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President's Message

By Erik Fanselau

Fall is upon us! ACEC has many different roles that are all important. However, my favorite mission is supporting our students and schools. With the change of seasons and school back in session, I was inspired to share with you what your Chapter does to support students and future professionals. As I mentioned in my first column, I hope to keep you informed of our Chapter activities and initiatives. With that in mind, I think some of you might be surprised with how much we actually contribute to worthy students and school groups each year. Over the last year your Chapter has contributed more than \$18,000 in funding to a variety of scholarships and school groups. Here is a partial list of recipients: ACEC California Scholarship Foundation, Tim Fleming Scholarship, CREATE scholarship, Davis Robotics, San Joaquin Engineers, Wolfpak Boosters, Silent Bot STEM, UOP, CSUS, and UC Davis. None of this would be possible without your annual dues. As a result, I want to express my gratitude and appreciation for your membership and I hope you can take some satisfaction in knowing that a portion of your dues are going directly to support young people and future professionals.

Erik



Erik Fanselau
Sierra Chapter President
2023-2024

Calendar of Events

Meetings are held at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West unless otherwise noted.

Member Cost: \$50 - Non-Member \$60

ACEC Sierra Chapter

Wednesday—October 18, 2023

General Membership and BOD Dinner Meeting

Speaker:

Randy Fessler, Principal Engineer & Construction Branch Manager for CA Department of Water Resources

Topic:

Recent projects in the Levee Repair Program Headquarters (LRPH)

[Registration Link](#)

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

General Membership and BOD Dinner Meeting

Speaker:

Maria Lehman, ASCE National President

Topic:

Infrastructure Spending Priorities

(More details coming soon!)

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

October 18th Sierra Chapter Dinner Meeting Promo

By Lincoln Leaman, Secretary/Treasurer



Please join us for our October meeting as Randy Fessler, Principal Engineer & Construction Branch Manager for the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), will speak to us

about recent projects in the Levee Repair Program Headquarters (LRPH). In this role, he oversees over 100 professional and consultant staff delivering all

engineering and construction management services related to Levee construction, repair and maintenance projects throughout the state. Much of the work has been getting the levees up to 200 year flood protection standards. Randy's group also oversees environmental projects that provide or improve fish passage, increase natural flood plains to minimize river rise and manage seasonal river flows to support threatened fish habitat.

September 20, 2023 Meeting Recap

By Rami Gharaibeh, Director



The September ACEC monthly meeting featured guest speaker Matt Click, Executive Director of the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA). Click began his

presentation by welcoming all consultants in attendance and reinforcing that his door is always open to support them in any way.

Click provided an overview of PCTPA's role as the regional transportation agency for Placer County. PCTPA helps local jurisdictions obtain funding to plan, design and deliver important transportation projects. Every 4-5 years, PCTPA updates the county's 25-year transportation plan called the Placer Transportation Plan to reflect current needs and priorities. Click noted they work closely with SACOG at the regional level.

Some major projects PCTPA is involved with include ongoing improvements along Interstate 80 through Placer County. Click noted work is currently underway and making progress to alleviate traffic congestion in the area. While expanding roadway

infrastructure is not always popular, Click emphasized its importance given Placer County's low levels of mass transit use presently. PCTPA is working to improve micro transit options like GoPlacer, an app-based ridesharing program serving South Placer communities. A new express bus route is also slated to launch in South Placer this coming spring. Additionally, PCTPA helps fund the Students Ride Free program across Placer County.

Click highlighted a new grant PCTPA recently received to update the county's Active Transportation Plan focused on improving bike and pedestrian infrastructure. As the largest county in California currently without a self-help transportation funding measure, Click said PCTPA's goal is to educate voters on the benefits of a dedicated local funding stream. Click directed attendees to the website KeepPlacerMoving.com for more information.

