



**Development District Association of Appalachia
Board of Directors Meeting
December 6-8, 2009
Hyatt Regency
Greenville, SC**

Welcome

President Sharon Gardner (MS) welcomed all to the Winter Meeting and thanked Steve Pelissier (SC) for hosting this meeting.

Roll Call

Secretary Danny Lewis (GA) called roll and thereby a quorum was established. Twelve (12) of the thirteen (13) ARC states were represented at this meeting.

Attendance

Those in attendance were as noted:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Present (Y/N)</u>
Sharon Gardner	President	Y
Eric Bridges	1 st Vice President	Y
Steve Pelissier	2 nd Vice President	Y
Jim Mylott	Treasurer	Y
W. Danny Lewis	Secretary	Y
Keith Jones	Immediate Past President	N
Bob Culver	Alabama	Y
Jim Dove	Georgia	Y
Sherry McDavid	Kentucky	Y
Leanne Mazer	Maryland	N
Rudy Johnson	Mississippi	N
Bob Augenstern	New York	Y
Rick Herndon	North Carolina	Y
Misty Casto	Ohio	Y
Ed Silveti	Pennsylvania	Y
Steve Pelissier	South Carolina	Y
Susan Reid	Tennessee	Y
Michelle Craig	West Virginia	N
Wayne Strickland	Virginia	Y

Also present during all or part of the session was:

Dan Neff – ARC

Tom Hunter – ARC, Executive Director

Cameron Whitman – ARC

Scott Hercik – ARC

Dirk Reis– Appalachian COG (SC)

Dale Culbreth – SC State Program Manager.

Jason Boehlert – NADO

Grant Gillespie – Represented Gov. of SC (SC Alternate)

Approval of Agenda

On motion being duly made by Eric Bridges (PA) and seconded by Bob Augenstern (NY), the group unanimously approved the agenda.

Minutes

On motion being duly made by Eric Bridges (PA) and seconded by Susan Reid (TN) the minutes of June 28-30, 2008 were unanimously approved.

President's Remarks

- President Sharon Gardner began by welcoming Jim Dove (GA) as Georgia's new representative. Mr. Dove replaced Danny Lewis, who moved to Secretary in mid 2009.
- President Gardner thanked Eric Bridges (PA) for his work on the upcoming Annual Meeting and said we would discuss it further during the meeting.
- Scott Hercik, ARC Washington staff, gave an in-depth report on the work on a project, Network Appalachia.

Phase I – Completed formal research and the primary basics of the project

Phase II – Now the Appalachian Developmental Highway System (ADHS) is 85% completed. The ADHS is a 3,092 mile system throughout the 13 ARC region that is designed to provide improved highway access from Appalachia to the rest of the country

Looking to the future, the ARC commissioned a study in 2008 entitled "Economic Impact Study of completing the Appalachian Development Highway System". The research determined that by completing the yet unfinished segments of the ADHS, the Region would benefit from \$3.2 billion in new wages, \$5 billion of increased activity, and 80,500 new jobs. Finally, the study confirmed that ADHS benefits extend far beyond the borders of Appalachia.

In 1965, there was little or no economic trade in Appalachia, but now that is changing. Highway systems skirted Appalachia due to the mountains. Now the inland port system is also skirting Appalachia.

The cost to move a "box" within Appalachia is 71% higher compared to coastal ports around the ARC region.

Retirement numbers are also changing. In 2000, one (1) in five (5) Americans was retired. It is estimated that number will be one (1) in three (3) in 2030.

In 2004, the U.S. was responsible for 27% gross domestic product (GDP), by 2050 three (3) countries (U.S. China, and India combined) will be responsible for 75% of GDP.

Bob Augenstern (NY) commented that he appreciated that we are moving from just an ARC highway to a more encompassing map. Susan Reid (TN) added that the inland ports map was the first time she realized the full extent of the project and complimented ARC for developing such a remarkable project.

Jim Mylott (WV) asked what role Foreign Trade Zones (FTZ) has in this project. FTZ will depend on the inland ports you are putting together.

Scott Hercik (ARC) also discussed the issues with double stacked tracks and trains. These issues are moving through bridges and train tunnels. Nothing is being required in train tunnels corners to accommodate new double stacked trains.

