2025-2026 Board of Directors Meeting #6 – Minutes

March 23, 2026, 2:00 PM
Associated Pennsylvania Constructors, 800 North 3rd Street, Harrisburg
And Virtual

Attendees:

Name	Position	Present		
EXCOM		**P**	**PV**	**NP**
Michael Girman	President	X		
Mark Markosky	Immediate Past President/National Director	X		
Rosanna Smithnosky	President-Elect	X		
Eric Meyer	Vice President	X		
Casey Moore	Treasurer	X		
Anthony Dougherty	Secretary	X		
General Board		**P**	**PV**	**NP**
Daniel Laird	Western Chair	X		
David DiGioia	Western Vice Chair		X	
Jennie Louwerse	Central Chair	X		
Michael Miller	Central Vice Chair	X		
Mark Kinnee	Eastern Chair		X	
Kenneth McClain	Eastern Vice Chair		X	
John Robinson	Western At-Large	X		
Maggie Talarico	Western At-Large			X
Josh Wilson	Central At-Large			X
Larry Bankert	Central At-Large			X
Jeffrey Roken	Eastern At-Large	X		
Colleen Meiswich	Eastern At-Large	X		
ACEC/PA Staff		**P**	**PV**	**NP**
Brent Sailhamer	Executive Director	X		
Sarah Babski	Director of Member Engagement	X		
Laura Haines	Marketing/Communication Specialist	X		

(P-Present, PV-Present Virtual, NP-Not Present)

Guests: None

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

- Girman called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM and reminded all about the Antitrust Policy.
- Roll call was conducted by Dougherty. **(Quorum satisfied)**

II. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes and Consent Agenda

- Consent Agenda – *Approved*
- Prior Minutes Reviewed: January 22, 2026, BOD Meeting
  - Meyer motioned to approve, seconded by Moore. *Unanimously approved.*
  - *It was noted that the revisions to the signatory policy was previously approved to add ExCom to be authorized signatories for the financial accounts.*
- Previous Action Items – None

III. Financial Report

- Treasurer's Memo/Financial Reports – Moore presented the reports included with the Board Meeting Packet, specifically the January and February 2026 reports. Overall, financial position remains strong and well positioned for the 3rd Quarter.
  - Question (Meiswich) – What is the reason that advertising budget is over 1,000% of budget? Answer: Could be STEAM Day or for the Municipal Services Committee but will look into and report back **Action Item: Provide reasoning for this over budget expense.**
    - **After Meeting Note:** It has been determined that several items were allocated incorrectly. ACEC/PA's accounting firm has readjusted these items. Upon review, it was determined was that, to date (including as of the Feb financial statement), there should only be $416 under "Advertising" and that includes what ACEC/PA paid to Rogue Graphics for compiling our files to be transferred to us, as well as what we paid for our logoed polos shirts. Then, $1,250 is being moved to "Committee Expenses" for the PCD sponsorship. The rest is being moved to "Subscriptions" because those costs included MailChimp (email platform) and Hootsuite (social media program) fees.
    - Follow-up Question – Do the committees know their budget? Answer: This information can be relayed to the committee leaders.
  - Question (Louwerse) – The organization appears to have good liquidity with over $85,000 in surplus, what is the endgame? Do we evaluate what we charge for events? Louwerse noted comments received from members about $90 fee for breakfast meetings. Answer: The goal is to have 9 months of operational expenses in reserve (approx. $30,000/month) per governance documents.
- Roken motioned to approve the Treasurer's Memo and Financial Reports, seconded by Markosky. *Unanimously approved.*

IV. Membership Report

- Meyer presented the membership report provided in Board Meeting Packet and noted the increase in Membership.
  - Member Engagement is still in process. Haven't seen complaints about cost of meetings but it could be in the feedback provided to date.

  - Question (Moore) – Are new members signing up for event? Babski stated yes and noted some examples. Also, noted that affiliate members are participating in events as well and noted their numbers have increased as well.
    - Ideas for new members were noted:
      - Spotlight at regional meetings.
      - Board mentor assignment.

- Robinson motioned to approve membership report, seconded by Louwerse. *Unanimously approved.*

V. National Director Report

- News from ACEC:
  - Recently released community building roadmap which can be reviewed on the website. They are getting ready to solicit input for next year's report. A webinar is scheduled for 3/26/26 on this topic.
  - First quarter business sentiment survey results were released. Positive results overall.
  - Linda Darr emails are very informative about National activities and updates.
    - Smithnosky requested Markosky to forward emails to her so she can investigate why she is not receiving them.
  - Mid-American Milling case was dismissed because of the USDOT IFR. Constitutionality decision may not happen.
  - ACEC was awarded as a Top 100 place to work in DC.

