



# CEAC Newsletter

July  
2019

Editor: Pat DeChellis



## President's Message

by Jim Porter, Director of Public Works  
San Mateo County

Fires, flooding, potential dam failures, mudslides...now earthquakes. What's next, locusts? I'm only half kidding. This has been a particularly challenging time for counties in all regions of California. The earthquakes emanating from the Ridgecrest area of Kern County during the July 4th holiday weekend were devastating to many communities and caused widespread damage to infrastructure in Kern and surrounding counties in Southern California. Several homes were damaged or destroyed. And now the long rebuilding process will begin. Best wishes to our colleagues in the Southland as they rebuild.

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In every natural disaster over the past few years, Public Works and Transportation agencies have been at the heart of disaster recovery and rebuilding. I've now witnessed several past and present agency directors and their teams respond to these emergencies as first responders, doing whatever it takes to rebuild their communities. These incidents are happening in all regions of California and the leadership that has been exemplified by our peers in these situations has been nothing less than outstanding. Thank you for your service and keep up the good work!

The earthquakes in Kern County serve as a reminder that life can change instantly by one unfortunate event. We are all emergency responders, and we can all just as easily be victims of catastrophic events. Please take the time to assess your current state of disaster preparedness. Suggestions include having enough food and water for you and your family for at least 72 hours, having flashlights with fresh batteries on hand, and assembling a "go-bag" with important documents and family items that you can bring with you if you need to evacuate your premises. Other suggestions include making sure that your family has a way to connect and/or designating a meeting point in case you're separated when the event occurs. Knowing that your family is safe will allow you to then use your skills and knowledge to help your community.

On a happier note, the Northern California region will be hosting the Bedroll Conference at Lake Almanor in Plumas County. The format this year will be condensed into a two-day event on August 1-2, 2019. A formal announcement will be sent out shortly. Attendance from public sector staff at the Bedroll conference has been waning over the years, which has impacted the viability of the event. Please try to attend, and I'll see you there!

Finally, as I mentioned in the last Newsletter, CEAC will be hosting the 2021 National Association of County Engineers (NACE) Conference. The planning process is being led by Matt Machado, Santa Cruz County and yours truly. An initial planning meeting was held on June 21 in Sacramento to solicit ideas on the theme of the conference, program content, development of a logo, and of course conference swag. I'd like to thank those who have already agreed to help, and I'd like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join us in planning the event.

All Materials Submitted are Subject to the "3 R's":

- Review
- Revision
- Rejection

The next planning meeting will be held on August 5 at 2 PM at the CSAC office in Sacramento, or you can call in. Dial-in instructions will be provided a few days before the meeting.

## President's Message (continued)

Another planning meeting will be held at the CSAC Office on Tuesday, August 27 (the day before the Policy Conference) from 3-5 PM. Please join us. NACE staff is currently touring hotels with conference facilities in Southern California and will let us know very soon where the conference will be held. Scott McGolpin, Santa Barbara County will be NACE President in 2021; we want to make the conference a successful event for both NACE and CEAC.

Have a safe summer, and I'll see you at the Policy Conference in Sacramento August 28 and 29.

Sincerely,

**Jim Porter**  
2019 CEAC President

## Upcoming CEAC Events

- ◆ **Bedroll Conference** - August 1-2, 2019, Camp Conery, Lake Almanor
- ◆ **CEAC Policy Conference** - August 28-29, 2019, Sacramento
- ◆ **CSAC 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** - December 3-6, 2019, San Francisco
- ◆ **Public Works Officers Institute/CEAC Spring Conference** - March 18-20, 2020, Monterey
- ◆ **NACE Annual Conference** - April 19-23, 2020, Orange Beach, Alabama



# 2019 Public Works Secretarial Seminar

Hosted by Sonoma County  
by Caren Larkin, Executive Secretary,  
Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works



Sonoma County was thrilled to host 54 representatives from county public work departments throughout the State for the **34<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Works Secretarial Seminar**. This exciting and informative program is held in cooperation with the County Engineers Association of California and geared towards executive assistants and executive secretaries who provide essential support to public works departments and the work they do. Events and activities included a presentation on fire debris removal and a visit to the Sonoma County Central Landfill as well as to local fire destroyed and reconstruction locations. A visit to the Charles M Schulz Sonoma County Airport taught our attendees about the emergency response Oshkosh Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Vehicle which also assisted during the 2017 Sonoma Complex Fires Disaster (see picture bottom right). Representatives also visited Francis Ford Coppola Winery and Russian River Brewing Company highlighted two very strong and important industries for Sonoma County.

