



ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AUGUST 2019



Director's Comments:

Earlier this month, I had an opportunity to attend the "RiskCon" Construction Risk Management Conference in Birmingham. There were many great topics presented, but one in particular caught my attention. During his presentation, Ryan Howsam from FMI Corporation shared a statistic that more contractors go bankrupt during prosperous economies than when times are lean. Or, as he bluntly put it, "they die from gluttony instead of starvation."

With economic conditions continuing to remain strong, it can sometimes be tempting to take on more work than can efficiently be managed. Companies should also never get complacent by believing projects with increased profit margins offer a safe cushion for error if something goes wrong.

Additionally, an extremely tight labor market during boom cycles often results in work being performed by employees or subcontractors with relatively little experience or skill. Overaggressive growth with poor management of cash flow and personnel are recipes for disaster.

We all know that prosperous economic times won't last forever. Therefore, it is imperative that you maintain a healthy balance sheet while they do so you'll be even better positioned whenever the next downturn comes.

I hope everyone has had a great summer. It has certainly been one of the hottest that I can ever remember. I'm looking forward to the return of college football and cooler temperatures. Happy Labor Day, and best of luck to your team, no matter what colors they wear.

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Tim



AUCA 2019 Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot

Thursday, October 17, 2019
Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club
4758 Lower Wetumpka Road Montgomery, AL 36110

General Meeting & Steak Lunch - Begins at 11:00 a.m.
Raffle Drawing - 12:30 p.m.
Sporting Clay Shoot - Begins at Approximately 1:00 p.m.



General Meeting & Steak Lunch Guest Speaker: Tommy Tuberville

Cost: \$20/Non-Shooters

(Lunch Included with Clay Shoot Registration or Sponsorship)

Come network with your peers, win great door prizes, and enjoy a delicious steak lunch while listening to our special guest speaker. We will also vote on the 2020 AUCA Board of Directors and Officers, and present the AUCA "Member of the Year" Awards.

Annual Sporting Clay Shoot

Cost: \$600/Team or \$150/Individual

(Participants must provide own Gun and Shells)

Complete attached Registration Form and return ASAP.

Corporate Sponsorship opportunities available.

Sign up now before the event sells out!



AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle

This year we are raffling two great prizes that anyone can use:

Prize #1: \$1,000 Cash

Prize #2: \$500 Cash

Tickets are \$10 each and allow two (2) chances to win.

(You do not have to be present to win)

All money raised from the raffle will go towards the AUCA PAC Fund to help support our continued Legislative efforts in Montgomery and Washington.



OCTOBER 17, 2019 - EVENT REGISTRATION FORM



To register, please complete this form and return to the AUCA office by fax or email.

A copy of the registration form should also be submitted with payment.

Registration Deadline is October 11, 2019

Company Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email: _____

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT TEAM & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- GOLD SPONSOR - \$1,000 Includes: 4-man team, cart, name recognition and company logo on AUCA website, event signage, promotional materials, and four (4) station sponsorships
SILVER SPONSOR - \$650 Includes: 4-man team, cart, name recognition on event signage, and station sponsorship
BRONZE SPONSOR - \$250 Includes: Admission for two (2) company representatives to attend General Meeting Lunch, name recognition on event signage, station sponsorship, and may provide trappers on course to network with shooters and hand out company prizes or give-a-ways
4-PERSON TEAM & CART - \$600
INDIVIDUAL SHOOTER & CART - \$150

CART NEEDED: YES _____ NO _____

Carts provided for all shooters (you may also bring your own cart/ATV)

You must provide your own shells (Factory shells only - #7-1/2 or higher shot load)

Safety rules must be followed; signed waiver required; ear plugs and eye protection recommended

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT TEAM PRIZES

1st Place Team: \$400 + Trophies 2nd Place Team: \$300 + Trophies 3rd Place Team: \$200 + Trophies

GENERAL MEETING LUNCH (INCLUDED w/ TEAM REGISTRATION or SPONSORSHIP)

General Meeting Lunch: \$20/Non-Shooter x Quantity () = \$ _____

PAYMENT REQUESTED BEFORE OR ON DAY OF EVENT! Return form and payment to:

Alabama Utility Contractors Association

P.O. Box 383185

Birmingham, Alabama 35238-3185



Phone: (205) 582-9436

Fax: (205) 582-9155

Email: tim@aluca.org



To pay by credit card, please contact the AUCA office at (205) 582-9436.

Upcoming Events:

AUCA Board of Directors Meeting
September 11, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
Montgomery, AL



September 17 – 19, 2019
The Grand Hotel, Point Clear

NEW LOCATION!