Bob Augenstern (NY) discussed a draft resolution he circulated last week to all members. On a motion being duly made by Jim Mylott (WV) and seconded by Susan Reid (TN) the resolution was unanimously approved.

Dan Neff stated that he felt that the future of ARC was to go beyond the ADHS to the new Appalachian Transportation System and that we need to encourage our federal legislators to become involved in the near future. There was no suggestion to do away with the ADHS, but to build on it to become the ADTS.

Danny Lewis (GA) asked if this could be discussed with membership at the Annual Meeting. Eric Bridges said his committee would take this under consideration.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Mylott (WV) gave an in-depth Treasurer's Report. The 990s have been filed and there are only three outstanding dues from LDD's at this time. He stated that we usually receive 75% of dues within the first 30 days.

On motion being duly made by Bob Culver (AL) and seconded by Wayne Strickland (VA) the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved as reported.

Travel Policy

The travel policy was unanimously approved on a motion being duly made by Misty Casto (OH) and seconded by Wayne Strickland (VA). This item needs to be added to the Bylaws as a final page, on the website, and in our files at ARC.

Training Budget

Jim Mylott (WV) discussed a training budget. The training budget will utilize \$51,815 of old funds and \$45,000 new training funds for a full budget of \$96,815.

On motion being duly made by Jim Mylott (WV) and seconded by Bob Augenstern (NY) the training budget was approved as submitted by Mr. Mylott.

Meeting Recess

The meeting was recessed at 5:00 pm on December 6th, to reconvene after dinner which begins at 6:00 pm.

Meeting Reconvened

The meeting was reconvened by President Gardner at 8:40 am, after the morning breakfast which began at 8:00 am on December 7, 2009.

President Obama has nominated Earl Gohl (PA) as the new Federal Co-chair. His wife has much clout in DC. He is going thru confirmation hearing process at this time. The goal is to have him confirmed by the end of the year, but this depends on schedules with health care debates dominating much of the Senate's time

Jim Dove (GA) commented that he appreciated Scott Hercik's (ARC) presentation at yesterday's meeting.

LDD Administrative Grant Process

Our money is in place. Ours was one of the few signed by President Obama. Contracts are being prepared and to be sent out soon.

Training Committee Report

Misty Casto (OH) gave a thorough report on the efforts of her training committee. She also discussed the upcoming training sessions.

Jim Mylott (WV) was highly complimentary of the LEED Certification/Energy Efficiency Training.

Dan Neff was very complimentary of Dan Rychnowski's (NY) past efforts and also the efforts that Ms. Casto has already put towards continuing and improving our training.

Danny Lewis (GA) suggested we consider using more webinars for training purposes and the entire group encouraged the same.

Jim Mylott (WV) suggested that we provide some type of training with our new federal co-chair. Eric Bridges (PA) suggested that we "strike early" and use our training committee as a set up. Dan Neff suggested letting Tom Hunter discuss this later and decide who needs to meet with him. Susan Reid (TN) suggested that a document be developed by DDAA and presented to our new federal co-chair.

Website Renovations

Misty Casto (OH) asked everyone to review the new revised website (DDAA-LDD.org) and to make corrections and suggestions to her.

Minutes and financials will be sent to Misty for inclusion and she will place these as "draft" until approved, as required.

Ms. Casto asked for input on appropriate links. Everyone gave suggestions to links to our site. Everyone complimented Misty for her outstanding efforts.

Logo

Misty Casto (OH) discussed the new logo and ideas were discussed as to what we should order.

Banner

On motion being duly made by Eric Bridges (PA) and seconded by Bob Augenster (NY), the group gave unanimous approval to order 3x8 and 4x15 banners in order to have for the Annual Meeting.

Danny Lewis (GA) suggested that Eric Bridges, the Conference Committee, Treasurer Mylott, and Dan Neff decide what needs to be ordered for the conference. He also suggested that we ask if any LDD has a company in the ARC region that produces a product that we could use.

Annual Conference Discussion

Eric Bridges (PA) as 1st Vice-President is in charge of the Annual Conference. He discussed the theme and schedule for this year's conference. The theme is "Energy Efficiency" with "Leadership/Professional Development" as a supportive theme. This is still in discussion by the Annual Conference Committee.