Finally, our very own Supervisor Lynda Hopkins spoke on the importance of Public Works for constituents, especially during disasters, and a visit to our Transit Center focused on Sonoma County's first electric vehicle.

The 2020 Public Works Secretarial Seminar will be hosted by Riverside County



# *In Memoriam*

**James T. Pott  
Santa Clara County  
February 28, 1927 - February 21, 2019**

**CEAC President 1971-72**

**“Admiral Bird”**

**A.K.A. James Tea Pot**

**NACE Urban County Engineer 1973**

**APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader 1976**



James was born in Shanghai, China in 1927 and lived there until 1941 at which time he was asked to leave by the authorities. This problem with authorities would become a theme in his life and would serve him well in life and later make him popular with the CEAC crowd and, more particularly, the first CLODS. Of course growing up in China gave James the opportunity to become fluent in Chinese — an opportunity that he did not forgo. And it is obvious to anyone from whom the first CLODS eventually learned their considerable skills with the Chinese Language.

Upon his return to the United States, using the considerable purse and influence of his extended family, Stanford University was eventually convinced to accept James into their engineering program. After several years and several donations, James graduated from Stanford in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and with a Masters in Structural Engineering in 1950. James freely admits that he taught himself hydrology and sewer engineering — which goes a long way in explaining the overhead sewer line that he and others once designed (circa 1966) and recommended as a standard to CEAC and the State of California building authorities — James believes that his overhead sewer proposal is still under review and consideration in Sacramento.

James served in the US Army during the Korean War and eventually ended up at Edwards Air Force Base as the Chief construction engineer. While at Edwards he and his team designed and constructed the launch pads used to this day. These launch pads were designed to withstand a million pounds of rocket motor thrust.

Upon his departure from the Army James entered the private sector and developed a broad portfolio of civil engineering projects. He worked for Kennedy/Jenks/Chilton in San Francisco eventually promoting to "client development director" (CDD) for the firm.

In 1960 Santa Clara County became a charter county and hence the county surveyor/engineer was no longer an elected office. The county engineer became a county CAO appointed position. The CAO of Santa Clara developed a test to determine the fitness of the applicants for the position of county engineer. As it turned out, James was the only applicant to pass the test. James accepted the offer to become the county engineer because he knew it would be more than just filling potholes. James is

## *In Memoriam* (continued)

### **James T. Pott**

proud of the fact that under his leadership Santa Clara County was among the first to build a local highway system. James and his staff build 50 miles of limited-access highways to Caltrans Standards in a few short years. James served as the County Engineer from 1960 to 1977, the Director of Public Works from 1963 to 1973, the Director of Transportation from 1973 to 1977, and Assistant County Administrator in 1977 and 1978.

James then left county government for the City of Long Beach, where he served as City Engineer and Director of Public Works until 1984. He moved back into private practice as Vice President of O'Brien-Kreitzberg in Encino, CA, from 1984 to 1987. Following this period, James performed engineering consultant work through his own firm, James Pott and Company until his retirement in 1994. During this period James served on the Board of Directors of the Rail Construction Corporation of Los Angeles County from 1990 to 1992.

Working for Santa Clara County gained James entry to CEAC where he became instantly popular with CEAC members. While in China James developed considerable card gaming skills. These skills allowed James to relieve many of his CEAC buddies of their discretionary ash reserves during the many poker games at the Annual Pelican Egg Stomp.

James was installed as the President of CEAC during the fall conference of 1971 in Monterey (Seaside). In celebration, a couple of CLODS shot some wild pigs in the dunes outside of the City of Seaside and they were barbecued in holes dug in the beach near Monterey. On a sad note, two CLODS, Bill Jones of Solano County and Howard Van Reyper of Yolo County, lost their lives near Half Moon Bay while sailing home that year. In response, James helped to develop the CEAC Memorial Scholarship Fund in their honor.

Although he made many contributions to CEAC during his tenure as a county engineer, he feels his most important contribution was serving as straight man to Hannah, McIntosh, and McClain. He knew he wasn't as funny as they were, but swears that he was among the most intelligent and was certainly the best looking of the early CLODS.

James earned his bird in 1997 after he took a trip to the North Pole. He was a passenger on a Russian icebreaker that sailed out of Murmansk. It was the largest icebreaker in the world with a displacement approaching 30,000 tons. James was a guest of the Stanford alumni association and the Smithsonian. While at the North Pole James swam in the arctic ocean and walked through twenty four time zones in 15-minutes. Upon his return to California, the CLODS awarded him the distinction of being named ADMIRAL BIRD.