September 17 - 19, 2019
The Grand Hotel
Point Clear
Register today
Group rates available
Early registration savings

ALABAMA damage prevention **summit**
A CGA REGIONAL PARTNER EVENT

Join us for the Locate Rodeo, Workshops and expert led Training Sessions

Don't miss this opportunity to network with stakeholder groups from all across the state with the common goal of damage prevention.

www.alabama.damagepreventionsummit.com
888 - 548 - 6363

ALABAMA damage prevention **summit**
A CGA REGIONAL PARTNER EVENT

September 16, 2019

Locate Rodeo

No entry fee!

Test your skills against others in the industry. Win cash prizes and a chance for an all-expense paid trip to the 2019 International Locate Rodeo.

For more information,
www.alabama.damagepreventionsummit.com
888.548.6363

www.alabama.damagepreventionsummit.com



News & Notes:

AUCA 2020 Board of Directors Nominations:

AUCA is seeking nominations from members interested in serving on the 2020 AUCA Board of Directors. If you are interested in serving, or know someone that you think would be an asset to the AUCA Board, please submit the recommendation by August 31st.

Nomination Forms will be sent out electronically to all member companies. The Nominating Committee will review the nomination forms submitted by those desiring to serve on the 2020 Board at the September 11th AUCA Board Meeting. The proposed slate of nominees will be announced to the membership and the candidates will be voted on by the members in attendance at the October 17th AUCA General Meeting in Montgomery.

AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle

Tickets will be distributed to AUCA member companies beginning in September for the annual AUCA raffle. All money raised from the raffle will go towards the AUCA PAC Fund to help support our continued Legislative efforts in Montgomery and Washington. This year we will be once again raffling two great prizes that anyone can use - CASH:

- \$1,000 Cash - Prize #1
- \$500 Cash - Prize #2

Tickets will be \$10 each, and will allow you two (2) chances to win. The drawing will be held at our October 17th General Meeting / Sporting Clay Shoot in Montgomery. You do not have to be present at the event to win.

Potential Training for Heavy Equipment Operators

The Alabama Community College System and the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) are working out details for Bishop State Community College in Mobile to provide Heavy Equipment Operator training starting in January via Federal DOT funding. The training is intended to primarily support Heavy Highway Construction. The training will include an "On-the-Job" requirement, so industry partners will be needed. If your company has an interest in learning more about the program, please contact the AUCA office.



News & Notes:

Tuscaloosa Area Lunch Meeting - August 14th



Tom Love, Vice-President for Campus Development with The University of Alabama, gives a presentation on upcoming UA campus construction and infrastructure projects in Tuscaloosa.

Mobile Area Lunch Meeting - August 15th



State Representative Margie Wilcox from House District 104 speaking about the 2019 Alabama Legislative Session. She is also a current candidate for Mobile County Commission - District 3.



News & Notes:

Warrior Tractor & Equipment Company - New Store Grand Opening:

On August 1st, Warrior Tractor & Equipment Company hosted a Grand Opening for their new state of the art facility located in the town of Graysville on I-22 Exit 87 just northwest of Birmingham.



Persons Services Corporation Recognized with Award:

AUCA member company Persons Services Corporation from Mobile was recently named one of fast-growing companies in the United States in 2018 by Inc. Magazine. Congratulations to Buddy Persons and the rest of his great team for their tremendous growth and success.



News & Notes:

OSHA Requests Information on Table 1 of the Silica Standard for Construction

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is requesting information and comment on Table 1 of the agency's Respirable Crystalline Silica Standard for Construction. OSHA seeks information on additional engineering and work practice control methods to effectively limit exposure to silica for the equipment and tasks currently listed on Table 1. The agency is also requesting information about other construction equipment and tasks that generate silica that it should consider adding to Table 1, along with information about their associated engineering and work practice control methods.

In addition, OSHA is seeking comments about whether to revise paragraph (a)(3) of the Respirable Crystalline Silica Standard for General Industry to broaden the circumstances under which general industry and maritime employers would be permitted to comply with Table 1 of the silica standard for construction.

Information submitted will allow OSHA to consider new developments and enhanced control methods for equipment that generates exposures to silica, and provide additional data on exposures to silica from equipment and tasks using a variety of control methods under different workplace conditions. Expanding Table 1 to include additional engineering and work practice control methods, equipment, and tasks could provide employers with more flexibility and reduce regulatory burdens while maintaining protections for employees.

If information submitted in response to this request indicates that revisions to the silica standards are needed, the agency will then publish the proposed revisions in the Federal Register for public comment.

Comments must be submitted by October 14, 2019. Comments and materials may be submitted electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal, or by facsimile or mail.



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

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

Infrastructure

Progress on an infrastructure bill is currently being hampered by the on-going divisive rhetoric between the President and Democrats in Congress. As a result, the Senate is on hold pending action by the House notwithstanding the fact that both the Environment and Public Works (EPW) and Commerce Committees have received from their members what they want included in an infrastructure bill; that Senator Barasso, Chair of EPW, has drafted an infrastructure bill; that the Dems on the Committee have outlined their version of a \$10 trillion bill; that Senators Gardner and Feinstein have introduced and are seeking support for a western water bill that could find its home in an infrastructure bill; and, that the Senate Democratic Leadership remains publicly committed in support of an infrastructure bill.