- ACEC PAC Report
    - Currently, at 19% of goal ($6,300 of $33,000).

- 2026-2027 Board Slate – Discussion was held regarding the proposed slate included in the packet. Non selected candidates will be notified, and the proposed slate will be provided to member firms for vote.
  - Revisions noted: Correct McClain's firm, Correct spelling of Farrell's name.
  - Meyer motioned to approve the proposed board slate, seconded by Miller. *Unanimously approved.*

- Brent noted that the visit to the ACEC Residence in DC went very well. There was a great turnout from congressional reps. Dave Bender noted that it was very successful as well. ACEC Nation PAC is well over $1 Million. ACEC/PA could possibly do another visit in the fall, but it is usually only once per year.

- Smithnosky noted that the ACEC National Spring Legislative Day is coming up and asked if ACEC/PA members have participated in the past. It was noted that board members have participated but results are varied because you may just get to visit staffers and some reps may not even be there. It is very difficult to get on their calendars. Sailhamer/Girman noted that we get much better access and conversation at the residence events. Girman suggested that the ACEC/PA Government Affairs Committee focus on PA.

- John Krebsbach of the ACEC Life/Health Trust presented information about the trust and its benefit to ACEC Member Firms. They have taken their Aetna relationship to new levels providing the LHT and member firms with a massive benefit. They can service firms of all sizes from those with less than 100 employees to some that at over 300. When looking at the website, utilize the "Level Funded" tab for Pennsylvania, not the Fully Funded tab which is not available in PA.

VI. Events Report

- Babski presented Events Report provided in the Board Meeting Packet and noted the following:
    - Future Now Program
        - Going very well in all regions. They are selling out. Eastern region will have a tour of the Bellwether District in Philadelphia, then Central region will have a tour of the PEMA building, then the Commercial Street Bridge project in the Western region in May.
    - Regional Meetings
        - Almost complete for year. Eastern region will be hosting a networking event with the Turnpike at the Fox Barn 29.
        - Schedule planning for next year has already started. Central and West are essentially done, still finalizing Eastern.
    - Diamond Awards
        - Amazing event this year. Made $18k in profit, more than the $10k estimated.
        - Feedback received regarding the length of the event. Some ideas will be investigated including pre-recording some of the awards and acceptances, having award winners queuing up "back-stage" to reduce transition time, having awards going during dinner courses, etc.
    - Legislative Day/Infrastructure forum – March 24th – 25th, new format this year. Poor attendance for the effort in coordinating with only 35 to 37 people signed up. There are some that are just coming to the evening reception and some that are just coming for the second day at the Capitol.
        - Will be evaluating where to go with this event and how it will evolve. Will be looking at timing of this with other events, increased role for regional leaders and/or At-large directors. The ability to speak with your local representatives was noted as being important. **Ideas will be discussed at future ExCom Meetings. (Action Item)**
    - Workforce/STEAM Day
        - Matt Macey led the charge. Planned for April in Western PA (Commonwealth Charter Academy) for middle schoolers. There was no charge for using their facility. This event is sold-out and they have about 50 volunteers. Anticipated to be a great event.
    - Annual Leadership Meeting – will be in Mid-June in Charlottesville, Virginia (Boar's Head Resort). Registration will be opening soon. Board meetings will be held on the last day of the event (Tuesday) – Final Board Meeting of the year, followed by a meeting of the membership, then the first board meeting of the next year.

VII. Communications and Social Media Report

- Haines explained the Communications and Social Media Report provided in Board Meeting Packet, highlighting the following:
    - March Report covers both January and February data.
    - Doing well with our metrics for emails and social media engagement but always striving for improvement.
    - Posts regarding Diamond Awards and Board Testimonials all did very well
    - LinkedIn is most popular platform. Facebook and X are doing ok as well. A new YouTube channel will be coming soon as well as the creation of new videos.
    - New report item included this month but will be more fully developed in upcoming reports. It will be a weekly email guide. This will hopefully create a more predictable schedule for members to expect to see emails regarding certain subjects. This will obviously depend on the month (4 or 5 weeks) and major events scheduled.

Break – Meeting was placed in recess from 3:42 PM to 3:50 PM.

