



# ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

**TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**OCTOBER 2020**

## Director's Comments:

In 2020, the word beginning with the letter "C" that has garnered the most attention has been Coronavirus (COVID -19). And rightfully so, considering how much of an impact the pandemic causing disease has had on individuals and businesses throughout the world. Sadly, numbers are on the rise again, so everyone needs to remain vigilant in our efforts to prevent the spread. President Trump was even diagnosed and hospitalized with the virus this month. Thankfully, he has made an apparent full recovery.

At the AUCA Fall General Meeting on October 15th in Montgomery, our guest speaker Jeremiah Castille provided a powerful speech. He highlighted four other "C" words that we should all be living our life by. These words are Character, Confidence, Courage, and Commitment. In the strange and challenging times we now face, if we live by these four "C" words, rather than in fear of the other, our world could hopefully be a better place for everyone.

More than 120 members and guests enjoyed the wonderful weather and camaraderie at the event. A complete recap and photos of the event can be found on pages 2-10 of the Newsletter.



*Jeremiah Castille (pictured below with AUCA President Bill McGough) speaks at the AUCA Fall General Meeting*



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Lastly, please don't forget to vote on November 3rd!

*Tim*

## General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

Thanks to the incredible support by AUCA members for making our 2020 Fall General Meeting, PAC Raffle, and Sporting Clay Shoot a tremendous success.

### Gold Sponsors:



A Forterra Company



# General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

## Silver Sponsors:



## Bronze Sponsors:



## General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

### Participant & Door Prize Sponsors:

Alabama 811

AUCA

CompTrust AGC

Go Build Alabama

Knapheide Truck Equipment

National Trench Safety

Russo Corporation

Southern Linc

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### Refreshment Sponsor:

Drinks & Snacks During Sporting Clay Shoot

Courtesy of:



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## **AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle Winners**

**\$1,000 Cash Prize Winner:**

**Devon Harper - Sunshine Supplies, Inc.**

**\$500 Cash Prize Winner:**

**Nathan Johnson - Johnson & Associates, Inc.**



# General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

## 2020 AUCA Award Winners:

### Contractor of the Year:



**Miller Pipeline**

### Associate Member of the Year:



**Warrior Tractor & Equipment**

### Legislator of the Year:



**Senator Tom Whatley**

### Outgoing AUCA President:



**Bill McGough**



*General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



# General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

## 1st Place Team - One Stop Environmental



One Stop Environmental Team  
Each Team Member Received \$100 and a 1st Place Trophy

## 2nd Place Team - TEC



Tractor & Equipment Company Team  
Each Team Member Received \$75 and a Trophy

## 3rd Place Team - Knapheide



Knapheide Truck Equipment Team  
Each Team Member Received \$50 and a Trophy



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News & Notes:

**ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION  
2021 LEADERSHIP TEAM**

The list of Officers and Directors below reflects the members elected to serve on the 2021 Leadership Team at the October 15, 2020 General Meeting in Montgomery.

**OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT:** TIM GILLIAM, *JOHN PLOTT COMPANY*

**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:** ANDRU BRAMBLETT, *PRAUS MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC*

**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:** DOUG BLANKENSHIP, *BLANKENSHIP CONTRACTING, INC.*

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

**BOARD MEMBERS**

BILL McGOUGH, *W.R. MITCHELL CONTRACTOR, INC.\**

RANDY BISHOP, *CONSTRUCTION LABOR SERVICES, INC.*

BILL CARTER, *BILL CARTER CONSULTING, LLC*

RONNIE GOLDEN, *GOLDEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY*

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

ERIC HUDGENS, *SLOAN UTILITY CONTRACTING, INC.*

GAVIN JONES, *BAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS, INC.*

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

MARK MAYFIELD, *MILLER PIPELINE, LLC*

RYAN McCLENDON, *J. SMITH LANIER & COMPANY*

RICHARD MURPHREE, *SOUTHERN PIPE & SUPPLY*

AARON SCHMIDT, *SCHMIDT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION, INC.*

CHARLES SMITH, *VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY*

STEVE WALKER, *JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.*

\* IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



## News & Notes:

### **In Memory of Benton Andrews:**

Benton Andrews passed away on October 5, 2020 at the age of 83. Mr. Andrews was an icon in the civil construction industry, and left his indelible mark on numerous projects throughout the South-east during his long and distinguished career.

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



# Tuesday, November 3rd

### **2020 U.S. Census - Alabama Counts!**

Governor Kay Ivey, along with the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), and Alabama Counts, announced the final participation results of Census 2020 for the state of Alabama.