The House is on hold pending another meeting with the White House regarding funding for the bill, notwithstanding the fact that Congressman DeFazio, Chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, met privately with the Committee Democrats to review their "asks" for a bill; that DeFazio continues to move ahead on the aviation, water and ports portion of what would be, in part, the core of his infrastructure bill; that the Energy and Commerce Committee has reported out a Safe Drinking SRF bill as its centerpiece; that the House Democratic Leadership has formed a task force to pursue the issue; that the same Leadership also remains publicly committed to a bill; and, that various Members – Blumenauer, Napolitano, Harder, McNerney – continue to pursue their own positions regarding infrastructure needs via bills they have introduced.

The White House is on hold given various controversies particularly the immigration situation, notwithstanding the fact the DOT Secretary Chao continues to tell Members of Congress (she met in July with Blue Dog Democrats to talk infrastructure) that the President wants to do a bill and believes that it can be done on a bipartisan basis.

CWCC TRACKS WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING BILLS

With an overall infrastructure package constrained by high-level DC politics, several bills of note are being tracked by Key Advocates for the Coalition. Key Advocates is meeting directly with sponsors and potential supporters to ensure the Coalition's priorities are considered. This is important because all or some of these bills may become the framework for a larger package or continue to move on their own. The following bills would address several of Coalition priorities:

- **H.R.1497, "Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2019."**



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

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- **H.R. 2741, "Leading Infrastructure for Tomorrow's America Act" (the "Lift America Act")**
- **H.R. 1162, "Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act"**
- **H.R. 2473, "Securing Access for the Central Valley and Enhancing (SAVE) Water Resources Act"**
- **S. 1932, "Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act"**
- **H.R.2019 - Smart Energy and Water Efficiency Act of 2019 (the "West Act")**

FY20 SRF APPROPRIATION BILLS

As reported last month, the House has decided to package appropriations bills into what it is calling "minibuses" rather than consider bills individually on the Floor. On June 25, the House passed a "minibus" that includes the FY20 Interior Appropriations Bill providing \$1.810B for the Clean Water SRF, \$1.3B (the amount authorized by the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018) for the Safe Drinking Water SRF, and \$50M for WIFIA. If the Senate passes a similarly funded measure, the Clean Water SRF would be increased \$100M over the last Federal Fiscal Year while the Drinking Water SRF will would be increased \$140M. There has still been no action to date on the Senate version (s).

On June 19, the House passed its version of the FY20 Energy and Water Appropriations bill as part of another "minibus" which provides \$63.617M for Title XVI (of which \$10M is for the Title XVI WIIN grant program) and \$60M for WaterSMART and lists the names of the FY18 USBR Title XVI grant awardees, as required by law. There remains no action to date on the Senate version(s).

FY20 Transportation Appropriations Bill

As transportation work often includes work on water and/or other underground utilities, it's notable that the House passed a minibus that includes the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) Appropriations bill and several other appropriations bills for FY20. In total, the transportation legislation provides \$137.1 billion in budgetary resources, an increase of \$6 billion above the 2019 enacted level and \$17.3 billion above the President's budget request. Included in the bill: TIGER, \$1B; Amtrak, \$1.3B; highways, \$49B; and, transit, \$2.3B. No action to date on the Senate bill.

Health & Safety:

Provided by Josh Broaddus @ J. Smith Lanier & Company

A Safe Worker's Promise

Personal commitments you can live and work by:

- I anticipate possible dangers in any given operation and make every effort to analyze and avoid them before starting work, including immediately communicating such to my direct report.
- I am careful when using tools and use them only for the purpose for which they were designed. I look for defects. If I discover a defective tool I will turn it in for repair or replacement.
- At all times, I practice good housekeeping habits. I believe in the policy of a place for everything and everything in its place.
- I understand the importance of participating in company training, standard practice development, job hazard assessments and incident investigations to further enhance overall safety.
- When operating machinery, I follow all machine specific training and requirements, recognize the hazards involved and take necessary precautionary measures. Before starting a piece of equipment, I look it over to ensure that neither workers nor materials will be endangered. When I leave equipment unattended, I make certain that it is safely shut down. I take necessary precautions to prevent the equipment from being started by an unauthorized person.
- While driving, I obey all traffic rules and regulations. I am alert to the possible inadequacies of other drivers and am prepared to make necessary allowances for safety on the road.
- I take the necessary precautions to properly attend to cuts and scratches. I am aware that by doing this, I can avoid potential infections.
- I believe in wearing personal protective equipment (PPE). I am fully aware of the many times in the past when using PPE, such as safety glasses, safety shoes and gloves, has enabled workers to avoid injury.



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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**

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Training Needs***

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