2026-2027 Board of Directors Meeting #2 – Minutes

September 13, 2026, 2:00PM
Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA
And Virtual

Attendees:

Name	Position	Present		
EXCOM		**P**	**PV**	**NP**
Rosanna Smithnosky	President	X		
Michael Girman	Immediate Past President/National Director	X		
Eric Meyer	President-Elect	X		
Casey Moore	Vice President		X	
Anthony Dougherty	Treasurer		X	
David DiGioia	Secretary	X		
General Board		**P**	**PV**	**NP**
Matt Macey	Western Chair	X		
Jeremiah Fritz	Western Vice Chair	X		
Michael Miller	Central Chair	X		
Eric Martz	Central Vice Chair		X	
Cathy Farrell	Eastern Vice Chair	X		
Kenneth McClain	Eastern Chair		X	
John Robinson	Western At-Large			X
Daniel Laird	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: Jim Blake – Blake Consulting

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

- President Smithnosky called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM
- The board was reminded that the antitrust compliance policy is on the second page of the agenda.
- DiGioia conducted a roll call of all present members, noting several attendees were participating online. (Quorum satisfied)

II. Consent Agenda and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- Consent Agenda – *Approved*
- Prior Minutes Reviewed: 2025-2026 BOD Meeting #7 - June 16, 2026

- DiGioia motioned to approve, seconded by Girman. *Unanimously approved.*

- Prior Minutes Reviewed: 2026-2027 BOD Meeting #1 - June 16, 2026
  - Miller motioned to approve, seconded by Macey. *Unanimously approved.*
- Previous Action Items
  - It was noted that Government Affairs Committee (GAC) slide needs to be updated to reflect the new organizational structure for the GAC. **ACTION: Update slides**
    - Farrell asked if a Board Contact List could be distributed. **ACTION: Sailhamer to send Board Contact List.**

III. Financial Report

- Treasurer's Memo/Financial Reports – Dougherty presented the reports included with the Board Meeting Packet, specifically the June and July 2026 reports. First month is relatively on pace with budgets, with income at 5.6% of budget and expenses at 4.9% of budget.
- The Wells Fargo investment account has a market value of $141,450 with a 3.7% return over the last 12 months. Wells Fargo to present at future Board meeting. **ACTION: Schedule Meeting**
- Sailhamer noted that the finance committee is reviewing an annual financial review report and Form 990 tax form provided by RKL.
- Financial Committee met on August 25, 2026 and will continue to monitor checking account peaks in expectation of transferring excess funds into investment accounts.
- Meyer motioned to approve the Treasurer's Memo and Financial Reports, seconded by Bankert. *Unanimously approved.*

IV. Membership Report

- Babski presented the membership report provided in Board Meeting Packet and noted the increase in Membership.
  - Reported membership updates including new member Taylor Engineering and drops such as TRC Companies due to acquisition by WSP.
  - Affiliates are doing well and continue to get more interest.
- Farrell motioned to approve membership report, seconded by Meiswich. *Unanimously approved.*
- Moore presented the Membership Committee proposal forming a new committee to support recruitment, onboarding, and member stewardship efforts.
  - The proposal aims to create a diverse group of engaged members who work alongside staff to improve engagement levels.
  - Sailhamer suggested gathering feedback from non-members regarding why they chose not to join ACEC/PA specifically.
  - Smithnosky asked if we have a specific process to welcome new firms at Region

Meetings and if we should add liaisons at Region Meetings. Moore suggested we start with the new committee and educate board members on liaison responsibilities.

- Moore noted we a call for volunteers should be drafted and distributed to members. The desire is to identify members with experience with ACEC/PA and be able to express experiences to others. **ACTION: Develop and Send Call for Volunteers**

V. National Director Report

- ACEC PAC Report
  - Girman stated that Pennsylvania is currently at 45% toward its goal.
  - Members were encouraged to participate in sweepstakes at the upcoming fall conference in Phoenix to help reach the target.
- News from ACEC:
  - ACEC Fall Conference is in Pheoniz Arizona with PAC Golf Outing.
  - Mottley has sent out memo on Licensing and Reciprocity.
- Sailhamer raised concerns regarding proposed SBA rule changes that could significantly alter small business definitions for engineering firms.
- Meyer motioned to approve the National Director Report, seconded by Miller. *Unanimously approved.*

VI. Events Report

- Babski presented Events Report provided in the Board Meeting Packet and noted the following:
  - Future Now programming included a statewide webinar, Harrisburg International Airport tour, Commercial Street Bridge tour, and 30th Street Station tour with an Eastern Region social event. The next listed tour will be at PennSTART on October 8, with a social event planned; staff expected to be more selective about attending every tour in person
  - The Infrastructure Conference had about 130 registrants, with projected income around $20,000 rather than the original $22,000 estimate because the off-site event cost more than expected. The format had been adjusted to two education days, following feedback that the prior conference ran too long.
  - The golf outing had about 115 registrants and was nearing capacity. Sponsorship income was lower from large sponsors but higher among smaller sponsors.
  - Regional meetings were opening for registration, and Diamond Award submissions were due in mid-October.