Alabama finished with an overall household response rate of 99.9%. Of this total, 63.5% were self-responding Alabamians. In addition to self-response, the remaining percentage of responses was gathered by door-to-door Census takers for households who did not participate in self-response.

The response rate includes only the percentage of households accounted for, not the number of people living in those households. The U.S. Census Bureau will deliver apportionment counts to the President as required by law by December 31.



## News & Notes:

### **Department of Revenue Notice of Annual Renewal of Alabama Tax Licenses**

Beginning November 1, 2020, taxpayers will be required to renew the State of Alabama Tax License annually.

The My Alabama Taxes (MAT) website will provide the ability for the business information to be verified and/or updated in order to generate a new license for the upcoming year. The following tax types will be required to renew the State of Alabama Tax License each year:

- Sales Tax
- Rental Tax
- Sellers Use Tax
- Lodgings Tax
- Utility Gross Receipts Tax
- Simplified Sellers Use Tax

The following information will be required to be reviewed and/or updated:

- Current Legal Name – must be reviewed
- Owner/Officer/Member Information – must be reviewed and/or updated
- Phone number(s) – must be reviewed and/or updated
- Social security numbers/FEIN's – must be reviewed
- Location address(es) including d/b/a's for each location – must be reviewed and/or updated
  - Main address must be reviewed
  - Location address(es) must be reviewed and/or updated

Each year, verification that the business is continuing to operate in the same business entity type for which the existing license was issued will need to be completed. You will need to apply for a new license if the entity type changed (e.g. original entity type of Sole Proprietorship changes to Corporation or Multi-member LLC).

The renewal process will be completed on an annual basis in order to generate a new license for each calendar year. Therefore, if the license is not renewed pursuant to Section 40-23-6.1, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, the State of Alabama Tax License previously issued to your business will be cancelled and you will no longer be allowed to use the Tax License in order to make tax-exempt purchases for resale or rental purposes.

Please be advised that your Alabama Tax License shall not be renewed until the required information has been provided to the Department.



*Upcoming Meetings & Events:*

***AUCA Local Industry Lunch Meetings***  
**Meeting Dates and Locations To Be Announced**

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November 30 –December 2, 2020  
The Grand Hotel, Point Clear

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***AUCA Board of Directors Meeting***  
**December 9, 2020**

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***AUCA 2021 Spring General Meeting,  
Golf Tournament and Shrimp & Crawfish Boil***  
**Thursday, April 22, 2021**  
**Arrowhead Country Club - Montgomery, AL**

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***AUCA 2021 Fall General Meeting  
& Sporting Clay Shoot***



**Thursday, October 14, 2021**  
**Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club - Montgomery, AL**



## Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

From Bob Briant, Jr. - Chairman CWCC & Sante Esposito - Key Advocates

**October 1, 2020**

### **PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNS CONTINUING RESOLUTION TO KEEP FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RUNNING**

A continuing resolution (CR) to keep the government running through Dec. 11 was passed by the House of Representatives and in the Senate. The bi-partisan measure was signed by President Trump. The CR ensures that most federal program levels hold steady at the FY20 levels, prorated until December when it expires.

The CR maintains Army Corps of Engineer funding, as well as maintaining the FY20 levels of \$1.6 billion for the Clean Water SRF and \$1.3 billion for the Drinking Water SRF.

### **Update On Water Infrastructure Funding**

As Congress agreed to a short term extension of the FAST Act (was set to expire on Sept. 30th) and the laser-focus that will be on the upcoming Supreme Court nomination hearings, the focus shifts for infrastructure to a possibility of action in a lame duck session. Everything depends on the outcome of the Presidential election and if the Republicans hold the Senate. As previously reported, on July 31st the House passed its mega infrastructure bill by a mostly partisan vote of 233-188 which puts markers down for programs and funding levels. The cornerstone of the bill was the reauthorization of the FAST Act – the highway/transit program, which still needs a long term solution.

### **2020 Remaining Schedule**

Congress will recess at the end of this week or early next week – the House until Nov. 16 and the Senate subject to the call of the chair. Pending before the Senate is the Supreme Court nomination with hearings expected to begin on Oct. 16 and the Floor vote around Oct. 29. Given that the FY21 Continuing Resolution expires Dec. 11, there will be a lame duck session, probably lasting until the December holidays. The legislative agenda for the session will depend, to a great extent, on the results of the election, not only regarding the presidency but control of the Senate.

