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President's Message

Summer is almost over. Weather is almost balmy. Another exciting ACEC-year is about to take off. As the incoming President of the Sierra Chapter, I take this opportunity to welcome you all. I also take this opportunity to reflect upon the past year and thank the people who were responsible for making it a successful one. Special thanks to our outgoing president, Landon Blake who came up with some bright ideas for events like Young Professionals Forum and Agency Excellence Award. The Young Professionals Forum, as the name suggests, was meant to attract young professionals and get them involved in various activities that ACEC pursues. It was a very successful event. Thank you, Landon! Unfortunately, Agency Excellence Award did not come to pass for various reasons; but the seed is planted, and we plan to bring it to fruition this year. More on these two items later.

To borrow from Shakespeare, *some are scheduled to become the Chapter Presidents, some never want to be one, and some have the role of president thrust upon them.* I fall into the last category because of Kathy Wickam's unexpected move from the Sacramento area. She, however, has graciously agreed to serve on the chapter board and decided to make the monthly journey from Utah to California and

(Continued on page 7)



Debanik Chaudhuri
Sierra Chapter Presi-

Calendar of Events

Meetings are at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West unless otherwise noted.
Member Cost: \$40 - Non-Member \$50

Wednesday Sept. 19, 2018

Monthly BOD and General Membership Dinner Meeting

Guest Speaker:

Sergio Escobar, PE

Executive Manager, Oroville Dam Emergency Recovery Project, DWR

Topic:

Oroville Dam Project

[Register Here](#)

October 10-12, 2018

ACEC-CA Annual Strategic Summit and Board Meeting
Napa, CA

Wednesday October 17, 2018

Monthly BOD and General Membership Dinner Meeting and Chapter EEA Awards Presentations

Guest Speaker:

James Watson

General Manager, Sites Project Authority

Topic:

Sites Project Update

October 28-31, 2018

2018 National Fall Conference
Las Vegas, NV

Please visit www.acec.org for a complete list of upcoming webinars and on-line classes

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 3!



The Water Supply and Water Quality Act of 2018 is a citizen's initiative water bond that will appear on the November 2018 statewide California ballot. On April 25, the California Secretary of State announced that sufficient signatures have been submitted to place the water bond on the ballot. The bond will invest \$8.877 billion dollars in California water infrastructure. ACEC California is a part of a long list of endorsements for the California Water Bond of 2018 and is also contributing financially to the campaign. We encourage member firms to endorse and financially participate as well. To learn more, go to waterbond.org. In addition, Proposition 68, a parks and water bond, passed on the June 5th election-ACEC California supported that measure as well. Contact Brad Diede if you have questions.

VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 6!



ACEC California continues to work with the No on Prop 6. Coalition to defeat Prop. 6. If Prop. 6 passes, it would eliminate funding for more than 6,500 projects currently underway across California. Additionally, it would eliminate 68,000 well-paying jobs and \$183 billion in economic investments as thousands of road construction projects would come to a stop. Prop. 6 is also opposed by California Firefighters, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and engineering groups like ours. In addition, many Sierra Chapter member firms have donated to the campaign.

A national transportation research group (TRIP) released an updated report: : California Transportation by the Numbers. The report points out: "The Hidden Costs of Deficient Roads: Driving on California roads that are deteriorated, congested, and that lack some desirable safety features costs California drivers a total of \$61 billion each year. TRIP has calculated the cost to the average motorist in the state's largest urban areas in the form of additional vehicle operating costs (VOC) as a result of driving on rough roads, the cost of lost time and wasted fuel due to congestion, and

<https://noprop6.com/https://>

Guest Speaker, Sept. 19, 2018 - Sergio Escobar, PE—Executive Director Oroville Dam Emergency Recovery Project.

By Debanik Chaudhuri, Chapter President



Mr. Sergio Escobar has over 28 years of experience in the design and construction of civil water infrastructure projects, including over 21 years at the supervisory and managerial levels.

Currently, Mr. Escobar is the Executive Manager for the Oroville Dam Emergency Recovery project. In this role, he provides oversight and technical guidance on projects/activities that are tied to the Oroville complex directly or indirectly related to the Oroville Spillways incident. He is also currently the contract manager for the Oroville Dam Safety Comprehensive Needs Assessment Project. In the past,

Mr. Escobar was the Conveyance Office Chief and led the Department of Water Resources activities for the technical work associated with the improvement of water conveyance in the Delta. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from SAC State.

SYNOPSIS

The reconstruction of the Oroville dam spillways and the Oroville Complex is a tremendous undertaking. Phase I construction was completed last year in time for the rainy season. The Phase 2 construction is currently in progress. The presentation provides an overview and update of the recovery efforts at the Oroville Spillways, and future reconstruction of the Oroville Complex.