James married Lois Jane Donaldson on July 16, 1955 and had a wonderful marriage until her passing in October 2013. Lois was also very active in social and community activities including CEAC. James has three daughters and seven grandchildren and his family nickname is "Honey Pott".

#### **James T. Pott passed away earlier this year. His obituary read:**

*Afterglow I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one. I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done. I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways, of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days. I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun; of happy memories that I leave when life is done.*



# Droppings

*from out of the past*

By Dave "Road Runner" Gravenkamp  
CEAC Historian

## THE BUFFALO HIDE STACHEL

Some of you, probably not our Glorious Leader, enjoyed another presentation of the Buffalo Bull Award at the President's Banquet as part of the Spring Conference in San Diego. Pictures of the event were included in the most recent CEAC Newsletter (April 2019).

### What about the first Buffalo Bull Award?

The following is a story by Bill McIntosh which was included in the CEAC Newsletter Summer 1996.

### HISTORY of the BUFFALO BULL AWARD

By Old Crow McIntosh in conjunction with "Coot" Sauer

*The Buffalo Bull Award was created in 1972 by the immortal ED HANNA, Road Commissioner of San Benito County, President of CEAC 1956-57, and co-founder of the CLODS (with Bill McIntosh, CEAC President 1963-64). To really appreciate the Buffalo Bull Award, however, we must go back to 1960 and the story of the "BUFFALO HIDE SACHEL".*

*Sometime in late 1959 or early 1960, Vic Sauer, Director of Public Works, Contra Costa County and CEAC President 1967-68, lost his briefcase in Los Angeles while attending a meeting of the SCR 26 Committee (which established the California Freeway and Expressway System). The briefcase mysteriously fell into the hands of Ed Hanna, who "treated" it to conform to the details of a paper he wrote that was to become a **genuine classic**. When Vic next saw his briefcase, it arrived in the "treated" condition. **AIRMAIL COLLECT**. In a letter to Svae Speer, then Road Commissioner of San Diego County, dated April 7, 1960, Ed told the origin of Vic's briefcase - the story of the **BUFFALO HID SACHEL**. This classic must be read before moving on with the story.*

PUBLIC WORKS OFFICER  
San Benito County  
Hollister, California

D.K. Speer, Road Commissioner  
Civic Center  
San Diego, California

April 7, 1960

Dear Mr. Speer:

RE: The Buffalo Hide Satchel

Before we indulge in name calling and casting aspersions on any County as being "cheap", it might be well if you clearly understood certain historical facts, to-wit: (as reported by LA County Counsel).

1. At the 1825 Rendezvous in Brown's Hole on the Green River, Jim Bridger traded a drunken Sioux Indian for a weather beaten old buffalo bull hide. The hide wasn't worth much, but was remarkable for its toughness and large number of arrow scars. Bridger subsequently traded the hide to Jed Smith for a tin cup of cut-back Taos Lightning.
2. In the Spring 1826, Jed Smith had the hide made into a pair of Alforjas (packsaddle bags) for his forthcoming scouting trip to the west on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company.
3. In 1827, at San Juan Bautista, Smith traded the Alforjas to Juan Pablo Garces, an itinerant pack contractor. For a sack of acorns. For the next four years, Garces used the Alforjas to transport cinnabar ore to the retorts at the Nueva Idria Mine. For the next 30 years, Garces roamed the southwest doing odd jobs of packing.
4. In 1860, the Wells Fargo Company foreclosed on Garces for a postage due bill, took the Alforjas and then resold them to the Pony Express Company which in turn had them cut up and made into Mochilas (saddlebags) for the Pony Express Mail between San Francisco and St. Louis.
5. When the Pony Express Company went defunct, the US Government took over the Mochilas for non-refund of subsidy overpayments, cut them in half and used them as carpet bags during the reconstruction period in the South.
6. When reconstruction finally ended, the Administration turned the buffalo hide carpet bags over to the military for use as map cases where they were used throughout the Indian Wars. Soon after the Spanish-American War, the buffalo hide map cases were sent back from the Philippines and sold as War Surplus. The County of Contra Costs purchased one of these half-mochilas-carpethag-map cases for their County Surveyor to use as a brief case.
7. The Buffalo Hide Brief Case was inherited by Mr. Sauer when he went to work for Contra Costa County; he was carrying this so-called brief case when he attended a meeting in Los Angeles in 1956. The LA Health Dept. condemned the satchel as a menace to the public health and safety. The LA County Board of Supervisors were so ashamed at the penury of those responsible that they ordered their Road Commissioner, Sam Kennedy, to refurbish the satchel at the expense of Los Angeles County, then return it to Contra Costa County.
8. After weeks of cleaning off layer of blood, sweat, grime, manure, grease, etc., they finally got down to the original leather, still showing the original arrow marks but now with an addition of bullet holes, carved initials, and burned in messages and slogans such as "FIFTY-FOUR FORTY OR FIGHT", "REMEMBER THE ALAMO", "SURROUNDED BY REDSKINS—SITUATION HOPELESS (signed G.A. CUSTER, cmndg)".
9. Apparently somewhere down through the years the so-called brief case had done a tour of duty with the Navy, for inscribed on one side in carved letters were the entire list of instructions for enlisted personnel in the old Navy, to-wit: "IF IT MOVES, SALUTE IT—IF IT DOESN'T MOVE, PAINT IT. (signed Dewey, Adm, cmndg.)".
10. The brief case was given 11 coats of stain and rebuffered and polished repeatedly, but the carvings and inscriptions still showed through. Nevertheless, Mr. Kennedy complied with the instructions of his Board and returned the case to Contra Costa County—postage collect.