In the concluding slides, Click shared PCTPA's top priority projects listed on their website including the Highway 65 Widening project and Interstate 80/ Highway 65 Interchange Improvements. His presentation provided engineers in attendance with

Membership



The Sierra Chapter is proud to announce the Board of Directors approved and welcomed the following new firms in the past year:

| Firm | Month/Yr. Joined | Member Type | City |
|--|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| TRC | 03/2023 | Engineering | Roseville |
| Ultieg | 06/2023 | Engineering | Rancho Cordova |
| IronOrbit | 08/2023 | Affiliate | Anaheim Hills |
| Aerial Zeus | 08/2023 | Affiliate | Sacramento |
| Jackson & Sands Engineering, Inc. | 09/2023 | Engineering | Grass Valley |

New Affiliate Membership Program

Our new Affiliate Membership is available to non-professional service companies such as vendors and contractors. Please let us know if you would like to find out more information. Please contact Donald Blackburn 530.305.0686 or donalddb@blackburnconsulting.com for more information.

Did you know that individual members that help to bring a new state ACEC California member can take advantage of the Member-Get-a-Member Recruitment Program that entitles recruiters to a \$100 VISA Gift Card? If you know a firm that may be interested in joining ACEC California, please reach out to Donald Blackburn, donalddb@blackburnconsulting.com.

New Member Intro: Jackson & Sands Engineering, Inc.

By Donald Blackburn, Vice President

The Sierra Chapter is thrilled to announce our new member, Jackson & Sands Engineering, Inc. Jackson and Sands has completed ADU designs for many Northern California cities and counties and they have also been heavily involved with the re-

building efforts in Paradise by providing custom and master home plans to those affected by the Camp Fire. With offices in Chico and Grass Valley, CA, Jackson & Sands offers structural, civil, and construction services for residential, commercial, and public clients.

ACEC Scholarship Winners Attending the next Sierra Chapter Dinner Meeting!

By Marco Palilla, Director



Every year, the ACEC California Scholarship Foundation seeks the best and brightest engineering and land surveying students

in California and awards scholarships to them. Over the years, ACEC California has awarded over \$700,000 in cash grants to hundreds of outstanding students. ACEC California announced the recipients of the 2023-2024 Scholarship Foundation awards earlier this year and fourteen students received scholarship funds – seven graduate students and seven undergraduate students. In all, the Scholarship Foundation awarded a total of \$65,000 in scholarship funds. Even better news is two of this year's

winner are from the Sierra Chapter! Israel Rivera of UC Davis and Jasmine Randhawa of UOP.

Israel and Jasmine will be joining us on October 18th to share their stories and receive an official ACEC Scholarship certificate. Please come and help us celebrate these two outstanding engineering students at the next Sierra chapter Dinner Meeting.



ISRAEL RIVERA
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
PURSUING A MASTERS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING



JASMINE RANDHAWA
UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
PURSUING A BACHELORS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

September 20, 2023 Meeting Recap Continued

Continued from page 2

a helpful recap of PCTPA's role and the transportation initiatives and improvements underway across Placer County. The September ACEC monthly meeting featured guest speaker Matt Click, Execu-

tive Director of the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA). Click began his presentation by welcoming all consultants in attendance and reinforcing that his door is always open to support them in any way.



ACEC Sierra Chapter Firm Profile



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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.

Point of Contact:

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AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
California

Newsletter Editor

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You are cordially invited to attend:

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

**ACEC-CA Sierra Chapter Monthly
General Membership Dinner Meeting**



Guest Speaker:

**Randy Fessler, Principal Engineer &
Construction Branch Manager for
CA Department of Water Resources**

Topic:

**Recent projects in the Levee Repair
Program Headquarters (LRPH)**

On-line Registration/ RSVP:

[Register Here](#)

**R.S.V.P. Deadline:
Friday, October 13th**

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 5:00pm-6:00pm: | BOD Meeting |
| 6:00pm-6:30pm: | Networking |
| 6:30pm-8:30pm: | Dinner Meeting |



**Hilton Hotel, Arden West
2200 Harvard Street
Sacramento, CA 95815**