC/MO member firms paying their dues on a quarterly or semiannual basis must have all dues paid and in the ACEC/MO office by June 30, 2020 (the last day of our fiscal year). Please contact ACEC/MO staff if you need to discuss payment options.

Member Firms Named to ENR’s 2020 Top 100 Design-Build Firms

Great news! Multiple ACEC/MO members firms have the honor of being ranked in ENR’s 2020 Top 100 Design-Build Firms list. Some offices are headquartered in Missouri (italicized) and some offices are branch offices in Missouri. Below is the list of firms and their rankings. Congratulations to all member firms that made the list!

6 - Burns & McDonnell
9 - Black & Veatch
10 - Wood
37 - Jacobs
44 - Parsons
70 - AECOM

Member News

The ACEC Life/Health Trust welcomes their newest associate, Alina Colón, to the Trust family! Alina is the Executive Assistant to Trust President, Patrick Feyen. She is also the 3rd associate to be added to their team during their work from home initiative.
Bartlett & West, Inc. is pleased to welcome Trent Summerford as a construction engineering technician in their Jefferson City, MO office.

Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc. is pleased to announce the addition of Mitchell Kroeger, their new Transportation Engineer in their Springfield, MO office.

IMEG Corp announced they have been named an 2020 Outstanding Supplier for supporting Northrop Grumman’s OmegA launch system. They provided structural engineering design and services for the modification of the Mobile Launcher Platform-3 (MLP-3) at NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Merritt Island, FL. The Omega rocket, used for national security missions, is on track for its first launch in spring 2021.

Ross and Baruzzini, Inc. | EDI is proud to be on winning teams! HCD Magazine Award of Merit: The David H. Koch Center for Cancer Care at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (New York) and Honorable Mention: Essentia Health Vision Northland (Duluth, Minn.).

---

**Calendar of Events**

**August 17-18** -- ACEC/MO Future Leaders Academy, St. Louis  
**August 21** -- ACEC/MO Summer Meeting, Columbia  
**September 1-2** -- ACEC/MO Future Leaders Academy, Independence  
**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](#).

---

**Quote of the Week**

"The best way to predict your future is to create it."
- Abraham Lincoln

---

ACEC Missouri | 573-634-4080 | DawnHill@acecmo.org