After only two months of use, the Board of Supervisors in Contra Costa County gave up. They could stand it no longer. Janitors and Errand Boys around the Courthouse were being saluted and two Supervisors and three engineers have been painted- the DPW had been painted twice.

Now, I don't want to be snide about this, but when the Board called for bids on a new brief case, they took the lowest bid. Have you noticed that little flimsy carried by the CC Co. DPW? You can even see there the gilt lettering put on by the advertiser has been rubbed off.

Very truly yours,

**E.R. Hanna**  
**Road Commissioner**

Cc: Buffalo Vic

*Now that you have read that story, we will proceed.*

*Sometime after the return of the briefcase (satchel) to Vic Sauer, he and Bill McIntosh put their heads together and devised the "next step". It was well known throughout the State that Ed Hanna rolled his own cigarettes using Bull Durham tobacco. Vic shipped the satchel to Bill, who together with Deputy Dick Uptegrove, added genuine bullet holes to complete the effect, and pieced together a "Do-it-yourself Bull Durham Kit". The kit was placed in the satchel. It contained items such as:*

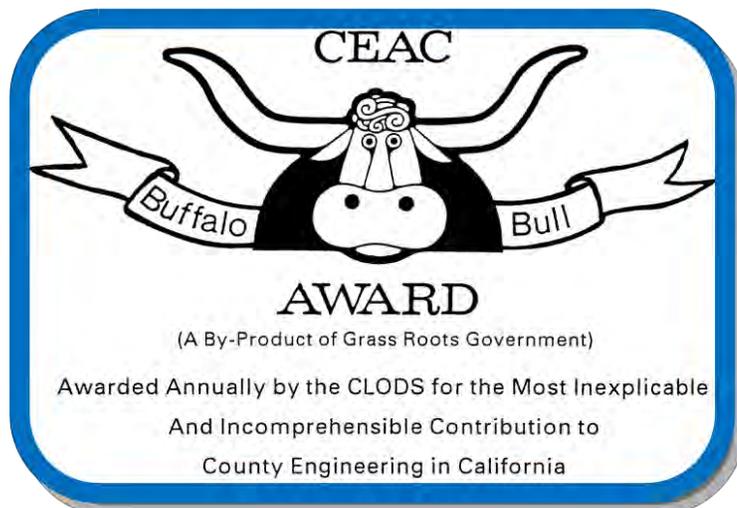
- (1) a dried cow pie for the raw product which contained "a hint of pine".*
- (2) a cutting board.*
- (3) a quartering knife.*
- (4) a nose pin to protect against offensive odor.*
- (5) rubber gloves to ensure complete sanitation*

*And, other items that have since been forgotten.*

*The kit was then transported to Palm Springs where CSAC was holding its Annual Meeting. On November 18, 1960, at the CSAC (note, **not** CEAC) Banquet, held at the El Mirador Hotel, Alameda County Supervisor Francis Dunn called on Bill McIntosh who, assisted by Dave Speer, presented the "Do-it-yourself Bull Durham Kit" to Ed Hanna. As if by destiny, it had been reported the day before the meeting that Ed was having trouble finding a Bull Durham in Palm Springs. The situation played right into the hands of the Presenters because Bill had brought with him a large cardboard box FULL of the "raw product" (cow pies) - and at the end of the presentation of the Kit, Ed was also presented with a "lifetime supply" of the raw product. That action would have stopped most any person. Ed, however, simply thanked the County Engineers for the Kit and took the huge box of cow pies, stating "I've been coming to these meetings for years and have seen a lot of this stuff. This, however, is the first time I've ever seen it boxed!"*