The conference will begin on Sunday, February 28, 2010 and conclude on March 2, 2010 in Washington, DC. It will again tie to NADO's Annual Conference. Registration numbers are being estimated to be close to the 2009's registration figures.

Mr. Bridges mentioned a kick-off (maybe at Annual Meeting) to highlight our new logo, newly revised website, etc. This will take about 15 minutes.

Jim Mylott (WV) questioned the line item for pre-meeting dinner expense. Dan Neff was to check into this and get back with Jim.

Misty Casto (OH) suggested that we work on developing a sponsorship program. Everyone spoke in favor of this program. Mr. Bridges said that the conference committee would continue to work on sponsorships.

Dan Neff said that ARC and Mr. Bridges need to set registration immediately.

Future Conference / New Hotel Prices

Dan Neff discussed that this was a highly complicated issue. He complimented Vicki Glass who works with NADO and under contact with the DDAA to assist with our conference. Vicki is a professional conference planner. ARC, thru Vicki, put our hotel business component out to bid for 2012 and 2013 conference. The Crystal Hyatt came in strong, but the Marriott/Crystal Gateway only raised our room rate by a minimum amount. Plus they will provide a free opening night reception for ARC in 2012 and 2013 contract.

On motion being duly made by Jim Mylott (WV) and seconded by Eric Bridges (PA) the contract with Crystal Gateway Marriott for 2012 and 2013 was unanimously approved. The dates for the 2012 conference will be March 18-22 and the 2013 conference will be March 10-12.

NADO Report

Jason Boehlert gave an extensive report representing NADO.

- Healthcare discussions have slowed other discussions at this time.
- All funding appropriations have not been completed at this time.
- FY10 ARC funding is at \$76 million.
- They feel the final decision on our federal co-chair will not come until after January 1, 2010.
- We will see another jobs bill in the very near future. Our national debt is over \$12 trillion. Contact your US Senators to reach out for EDA funding. Tell NADO what projects that we have ready to go.
- There are seven (7) unparsed appropriation bills for 2010 and six (6) will roll up into an omnibus bill.

Marcellus Shale Project

Bob Augenstern (NY), Eric Bridges (PA), and Jim Mylott (WV) lead extensive discussions on the Marcellus Shale project. This is a natural gas project and will have a major impact on the northeast United States region (NY, PA, OH, WV, VA, KY, TN, and others). There is too much money involved to even consider

that this project would be stopped. This is a “heads up” report of a major future project that would have a major impact on the ARC region.

SC Governor’s Office Visit

Grant Gillespie (SC) welcomed everyone to Greenville and the State of South Carolina. He was appointed as the ARC Alternate by the Governor. He discussed the Boeing plant that will be coming to Charleston. This is a great example of local, regional, state, and federal officials working together for a common cause.

South Carolina has 46 counties and 6 are ARC counties, which is about 1.3 of South Carolina’s population.

President Gardner recessed the meeting at 5:00 pm for dinner. The group will reconvene after dinner for two ARC reports. Cameron Whitman (States’ Washington Representative) was unable to attend in the day due to travel issues in Atlanta. ARC Executive Director Ton Hunter would also address this group after dinner.

President Gardner reconvened the meeting at 9:00 pm to address two separate ARC reports.

ARC Reports

Cameron Whitman (ARC) discussed the importance of LDD’s and that we are all at a very difficult time. LDD’s need to be developing a listing of our districts needs by year’s end. We need to be relative and relevant and be able to tell our stories. We are a partnership and LDDs must respond on the local level.

Tom Hunter (ARC Executive Director) stated that funding for ARC from the FY 10 federal budget would be \$76 million. LDDs need to work with ARC to reflect true partnerships. ARC expects to develop a grants competition for energy very soon.

Mr. Hunter read a farewell note that was sent by outgoing Federal Co-Chair Anne Pope. She reflected that partnership and thanked the LDDs for all that they do individually and collectively.

New Federal Co-Chair Nominee Earl Gohl has already begun speaking with legislators concerning his appointment. He and Mr. Hunter have not had a discussion yet, although he is being furnished information from the ARC staff. ARC must always have a Federal Co-Chair. We are not allowed to “borrow” someone to take care of business, until his appointment is confirmed.