### **Infrastructure (The Congress)**

The FAST Act is extended in the FY21 Continuing Resolution for one year until Sept. 30, 2021. The House Democrats have tied its enactment to a mega-infrastructure bill. The mega bill which passed the House includes \$40B for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, \$500M for recycled water projects under the WIIN Act, a de-authorization process for inactive Title XVI projects, and \$600M for the Alternative Water Source Program. On the Senate side, the only committee to act so far on its



## *Clean Water Construction Coalition Report*

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portion of a highway bill (the Environment and Public Works committee) has not solicited input from the other committees of jurisdiction, and no bill has gone to the Floor. While there continues to be interest by all in doing an infrastructure bill, though the views on what would be in the bill differ between Republicans and Democrats, given this action on the FAST Act, the Supreme Court vacancy and the election, doing infrastructure in the lame duck session this year would be challenging at best.

### **Infrastructure (The White House)**

To review, the President's FY21 Budget has two major infrastructure components. The first is a \$810 billion, 10-year reauthorization of surface transportation programs. The second is a \$190 billion in investments across a range of infrastructure, as follows:

- \$60 Billion for a new Building Infrastructure Great grants program: This "mega-projects" program will focus on delivery of such projects across a range of sectors: surface transportation road, bridge, rail, transit, pipeline, landside port, and intermodal connection capital investments; lock, dam, and canal investments; drinking water and waste treatment capital investments; and energy and broadband capital investments.
- \$50 billion for a new Moving America's Freight Safely and Efficiently program. This program will support projects with significant economic, mobility, and safety benefits on our strategic highway, rail, port, and waterway freight networks.
- \$35 billion for a new Bridge Rebuilding program. This program will make targeted investments in critical bridge infrastructure to restore them to good condition. \$12 billion will be provided for "off- system" bridges allocated via formula, and \$23 billion will be provided for larger bridges via a competitive process.
- \$25 billion for a new Revitalizing Rural America program. This program focuses on the needs and contributions to our economy made by rural communities and helps them deliver broadband, transportation, water and other infrastructure projects.
- \$20 billion for a Transit State of Good Repair Sprint program. The program will focus exclusively on rehabilitating existing transit assets (no new capacity projects).
- \$6.5 billion for a Public Lands Infrastructure Fund. This program would address the deferred

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## *Clean Water Construction Coalition Report*

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maintenance backlog in our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other public lands, along with Bureau of Indian Education.

### **Infrastructure (Biden \$2T Infrastructure Plan: Some Highlights)**

- Update roads, bridges and electric grids;
- Expand access to broadband;
- Upgrade 4 million buildings and weatherize 2 million homes over four years by providing homeowners with direct cash rebates and low-cost financing;
- Provide cities with high-quality, zero-emissions public transportation options, such as light rail networks;
- Achieve a carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035;
- Enable the creation of 1.5 million sustainable homes and housing units;
- Provide increased funding to meet long overdue clean and safe drinking water needs;
- Create union jobs in the construction industry;
- Create 1 million jobs in the auto industry and increase the demand for American-made, American-sourced clean vehicles;
- Provide consumers with rebates for trading in old, less-efficient vehicles for newer America-made vehicles;
- Construct 500,000 electric vehicle charging stations;
- Require all new American-built buses be zero-emissions by 2030; and,
- Establish new fuel economy standards to reduce pollution.



[cleanwaterconstructioncoalition.org](https://cleanwaterconstructioncoalition.org)

## **Halloween Safety:**

*Provided by The National Safety Council*

### **Simple Steps for an Extra Safe Halloween**

Kids love the magic of Halloween, but the COVID-19 pandemic means Halloween may be a bit different this year. You can still have fun! First and foremost, follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidelines to ensure your celebrations are safe.

#### **Costume Safety**

To help ensure adults and children have a safe holiday, the American Academy of Pediatrics has compiled a list of Halloween safety tips. Before Halloween arrives, be sure to choose a costume that won't cause safety hazards.

- All costumes, wigs and accessories should be fire-resistant
- If children are allowed out after dark, fasten reflective tape to their costumes and bags, or give them glow sticks
- When buying Halloween makeup, make sure it is nontoxic and always test it in a small area first
- Remove all makeup before children go to bed to prevent skin and eye irritation

#### **When They're on the Prowl**

Here's a scary statistic: Children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year. Lack of visibility because of low lighting at night also plays a factor in these incidents. Keep these tips in mind when your children are out on Halloween night:

- A responsible adult should accompany young children on the neighborhood rounds
- If your older children are going alone, plan and review a route acceptable to you
- Agree on a specific time children should return home
- Teach your children never to enter a stranger's home or car
- Instruct children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and stick with their friends
- Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home
- Children and adults are reminded to put electronic devices down, keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street

#### **Safety Tips for Motorists**

NSC offers these additional safety tips for parents – and anyone who plans to be on the road during trick-or-treat hours:

- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully
- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing
- Discourage new, inexperienced drivers from driving on Halloween



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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.***

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