*Ed kept the cow pies with the "Do-it-yourself" Kit in his office for several years. After the formation of the CLODS in 1965, Ed put his fertile mind to work on a scheme to preserve the cow pie as permanent memento. In 1971, he had the cow pie encased in plastic, placed on a wooden base and had a brass plate attached, inscribed as follows:*

## THE BUFFALO BULL AWARD



(A By-Product of Grass Roots Government)

Awarded Annually by the CLODS for the  
Most Inexplicable  
And Incomprehensible Contribution to  
County Engineering in California

# Bay Area Regional News

Submitted by: **Craig Tackabery, Regional Director, Marin County**

**San Mateo County** recently completed a soil nailing project near Hwy 1 in Pescadero. It stabilized the slope and preserved a drainage pipe outfall.



**Sonoma County** installs a seasonal crossing on the Russian River in the community of Asti every year. The crossing reduces the commute by approximately 20 minutes and serves as a second point of access to the area that may be used as an evacuation route in case of wildfires. After this year's storms, a section of the Russian River changed its course and required the installation of a second temporary bridge. The Department installed a temporary Bailey bridge section this year as shown in the pictures below.



# Bay Area Regional News

(Continued)

**Contra Costa County** reconstructed a bridge on Marsh Creek Road located on the eastern slopes of Mt. Diablo. Although a rural road, the road is now used as a major commute corridor from eastern Contra Costa to central Contra Costa with about 7000 vehicles using the road each day. The bridge was built in two phases over two construction seasons to maintain traffic. The Marsh Creek Road Bridge Replacement project has gone on from being the Northern California American Public Works Association (APWA) project of the year to now being selected as the National APWA Public Works Project of the Year for 2019 in the Category of Transportation for less than \$5 million.



# Bay Area Regional News

(Continued)

## Marin County

Civic Center Roof Rehabilitation Project is a 2-year, \$17 million effort to remove the old, deteriorated roof from the iconic building and replace it with a brand-new roof. The improved roofing material will maintain the original look of the historic Frank Lloyd Wright-designed roof and help preserve the facility for many years to come.



Five miles of Lucas Valley Road (right) a major arterial road for the county, was repaved using Cold In-Place Recycling technology. The project was funded in part by SB1.



The De Long Avenue and Diablo Avenue intersection in Novato and the Redwood Highway Frontage Road were both highlighted in the Systematic Safety Analysis Report for Marin County. The report is expected to be a key document in the preparation of future public works programs and projects for each local jurisdiction.

# Bay Area Regional News

(Continued)

**Marin County** engineers (right) inspected guardrails along Panoramic Highway overlooking Stinson Beach as part of a roadway safety improvement project in West Marin funded in part by HSIP.



ADA improvements (left) were made in Marin City as part of the Southern Marin Paving Project.

Roadway improvements (right), including sidewalk and ADA upgrades, were made on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard near Samuel P Taylor State Park. The road is the most heavily used arterial in the county connecting rural West Marin to the urbanized bay side.



Donahue Street (above) was rehabilitated from Drake Avenue to the Highway 101 onramp, between Marin City and Sausalito.

Due to heavy storms (right) in February 2019, Highway 37's westbound lane flooded near the Novato Creek Bridge. Emergency efforts were provided by several local and state agencies in the area to try to reopen the important section of highway as quickly as possible.



# Bay Area Regional News

(Continued)



**Marin County** - Lucas Valley Road suffered a slide during a significant storm and required major repair work.



A retaining wall (left) was installed along a stretch of roadway in Samuel P Taylor Park. The project repaired a substantial road slide, requiring single lane access through the popular state park.

Roadway resurfacing (below) was conducted in the Sleepy Hollow neighborhood with the help of SB1 funding.



Traffic signal timing (above) and other flow improvements on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard from the Town of Ross to Highway 101 in an effort to improve traffic congestion.

Roadway resurfacing in West Marin (right), shown here near Lagunitas, is typically a part of the summer paving program.





## NACE Report - Summer 2019

By **Matt Machado**, CEAC Representative to the NACE Board of Directors, Deputy CAO and Public Works Director, Santa Cruz County



Yup! You have a new NACE Representative! Our CEAC Board of Directors appointed me on May 23, 2019 to be your new NACE Representative. Mike Penrose has retired.. Congratulations, Mike, and thank you for a job well done!!! Farewell, enjoy, take care and all that good stuff, but most important please stay involved with us and our CEAC organization.