Welcoming New Chapter Members—Modern Building, Inc.

By Kevin Gustorf, Chapter Vice President

Please welcome the newest member of the Sierra Chapter, Modern Building, Inc. Founded in 1946, Modern Building is a LEED certified diverse general contractor that is engaged in a wide variety of commercial construction and engineering. With a staff of over 65 persons, they are headquartered out of Chico, CA. They specialize in concrete tilt-up

walls, multi-story steel frame buildings, pre-engineered steel buildings, health care / medical offices, schools, design-build projects, agricultural buildings and breweries. Their projects range in size from 1,000 to 300,000 square feet. Welcome to the Chapter, Modern Building, Inc.!



Recap—22nd Annual Summer Social, July 14, 2018

By Kathy Wickam, Director

Our 23rd Annual Summer Social was held on July 21st at the La Provence Restaurant & Terrace in Roseville. It was a fun filled evening which started off with appetizers and dinner. Dana Remington started the festivities with recapping the history of the Chapter's gavel, followed by President Landon Blake passing

the gavel to the new President, Debanik Chaudhuri. The night concluded with the members getting into groups and trying to name famous engineering failures or mishaps and their causes. Thanks for all who attended and helped thank Landon for his service this past year and welcome Debanik as the new chapter President!



From left to right: Dana Remington , State Director—Landon Blake, 2017/2018 Chapter President—Debanik Chaudhuri, 2018/2019 Chapter President.

Revision—2017-18 Chapter EEA Awards Presentation—October 17, 2018

By: Sierra Chapter Awards Committee

To continue with our tradition of recognizing accomplishments of member firms, ACEC Sierra Chapter will have a Chapter Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) event in 2018. Due to scheduling conflicts, the EEA presentation will be postponed to our October General Membership Meeting. Please plan on attending our monthly membership meeting on Wednesday, October

17th, to hear about the innovative and award-winning projects in our region.

Sponsorships for the Sierra Chapter Engineering Excellence Awards event are being offered at the \$600 Gold, \$300 Silver, \$150 Bronze levels which include a table for eight, half a table for four people, and 2 seats, respectively. Sponsors will be recognized during the event.

ACEC-CA Sierra Chapter Member Firm Profile - September 2018



RICK Engineering Company (RICK) is a premiere multi-disciplinary planning, design, and engineering firm known throughout the Western United States for providing unparalleled service and value to every client since 1955. Our company's broad array of design disciplines allows us to provide comprehensive services that can be managed in-house to assure optimum project quality and efficiency. Our suite of services includes:

- **Civil Engineering/Transportation**
- **Planning & Engineering**
- **Community Planning & Sustainable Design**
- **Surveying & Mapping**
- **GIS Services**
- **Environmental Studies**
- **Traffic Engineering**
- **Water Resources Engineering**
- **Landscape Architecture**
- **Photogrammetry**
- **Laser Scanning**
- **Economic/Market Analysis**
- **Expert Witness**

We offer these services at every stage of the project life cycle. Our holistic involvement from beginning to end has cultivated a knowledge base that influences our planning, design and engineering choices to create projects that can, and do, get built. We leverage this technical expertise with an in-depth understanding of local policies to deliver sophisticated solutions on every project. Our award winning projects are recognized for their innovative designs, cost-effective solutions, and on-schedule results.

Behind every project is a talented team of staff. We are known for a culture that attracts, empowers, and retains exceptional people. RICK boasts an industry-leading retention rate, yielding a consistent employee base. With nearly 300 employees company-wide, we have an extensive depth of staff that regularly collaborates for effective and quality deliverables. Our internal training program engages staff on fundamentals, quality control, technology, project management, and client relations to continually challenge our managers and develop our future industry leaders.

We at RICK look forward to the next 60 years proudly serving the communities we live in.



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Recap—July 2018 State Board of Directors Meeting, Pendry Hotel, San Diego

By Dana Remington, State Director



The July board of directors meeting held at the Pendry Hotel in San Diego, was the start of the New Year for

the board officers and directors. The gavel was passed from Mike Cooper to Ralph Guida and all the directors and officers were sworn into their positions.

ACEC Retirement Plan made a presentation to all the members present. The ACEC Retirement plan has several different options to choose from and takes care of the fiduciary requirements so the member firms have fewer headaches. The plan is available to all member firms.

Membership numbers continue to increase with new member firms, although there is some consolidation with existing firms merging or being acquired by other member firms.

Update on the Caltrans Liaison Committee, it appears that Caltrans is willing to agree on a 10%± profit for consulting firms that are looking to work with Caltrans. Caltrans also is agreeing with yearly escalation and is currently working on a pilot project in District 7. ACEC

CA Engineering Excellence Award competition is currently open for firms to submit project with a deadline of September 28th. The Awards banquet will be at the Hilton Union Square in San Francisco on February 7, 2019.