VIII. Government Affairs Report

- Smithnosky presented the Government Affairs Committee (GAC) Report provided in the Board Meeting Packet and noted the following:
    - Discussed meetings held to date: 2 committee meetings and 4 legislative receptions.
    - Regional PAC events being coordinated now: Eastern (PennDOT District 6 TMC), Western (Commercial Street Bridge), Central (Still working through ideas)
    - Louwerse questioned if we should be providing checks to the legislators at the receptions. *Answer: Campaign contributions are purposely kept separate from our receptions.*
    - GAC New Format – Lessons learned from first year. To be discussed with ExCom
        - How to improve attendance at Legislative Receptions
    - Keystone Transportation Funding Coalition (KTFC) starting back up.
        - First call held recently – led by Bob Latham (APC)
        - We need to evaluate if this is the best avenue to accomplish our goals for transportation funding.
            - Moore noted that Barry Schoch suggested the KTFC and Chambers of Commerce as important partners.
        - Should ACEC/PA or KTFC hire a lobbyist specific to this issue? Could we get a Minuteman grant for this purpose?
        - Not much expected to happen with transportation funding this session due to election and other factors.
- CEPA PAC - 2025 goal was $25,000, and we were only $275 short.
    - Annual goal increasing this year to $35,000 based on our strategic plan, need to be aggressive and come up with new ideas. Raised approximately $7,000 so far. Only 8 of 18 (45%) of board members have met their obligations to date. $79,000 total funds in PAC account.
    - Discussion/Questions regarding PAC spending were discussed, as follows:
        - Do we only respond to requests? Are we proactive in PAC spending?

    - Is a list of PAC campaign donations provided to members? *This information is provided in PAC Update emails.*
    - Should we have a Political Spending Plan?

IX. Strategic Plan Report

- Meiswich noted the plan is included in the Board Meeting Packet.
    - Presentation of the tracking sheet for measuring our progress towards goals and did a quick summary of the current status of the various goals. Will use this tracking sheet for future progress reports.

X. Committee Reports – The following reports are provided in the Board Packet, but no in-person updates were provided at the meeting:

- Construction Services
- Workforce Development
- Land Development
- PA Turnpike
- Admin
- Multimodal
- Small Business
- Water, Energy and Environment (WEE)

XI. Executive Director's Report

- Admin committee working on revisions to the PennDOT supplement process. Ideas were presented to Michele Harer's group and also to the PennDOT Execs. Replies were received and shared with the Admin Committee. Further investigation will be needed regarding FHWA and procurement code restrictions.
    - Girman suggested that this could be a topic for the Legal Counsel Forum.
- Discussed conversations had with Barry Schoch and others regarding transportation funding.
- ACEC/PA budget is being prepared by Sailhamer, Babski and Haines. Will then be provided to Casey for review and then be presented to the finance committee for approval in April.
- There have been a lot of good ideas provided for new events and initiatives. Staff are running with them, but it is getting more difficult to do with their current capacity. For Budget Year 2027/28 they will be asking for a 4th staff member.
    - A question was asked if they could look for a part-time employee or intern. Staff will contemplate but it could be difficult based on days staff are in the office and when events are happening.

XII. President's Report

- Girman thanked everyone for their efforts and noted that the organization is in a great position and accomplished a lot over the last 4 years. It has been a fun nine months so far.

- Girman noted that through discussions with Tony Potter (ACEC/PA legal counsel), the Clearfield County case regarding the Statute of Repose is trending towards a positive outcome for ACEC/PA and the design community.

XIII. New Business

- Robinson noted the success of the FutureNOW program/committee. Planning a maximum of 12 events per year. Could include virtual events instead of tours.
    - Could include Soft-Skills leadership training.
        - Girman suggested that this may not be ACEC/PA's mission and need to consider capacity of staff.
        - Smithnosky suggested possible partnership with other societies like WTS.
            - Sailhamer – Need to make sure it aligns with ACEC/PA mission and goals.
        - Laird suggested that maybe these trainings be geared towards legislative or industry education.
            - Meiswich supported this idea.
    - Moore suggested that ACEC/PA could use Minuteman Grants more than we do. Could it be used for:
        - FutureNOW ideas and associated paid speakers.
        - Lobbyist idea discussed under Government Affairs Update.

XIV. Adjourn – 5:02 PM – Meyer motioned to adjourn, seconded by Miller. *Unanimously approved*

Next Meeting(s) – Tuesday, June 16, 2026 (12:00pm to 3:00pm)
Boar's Head Resort (200 Ednam Drive, Charlottesville, VA)