Jim Mylott (WV) discussed the need to set up a meeting with Mr. Gohl sooner than later, to discuss what we do and how our partnership works. Mr. Hunter agreed this was a great idea and offered to assist in arranging such a meeting.

Mr. Hunter indicated that ARC spends about 50% of its funds on water/wastewater infrastructure. The communities spend about 35% of their funds to move water through pumps.

Mr. Hunter mentioned a visit he, Cameron and staff had made to a LEED certified water purification facility (PA) and a LEED certified state park (GA). These are examples of what we need to be accomplishing through this partnership.

Jim Mylott (WV) suggested that we need to develop a LEED certified trainer in every LDD. Mr. Hunter agreed and feels it might take a couple of years to get this accomplished. We need to be “on point” on this issue and the LDDs need to take the lead with ARC. Tom said that ARC would be very open to DDAA offering leadership to this project.

Mr. Mylott said he has not found anyone who knows what LEED certification is all about.

Bob Augenstern (NY) suggested that we have a LDD representative on the “team” to make sure that we have a place “at the table”. Dan Neff suggested that we develop this through our training committee.

Jason Boehlert (NADO) suggested that EDA has some green energy money and that a portion would be used for LEED certification. We need to work through Atlanta or Philadelphia EDA offices. Dan further suggested that we need to develop a LEED 101 program.

This session as recessed at 9:50 pm

President Sharon Gardner (MS) reconvened the final day session at 7:55 am for breakfast. She called the meeting to order at 8:25 am after breakfast at the Commerce Club in Greenville.

Awards

Susan Reid (TN) and Dan Neff (ARC) discussed plans to request nominations for all three awards, Whisman, Congressional, and Humanitarian. Mr. Neff intends to have nomination information out to the membership this week. Misty Casto (OH) offered to place information on the updated website as soon as it is received from Mr. Neff.

Whisman Award

President Gardner asked Jim Dove (GA) to replace the retiring Don Rychnowski (NY) on the Whisman Committee. Mr. Dove agreed to accept this nomination.

Congressional Award

Keith Jones (AL) is Chairman of this committee, but was unable to attend due to health issues. Bob Augenstern (NY) gave a report in Mr. Jones’ absence. Nominations need to be in quickly, per Mr. Neff. This process is very slow and really needs to be more of a fluid process. It was also suggested that input be requested from Tom, Cameron, Dan, Guy Land, and other ARC staff.

Numerous names were discussed. There needs to be a list developed of past recipients as we consider this annually. Misty Casto could also place this on the new website.

Humanitarian Award

Eric Bridges (PA) discussed the Humanitarian Award. The committee has developed the criteria and it is shown on our website. Ms Casto read the criteria to the group. This award is more for individuals who work behind the scenes and not always a celebrity. Celebrities are approved, just not required. Each person receives a custom gift that is selected by the nominator.

On motion being duly made by Danny Lewis (GA) and seconded by Eric Bridges (PA) it was unanimously agreed that DDAA will pay the first \$250 for this award/gift and the nominator state will pay the remainder of the cost. The nominator state will select the award/gift.

Expenses for this Meeting

On motion being duly made by Jim Dove (GA) and seconded by Bob Augenstern (NY) permission was given for Treasurer Mylott to reimburse for expenses of this meeting.

Livable Communities Act

Misty Casto (OH) had prepared a letter and transmitted it earlier to each member of the DDAA Board of Directors for the Livable Communities Act.

On motion being duly made by Bob Augenstern (NY) and seconded by Bob Culver (AL), the Board unanimously approved Ms. Casto to send this letter out to Honorable Christopher Dodd.

President Gardner and the Board thanked Steve Pelissier (SC) for hosting our meeting in Greenville. SC. Also, an appreciation goes to Dan Neff and Vicki Glass for assistance.

Summer Meeting

Sherry McDavid (KY) agreed to host the 2010 Summer Meeting of the DDAA Board of Directors. Dates and particulars will be sent out, but expect an early July date.

Adjournment

Being no further business President Gardner wished everyone safe travel and adjourned the meeting at 9:15 am.