



ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

**TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OCTOBER 2018**

2018 AUCA Award Winners:

Contractor of the Year:



**Doug Blankenship
Blankenship Contracting**

Associate Member of the Year:



**Tim Moody
National Trench Safety**

Legislator of the Year:



Senator Clay Scofield
(Receiving award from AUCA's B.T. Crowe)

Outgoing AUCA President:



Aaron Schmidt
Schmidt Environmental Construction

Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

Bob Briant, Jr. - Chairman CWCC

PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNS MAJOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE LEGISLATION

President Trump has signed the WRDA bill (America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018) previously reported by the CWCC to have passed through both houses of Congress.

Of greatest importance to the CWCC, this major water piece of water infrastructure legislation:

- Reauthorizes the DWSRF at \$1.174B for FY19, \$1.3B for FY20 and \$1.95B for FY21, effectively doubling the funding available to State SRF Programs
- Authorizes the Corps of Engineers to undertake 15 major new construction projects that will cost a total of \$8.3B and feasibility studies for 65 new projects
- DWSRF provisions included - David Bacon, assistance for disadvantaged communities, compendium of best practices, technology review, source water usage, assessment and elimination of cross-cutting requirements, natural disaster area assistance, monitoring of contaminants, drinking water fountain replacement for schools, innovative water technology grant program, \$100M authorization for meeting regulations in underserved areas
- WIFIA (made permanent, special rules for certain combined projects and repayment, \$50M authorized for FY20 and FY21, state loan funds can finance up to 100% of project costs subject to default, can't pass through fees, no new reviews required, 180 day approval of applications, and funding tied to SRFs' FY18 or 105 % of FY17, whichever is greater, levels),
- New combined sewer overflow control grants totaling \$450 M (\$225M authorized in both FY19 and FY20) and water sense program funded
- Other provisions of interest included - stormwater infrastructure funding task force, Indian reservation drinking water program, technical assistance for treatment works, study of intractable water systems, and water infrastructure and workforce investment.

A more complete review of this new law is being put together. More details (include project lists, as appropriate) will be shared via the monthly CWCC report in early November.

As we celebrate progress on this long-standing priority, we turn our attention to matters not yet resolved, primarily the reauthorization of the CWSRF and advocacy to substantially increase the funding levels for wastewater and stormwater infrastructure projects.



News & Notes:

**ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
2019 LEADERSHIP TEAM**

The list of Officers and Directors below reflects the members elected to serve on the 2019 Leadership Team at the October 18, 2018 General Meeting in Montgomery.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: BILL McGOUGH, *W.R. MITCHELL CONTRACTOR, INC.*

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: ERIC HUDGENS, *SLOAN UTILITY CONTRACTING, INC.*

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: DOUG BLANKENSHIP, *BLANKENSHIP CONTRACTING, INC.*

SECRETARY/TREASURER: ROBBIE BUTLER, *CLEARY CONSTRUCTION, INC.*

BOARD MEMBERS

RANDY BISHOP, *CONSTRUCTION LABOR SERVICES, INC.*

ANDRU BRAMBLETT, *UNITI FIBER*

BILL CARTER, *BILL CARTER CONSULTING, LLC*

RONNIE GOLDEN, *GOLDEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY*

SHAUN GONZALES, *WEAVER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMPANY, INC.*

GAVIN JONES, *BAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS, INC.*

LARRY LOGSDON, *WALLACE, JORDAN, RATLIFF, & BRANDT, LLC*

MARK MAYFIELD, *MILLER PIPELINE, LLC*

RICHARD MURPHREE, *SOUTHERN PIPE & SUPPLY*

AARON SCHMIDT, *SCHMIDT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

STEVE WALKER, *JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.*

TERRY YOUNG, *MILLENNIUM RISK MANAGERS, LLC*

**Immediate Past President*



News & Notes:

In Memory of John David Baird:

John David Baird of Birmingham passed away on October 21, 2018. Mr. Baird left a tremendous legacy on the construction industry, as well as the Alabama Utility Contractors Association.

Before retiring, Mr. Baird was the owner of Baird Contracting Company in Birmingham, which was founded in 1971 by his late father, John Baird. During his successful career, John David worked on numerous municipal and utility projects throughout the state, and successfully developed many prominent subdivisions throughout the greater Birmingham area. John David also served as President of AUCA, a role that had also once been held by his father.

Please continue to keep the Baird family in your thoughts and prayers.

Construction Seminar - Sponsored by Barfield, Murphy, Shank & Smith, LLC

In the everchanging landscape of tax and assurance, there are many rules and regulations affecting businesses. On October 9th, BMSS hosted a seminar that covered topics relevant to the construction industry including:

- Financial Reporting Changes
- Bidding Pitfalls
- State and Local Tax
- Contractor Licenses
- Tax Law Changes



**Tuesday
November 6th**

VOTE

A graphic where the letter 'O' in 'VOTE' is replaced by a circular emblem with a red top, white middle containing '2018', and blue bottom with white stars.