### Thank you Mike – Well done!

Summer is here and that means NACo annual conference and exposition. It will be NACo's 84th, hosted in Clark County Nevada July 12 – July 15. There are two critical California resolutions addressing transportation needs that will be considered at the NACo policy steering committee. The California sponsored efforts are: (1) Proposed Resolution in Support of Direct Funding to Local Governments for the Improvement and Maintenance of Local Roads in America within any Proposed Infrastructure Spending Bill and (2) Proposed Resolution to Amend Federal Law Regarding the Use of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief (ER) Funds. Thank you CSAC and our California delegation.

Also, happening now is our planning efforts for NACE 2021 in California. A small group met on June 21 in Sacramento to begin a planning discussion for this event. Site proposals have been reviewed and locations are being toured, we expect NACE to select a location in California soon. We will then be creating and appointing committees to assist in all the elements to make a successful conference. We will be looking for volunteers! There will be a meeting during our Fall Policy Conference to discuss next steps. The 2020 NACE Conference will be held in Baldwin County (Orange Beach), Alabama, April 19-23. Mark your calendars. Plan to be there to support our very own Scott McGolpin, as he will be installed as the 2020-21 NACE President.



Join Us Next Year  
for NACE 2020

NACE  
2020  
ALABAMA

Baldwin County,  
Alabama  
April 19-23

THE LARGEST  
EVENT OF COUNTY  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
PROFESSIONALS

Hosted By

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
COUNTY ENGINEERS  
NACE

Voice of County  
Road Officials  
www.countyengineers.org

ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY ENGINEERS  
ALABAMA  
ACEA



# NACE Annual Conference 2019



## Annual NACE Annual Conference and Management/Technical Conference was held in Wichita, Kansas, April 14-18, 2019

Since 1961, NACE has held its Annual Conference and Management / Technical Conference in a city throughout the country. It has grown to include an Exhibit Show of 100-140 exhibitors and 350-450 county road officials.

The top industry and FHWA experts present on a range of topics such as:

- Bridge construction and maintenance
- Safety plans and implementation
- Fleet purchasing and repairs
- Software applications
- Concrete and asphalt technologies
- Emergency preparedness
- Federal legislation and regulations

Past technical tours of the area's engineering innovations have included bridges, sports stadiums and arenas, advanced roundabouts, concrete or asphalt research labs, and equipment manufacturer or dealer operations.

**Jim Porter** (right) stands tall with the CEAC Snap-E-Tom poster at the 2019 NACE Conference. Jim was one of 11 County Engineers representing CEAC at this conference.



County Engineers (below) representing CEAC at this year's Snap-E-Tom Reception.



County Engineers (right) admiring their work as they prepare for the opening of the Reception.



# NACE Annual Conference 2019

(continued)



Annual NACE Annual Conference and Management/Technical Conference was held in Wichita, Kansas, April 14-18, 2019



Swearing in of the NACE Officers for 2019-20 - President Tim Hens (2nd from the right) Highway Superintendent, Genesee County, New York; **Scott McGolpin**, (3rd from the right), President-elect; and Todd Kinney, (4th from the right) Secretary/Treasurer, County Engineer, Clinton County, Iowa.



**Scott McGolpin** preparing for his appointment as President of NACE in 2020 at the Annual Conference to be held in Alabama.



The County Engineers from Alabama preparing for **Scott McGolpin**.

# Highway Bridge Committee

## Race Against Time

### STRATEGIES TO MAINTAIN CALIFORNIA'S LOCALLY OWNED BRIDGES



- 1) Be aware of California's aging and deteriorating local bridge inventory
- 2) Understand how and why deterioration of local bridges is outpacing the Highway Bridge Program capacity
- 3) Understand how the HBP program has adapted to this challenge
- 4) Understand how local agencies will need to adjust to this challenge
- 5) Encourage investment in the local bridge inventory outside of the federal HBP