VII. Marketing & Communications Report

- Haines explained the Communications and Social Media Report provided in Board Meeting Packet, highlighting the following:
  - Laura's communications report covered May through August. She reported healthy

email delivery and engagement, with a reported average open rate around 48% and click rate around 6%. A nonmember newsletter was part of the outreach effort, though the list had a high bounce rate because of outdated or inactive addresses. **ACTION: Add year to year trend comparisons to report**

- A pilot member survey received 55 responses. The report described 30 positive, 14 neutral, and 3 negative responses; the transcript does not account for the remaining responses. Board members discussed making survey results more useful and actionable, allowing more time for responses, and giving members notice about upcoming surveys.
- LinkedIn was the strongest-growing social platform; member- and event-focused posts performed well. Laura said she would add year-over-year comparisons to future reports. She also invited board members to take part in member testimonial videos at the conference.

VIII. Government Affairs Report

- Meyer presented the Government Affairs Committee (GAC) Report provided in the Board Meeting Packet and noted the following:
  - The Government Affairs Committee had not yet held its first full meeting; a meeting was scheduled for later in the month. Regional representatives had been asked for updates on PAC events, and the committee was working toward events outside central Pennsylvania as well as the spring 2027 legislative education forum.
  - The state PAC report was described as just under 65% of its goal as of August 10; the goal had increased from $25,000 the prior year to $35,000. The board also discussed arranging another Washington, D.C. visit.

IX. Strategic Plan Report

- Meiswich noted the plan is on ACEC/PA website and the following:
  - The strategic plan has four goals: strengthen political advocacy, influence the business landscape through client advocacy, elevate ACECPA's brand, and improve member satisfaction and engagement. The plan was in year two of a three-year cycle, with a new planning process expected in 2028.
  - The tracker was to be reviewed and updated for the next board packet.

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

- Admin
- Construction Services
- FutureNOW
- Land Development
- Workforce Development

XI. Executive Director's Report

- Sailhamer discussed coordination with ACEC New Jersey on shared transportation issues and

noted Jason Wagner's appointment as APC's incoming executive director for 2027.

- The PennDOT leadership discussion focused on advance notice to proceed. ACECPA was pursuing a change to the procurement code, with legislative discussions expected to begin. Brent planned to report back to the board.
- On Turnpike procurement, Brent described planned design-build best-value procurements for the PA 981 interchange and Delaware River reconstruction, and an owner-representative contract for the latter. He said ACEC/PA had provided feedback on the Turnpike's draft policy guide.
- The board discussed AI guidance for public-agency work. Brent said PennDOT had no central-office AI policy on procurement at that point, though a District 12 communication had raised restrictions, including concern about AI meeting recorders. Members emphasized clarifying what data and tools are allowed and avoiding overly broad rules that could affect consultants' work. An AI session was planned at the conference.
- The board also discussed legacy Bentley V8I projects and the transition from Windows 10 as Microsoft support ends. Members noted the cost and schedule risks of converting older projects; PennDOT was expected to investigate the scale of the issue and possible transition options.
- An Ohio energy forum prompted discussion about whether ACECPA should hold a similar event. Members noted other organizations were already hosting energy and data-center programming; the discussion leaned toward exploring collaboration through the Water and Environment Committee rather than adding a standalone event.

XII. President's Report

- Smithnosky thanked the board and staff for all they do for the organization. She noted she did not have a lot of specifics but a few comments:
    - Conduct a Strategic Plan Review to determine where we can do better.
    - Praised the momentum we are experiencing and our relationships with PennDOT, the Turnpike, and DEP.
    - Make greater use of national initiatives in Pennsylvania by drawing on newly available national resources.
    - Encouraged participation in upcoming regional legislative events.
    - Will coordinate scheduling a D.C. visit again this year. **ACTION: Schedule D.C. Visit**

XIII. New Business

- No new business.
- Smithnosky noted a Member Feedback agenda item should be added to future board meetings. Member feedback presented to the board can be useful in identifying member issues and concerns. The Pulse Survey can be used in this fashion as well.

XIV. Adjourn – 4:25 PM – Bankert motioned to adjourn, seconded by Farrell. *Unanimously approved*

Next Meeting(s) – Tuesday, November 10, 2026 (8:30am-11:30am)
West Shore Country Club (100 Brentwater Road, Camp Hill, PA)