News & Notes:

AUCA Endorses Kay Ivey for Governor:

The AUCA Board of Directors and PAC Committee have elected to endorse Kay Ivey for Alabama Governor in 2018. We encourage our members to vote on Tuesday, November 6th.



AUCA Board Member Terry Young and Executive Director Tim Ayers visit with Governor Ivey at a recent event in Chilton County.

AUCA Association Health Plan (AHP):

AUCA continues work to develop an Association Health Plan (AHP) option for our members. As a reminder, AHP's are group health plans that associations can offer to provide health coverage for their members' employees. In June 2018, the U.S. Department of Labor issued a new regulation regarding Association Health Plans allowing for more flexibility in their formation and operation. This will allow small employers, through associations, to gain regulatory and economic advantages only previously available to large companies.

Benefits of AHP's:

- Allows small employers to group together to achieve group buying power and economies of scale
- Pooling together allows for rate stabilization and lower rates in the long run
- Health plans may be customized to meet needs of the group rather than one-size fits all government dictated plans
- Plans may be managed and member education provide more transparency and understanding of health costs drivers

The initial survey results show that we have enough member companies interested in participating to develop an AHP. The next step will be for interested companies to complete census data in order to receive a quote to compare to their current health insurance program.





Introduction to Equipment Operations

Cross train employees on the basic use of equipment on the job site. Increase the number employees who can safely operate equipment in their full time job OR assist in a pinch to keep a job on track.

16 hours of seat time training on a Backhoe/Loader and Skid Steer

IVES Certification on each piece of equipment

Schedule: November 12th – 16th 8:00 to 4:00 daily

Class Size: 12 students

- 12th IVES Equipment Operator Training (Book Theory)
 - 13th Seat Time – Class will be split 6 morning, 6 afternoon (4hrs of seat time daily for each person)
 - 14th Seat Time – Class will be split 6 morning, 6 afternoon (4hrs of seat time daily for each person)
 - 15th Seat Time - Class will be split 6 morning, 6 afternoon (4hrs of seat time daily for each person)
 - 16th Seat Time – Class will be split 6 morning, 6 afternoon (4hrs of seat time daily for each person)
- *** This schedule allows an employee to still work ½ days during training.

NCCER Training on Equipment Operation, Identification and Common Use & Operational Techniques

Five Friday's Nov. 30th, Dec. 7, 14, 28 and Jan. 4th Time: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Register an employee to participate, complete the section below.

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Deadline to register: November 8th

This training is provided via a Craft Training Board Grant. Questions: contact CEFA: 205-956-0146 or email Byron McCain @ bymccain@bellsouth.net



Upcoming Events:

We are finalizing the dates for Lunch Meetings in Birmingham, Dothan, Huntsville, Mobile, and Tuscaloosa. Be on the lookout for email updates.

5th Annual "Construction Law Summit"

December 4, 2018

Hyatt Regency Wynfrey Hotel

Birmingham, AL

For questions regarding conference registration, contact

BEACON PROGRAMS

at (205) 887 - 3000 or beacon.programs@aol.com

AUCA Board of Directors Meeting

December 5, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Montgomery, AL

***AUCA 2019 Spring General Meeting
& Golf Tournament***

April 18, 2019

Arrowhead Country Club

Montgomery, AL



General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

Thanks to the incredible support by AUCA members for making our 2018 Fall General Meeting, PAC Raffle, and Sporting Clay Shoot a tremendous success.

Gold Sponsors:



General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

Silver Sponsors:



A Forterra Company



Bronze Sponsors:



W.R. Mitchell Contractor, Inc.



General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

Participant & Door Prize Sponsors:

Warrior Tractor & Equipment Company
SouthernLINC Wireless
Tractor & Equipment Company
Alabama 811
Go Build Alabama

Refreshment Sponsor:

Drinks & Snacks During Sporting Clay Shoot
Courtesy of **National Trench Safety**

AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle Winners



Tim Moody

\$1,000 Cash Winner



Bret Busby

\$500 Cash Winner



General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:



General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

1st Place Team - National Trench Safety



National Trench Safety Team
Each Team Member Received \$100 and a 1st Place Trophy

2nd Place Team - Knapheide



Knapheide Truck Equipment Team
Each Team Member Received \$75 and a Trophy

3rd Place Team - Empire Pipe



Empire Pipe & Supply Team
Each Team Member Received \$50 and a Trophy



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***AUCA IS A MEMBER-DRIVEN, NEEDS
FOCUSED TRADE ASSOCIATION CREATED
SOLELY TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE
UTILITY INDUSTRY IN THE STATE OF
ALABAMA.***

**We're on the Web !
www.aluca.org**

Please print out this newsletter to share with others in your company. And, if you are receiving this for the company owner, please print out a copy for him/her.

***Let AUCA Be Your Source For All Your
Training Needs***

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