#### CEAC representatives on the Highway Bridge Committee:

- ◆ Southern California
  - Chris Sneddon, Santa Barbara County (primary) - [csneddo@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:csneddo@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)
  - Jason Vivian, Tulare County (alternate) - [JVivian@co.tulare.ca.us](mailto:JVivian@co.tulare.ca.us)
- ◆ Northern California
  - Matt Randall, Placer County (primary) - [MRandall@placer.ca.gov](mailto:MRandall@placer.ca.gov)
  - Michael Chung, San Joaquin (alternate) - [Mchung@sjgov.org](mailto:Mchung@sjgov.org)
- ◆ **Chris Sneddon** - Mr. Sneddon has worked for Santa Barbara County since 2002 and is currently the Deputy Director of Transportation. He is responsible for the Transportation Planning, Engineering, Construction Administration and Maintenance of the Transportation Infrastructure within the unincorporated area of the County. He also serves as the Southern California County representative on the Local Highway Bridge Advisory Committee and has actively participated in the committee since 2012 where he was instrumental in developing the Bridge Investment Credit policy. Chris has more than 25-years of engineering experience and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Notre Dame and a Master of Science Degree in Geophysical Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines.
- ◆ **Matt Randall** - Mr. Randall has served as the Bridge Program Manager for Placer County since 2007. In this role he has overseen and led the delivery of more than \$100 million of federal aid bridge work. In 2018 he was awarded the Professional Manager of the Year Award in Transportation by the Sacramento chapter of the American Public Works Association. In 2017 he received the Auburn State of the Community Award for his effort on the Morton Road emergency bridge replacement project and is also a previous co-winner of the Placer County Employee of the Year award. He has participated in the Local Highway Bridge Advisory Committee since 2009 and currently represents the Northern Counties on behalf of the County Engineers Association of California. He has served on policy setting committees in the past for the Transportation Research Board (TRB) and the State Transportation Innovation Council for Accelerated Bridge Construction as well. Matt has more than 20-years of civil engineering experience focusing specifically on bridge design, construction, maintenance and project delivery for State and Local agencies. He is a Certified NBIS Bridge Safety Inspector and a registered Civil Engineer in California; he also holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Nevada, Reno.

## Highway Bridge Committee (continued)

### Race Against Time

#### STRATEGIES TO MAINTAIN CALIFORNIA'S LOCALLY OWNED BRIDGES

- ◆ **Michael Chung** - Mr. Chung has worked in the public sector for 19 years, seven years previously for Placer County Department of Public Works and currently 12 years for San Joaquin County (County) Department of Public Works. For the past six years, I have worked in the County's Bridge Engineering Division and performed similar roles working at Placer County. Throughout my career with Public Works, much of my work experience has been developing and implementing the County's Highway Bridge Program, transportation improvements, and safety projects. I have experience in securing Federal funds for bridge preventive maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement projects. For nearly two decades, my roles and responsibilities involve safe-guarding, protect public welfare, and maintain the safety and functionality of County's movable spans, fix bridges, minor structures, and highway systems. During my time at the County, I have been a resident engineer, team leader, project engineer, and Interim Division Manager on County's road, bridge, safety, transportation, and construction projects. I have supervised, trained, and mentored staff in their job assignments/duties and resolved project and staff issues. Over the years, I have worked individually and managed a group of staff and consultants in completing a wealth of challenging, complex, and exciting Capital Improvement Projects.

### LOCAL HBP FINANCIAL UPDATE

- ◆ **Program Financial Policy Recap:**

- Funding Levels of Local HBP:**

- \$294M/year: \$219M – On System and \$75M – Off System**

- Annual Needs: \$600M-\$1,200M year**

- ◆ **Without increased local funding investment, current Rate Requires 200-year life-cycle**

#### Current Committee Activities:

1. Monitoring the financial commitments to the HBP and working with Caltrans to develop solutions to reduce the \$4 billion backlog
2. Investigating new policies that could limit the volume of high cost bridge projects the program accepts (high cost bridge metering)
3. Working with Caltrans to develop HBP project delivery and prioritization policies which included maintaining a list of unfunded HBP requests
4. Advising and working with Caltrans to solve new HBP related project delivery and eligibility issues
5. Making recommendations on local agency HBP eligibility appeals
6. Helping Caltrans develop policies that will help deliver the remaining local seismic retrofit program projects
7. Helping Caltrans with communication and outreach related to the importance of local scour critical bridges
8. Engaging with the Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment Oversight Committee to strengthen the analysis and messaging related to bridge needs
9. Investigating the feasibility of implementing asset management for non-NHS-local bridges
10. Working to enhance communication outside of the CEAC meetings (conferences, one-on-one, etc.) and City reps have been advocating for local agencies who have HBP project delivery issues (agencies who reach out to the reps)

## News from Around the State



**Michael “Mike” Penrose** has retired from his position as Deputy County Executive for Public Works & Infrastructure at Sacramento County last month (June 2019). He was appointed, to this position in May 2017 by the Sacramento County Executive.

Public Works and Infrastructure was created in 2017 and includes the office of Development & Code Services, and the departments of Transportation, Waste Management and Recycling, and Water Resources.

Mike had been the Director of Transportation since 2008.