ACEC National has a new Executive Director, Linda Bauer Darr who has an extensive background in transportation. Linda will be meeting with all the State groups to better understand the membership.

Succession Planning – ACEC National is working on a plan to get young professional members to attend more Local, State and National events. White paper coming out soon. Get firms to budget so that young professionals may attend National Events.

Diversity Inclusion – more a diversity of thought than race, gender or groups.

PAC – both State and National PAC's are focusing on Transportation Advocacy in the upcoming election.

Next State Board Meeting will be in Napa on October 10, coinciding with the upcoming Annual Strategic Summit.

President's Message cont.

Continued from page 1

back. Kathy would have been a great president. We will miss her in that role. Kevin Gustorf and Jerry Jones stepped up to fill up the positions of Vice Present and Secretary. We have a wonderful and supportive board, backed by the experience and wisdom of Marco Palilla. I welcome Scott Lillibridge, the newest member of the board and thank Marshall Moore, Chad Coleman, and Tom Sell for their continued commitment. Debbie LoCicero makes it all happen. I can't thank her enough.

On the political front, the November mid-term election is almost upon us. Given the current political landscape of our country, it is important that as professionals we should look beyond partisanship and the political rhetoric and focus on the issues that will have impact on California's infrastructure and our profession. In the end, our business is intimately connected to the welfare of the State and the growth of our infrastructure. There are a couple of ballot measures that are important to our communities at large and to the consultants and engineers who make up our organization.

- **Proposition 3** is a citizen's initiative water bond. The bond will invest about \$8.8 billion dollars in California water infrastructure. Support for Proposition 3 will provide funding for repair and expansion of key infrastructure for both state and local water supplies, and support improving our water supply system. ACEC California strongly encourages you to vote **YES on Prop 3**. Follow the link (<https://www.acec-ca.org/page/yesonprop3>) to read more.

- **Proposition 6**, if passed will deliver a significant blow to transportation infrastructure funding. ACEC California has been campaigning very hard to bring awareness on the issue with the goal of defeating Proposition 6 and preserving the critical funding that SB 1 provided for the state's transportation infrastructure. ACEC California strongly encourages you to vote **No on Prop 6**. Visit <https://www.acec-ca.org/page/NoOnProp6> for more information.

As a member of the engineering community, each one of us should talk to our friends, neighbors, and colleagues, explain the importance of infrastructure funding that would keep California's economy humming.

We already have some great speakers lined up and some exciting events planned, including Young Professionals Forum and Agency Excellence Award. But all these will be meaningless without your participation and support. I would encourage you to:

- Attend at least one meeting before 2018 is over. Bring a young(er) person along and introduce him/her to the ACEC world.
- Think of the public agencies you work with. See if they deserve some recognition for the work they do and be considered for our Agency Excellence Award.
- Start writing up the great project that you are working on now, so that it is ready for submittal for next year's Engineering Excellence Award (EEA).

See you all soon,
Debanik Chaudhuri

2018-19 Board of Directors

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GET NOTICED IN THE SIERRA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER!

Would you like to see YOUR FIRM listed in this Newsletter?

ACEC-CA/Sierra Chapter firms in good standing are invited to submit a company profile for inclusion in this newsletter. **Firms that have not been featured in the last two years are invited to participate again.** Contact Kevin Gustorf, Vice President, for submission details.

Point of Contact:

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 (Wood Rodgers)
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Debbie LoCicero
Recording Secretary
Newsletter Editor

ACEC California Sierra Chapter

September 2018

You are cordially invited to attend:

ACEC-CA Sierra Chapter General Membership and BOD “Dinner” Meeting

Wednesday September 19, 2018

Guest Speaker:

Sergio Escobar, PE

**Executive Manager, Oroville Dam Emergency Recovery Project
Department of Water Resources**

Topic:

**Update on the Spillway Emergency Repair and
Future Reconstruction of the Oroville Complex**

On-line Registration/ RSVP:

[Register Here](#)

Or you can:

***Pay by check at the door.**

***Pay Cash at the door.**

**R.S.V.P. deadline: Monday
September 17, 12:00 noon**

*If paying by cash or check at the door, please either “RSVP Only” at the above Register Here link, or email dlocicero@acec-ca-sierra.org for reserving your seat.



Meetings are held at the Hilton unless otherwise noted.

Hilton Sacramento Arden West

**220 Harvard Street
Sacramento, CA**

5:00pm - 6:00pm: BOD Meeting

6:00pm - 6:30pm: Networking

6:30pm - 8:00pm: General Membership
Dinner Meeting