**CEAC President 2014-2015**

**CEAC Rep to the NACE Board of Directors 2017-2019**

**2014 Buffalo Bull Award Recipient  
as  
Mike “Tina” Penrose**

**Editor’s Note:** I understand that we will see Mike at the upcoming Policy Conference in Sacramento to be held at the end of August 2019.



### For those who might be interested in Job Postings currently open throughout the State:

Organization	Position	Date Posted	Closing Date
Santa Barbara County	<a href="#">Survey Specialist</a>	7/23/19	Open Until Filled
Santa Barbara County	<a href="#">Civil Engineer</a>	7/23/19	Open Until Filled
San Joaquin County	<a href="#">Engineer V - Solid Waste Division</a>	7/23/19	8/16/19
Butte County	<a href="#">Manager – Fleet Services</a>	7/10/19	7/31/19
Alameda County	<a href="#">County Surveyor</a>	7/3/19	7/29/19
Orange County	<a href="#">Deputy Director – OC Construction</a>	6/20/19	Open Until Filled
City of Pomona	<a href="#">Senior Water Resources Engineer</a>	6/19/19	Open Until Filled
City of San Jose	<a href="#">Senior Engineer – Municipal Water Systems</a>	6/14/19	Open Until Filled



## CEAC Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, May 23, 2019 | 3:00 - 4:00 pm

CSAC Conference Call line (916) 445-5476  
(no passcode required)

# DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to Order (Porter)**  
Meeting is called to order by Porter at 3:00 pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes (Tippett and Kokkas)**  
\* **September 13, 2018** – Will be provided at the August 29 Board of Directors meeting.  
**April 5, 2019 – Attachment One – Action item**  
No Action taken—will be considered at the August 29 Board of Directors meeting.
3. \* **Correspondence (Porter)**
4. \* **CLODS Report (CLODS)**
5. **NACE Report (Penrose)**  
Penrose - Nothing to report about the past meeting. We will have a planning meeting on June 21, at 1:00 pm in Sacramento for hosting the 2021 NACE Conference in California.
6. \* **CSAC Report (CSAC staff)**
7. \* **Regional Directors Reports**
8. \* **Treasurers Report (Crump)**
9. \* **Committee Reports**
10. **Life Membership**  
Mike Penrose (Pack) - **Action Item**  
Motion to approve Sadjadi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Crump; Motion **Approved** unanimously
11. \* **Unfinished Business**  
CEAC Affiliate sponsorships (Porter/McNamee)
12. **New Business**  
NACE Representative replacement (Porter) - **Action Item**  
Porter - Our NACE representative, Mr. Penrose is retiring, and we need to replace him. There previously was interest in the position from Tom Mattson, Daniel Woldesenbet, and Matt Machado. After discussion, Motion to nominate Mr. Machado for NACE representative - Sadjadi, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pack; **Approved** unanimously.
13. \* **Scheduled Conferences**  
Northern California Bedroll Conference, Plumas County, July 31-August 1, 2019  
CEAC Policy Conference, Sacramento, August 28-29, 2019  
CSAC 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Francisco, December 3-6, 2019  
Public Works Officers Institute (PWOI), Monterey, March 20, 2020

Thursday May 23, 2019 | 3:00 - 4:00pm

NACE Annual Conference, Orange Beach, Alabama, April 19-23, 2020

14. \* CEAC Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

August 29, 2019 (CEAC Policy Conference)  
December 6, 2019 (CSAC Annual Meeting)

15. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Unknown, 2<sup>nd</sup> Can't remember; **Approved** unanimously.  
Meeting Adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Meeting Roster

Officer

Jim Porter  
Rick Tippett  
Panos Kokkas  
\*\*Jeff Pratt  
Mike Crump  
Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi  
\*\*Doug Wilson  
\*\*Patrick DeChellis  
Mike Penrose  
Dave Gravenkamp

Office

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Immediate Past President  
Treasurer  
Treasurer-Emeritus  
Parliamentarian  
Newsletter Editor  
NACE Representative  
Historian

County/Organization

San Mateo  
Trinity  
Yolo  
Ventura  
Butte (Retired)  
Marin (Retired)  
Tulare (Retired)  
Los Angeles (Retired)  
Sacramento  
Siskiyou County (Retired)

Regional Directors

Craig Tackabery  
\*\*Scott DeLeon  
Joshua Pack  
Kris Balaji  
\*\*Dave Flynn  
\*\*Patty Romo

Region

Bay Area  
Northern California  
Sacramento Mother Lode  
San Joaquin Valley  
Central Coast  
Southern California

County/Organization

Marin  
Lake  
Calaveras  
San Joaquin  
San Luis Obispo  
Riverside

\*\* Absent (not in attendance)