



TRIKO Valley News

Volume 20, Issue 4 - January 2020

From Our President...



March is here and hopefully winter is behind us. It has been a mild winter, but I am still eagerly awaiting the spring weather.

The warmer weather brings a start to another construction season. Please join us at our next General Membership meeting to discuss some of the upcoming construction and design projects. This meeting will be a joint meeting with the Ohio Contractors Association on March 17th at the Original Montgomery Inn **(Editor's Note: The March 17th meeting has been postponed indefinitely)**. The meeting will include discussions with area utilities, municipalities, ODOT, KYTC, and County Engineers on

upcoming design and construction projects.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Donald C. Schramm Transportation Improvement Award presentations at our January meeting. We heard presentations on five interesting and deserving projects. I would like to thank all of those that presented and thank the committee for all their hard work. The votes have been counted and the winners will be announced at our upcoming meeting March 17th. **(Editor's Note: The March 17th meeting has been postponed indefinitely)**.

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events. The 2020 ASHE National Conference will be June 3-7 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Our next Adopt-A-Highway event will be March 21st. We will be holding our 2020 Lloyd Wallace Memorial Golf Outing on May 4th at the Aston Oaks Golf Club. Please watch for upcoming announcements, and I hope to see some of our members attend these events.

Scholarship season is upon us. Please encourage any co-ops or college students with interest in the industry to apply for the ASHE Scholarships. Please watch for upcoming announcements. Lastly, I would like to encourage everyone to invite friends and professionals in the highway industry to join our organization. Our membership can positively impact our community and maintain quality leadership in our industry.

Tom Nicholson
Pretek Group



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ASHE PIN Report

The mission of the American Society of Highway Engineers is to provide a forum for members and partners of the highway industry that supports education, innovation, and fellowship; promoting a safe and efficient highway system for mobility now and in the future.

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

President Tom Nicholson called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:40 AM and recognized three guests, including two students from the University of Cincinnati.

Katie Dillenburger raised a motion to accept the November 19, 2019 meeting minutes as published in the newsletter, which was seconded by Stan Harris and carried.

President Nicholson announced that the next meeting will be the CIP meeting on March 17, 2020 at the Montgomery Inn. Similar to last year, this will be a joint meeting with OCA.

President Nicholson announced that the Triko Valley Section will once again make a \$500 contribution to the University of Cincinnati Construction Student Association (CSA) to support its entry in the CANstruction competition. Next, Emily Swawen and Nick Klein from the CSA gave a short presentation on the competition and their plans for this year.

Eric Kistner presented the Treasurer's report, noting an operating capital of \$25,596.23. The section currently has 172 members. Sam Bell and Joseph Kuehnle are new members. Aaron Muck made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Eric Beck seconded. The motion was approved.

Caroline Duffy gave the PIN report noting that the FAST Act will expire on September 30, 2020 and many think it will be extended for one year. A long-term funding solution is still needed. On the local level, SORTA is seeking to replace its current funding with a 0.8% sales tax applied to everything purchased in Hamilton County. This will go to the voters in March. Any questions can be directed to Pete Metz with SORTA at 513-300-8084.

Aaron Muck noted that there has not been a lot of activity on the student chapter front but everyone is encouraged to invite their coops and other students to attend our meetings. On the national front, there was a National Student Chapter conference held in October in Delaware.

President Nicholson noted that membership certificates and pins are available on the table for those who have joined over the past year or so. Information will be coming soon on a membership drive.

Joe Schmeltzer gave the Scholarship Report. He announced that the first ASHE John R. Jurgensen scholarship (\$5,000) was presented to Jennifer Engel. This is a scholarship jointly funded by ASHE and the Jurgensen Companies. ASHE also presented a \$1,500 scholarship to Sarah Makal.

Terry Dull reported that the Social Committee was considering a sporting clays outing for this fall. Another outing being considered is "fowling", a cornhole type game where a football is thrown at bowling pins. Look for more information in the near future.

Katie Dillenburger reported that the golf outing will once again be at Aston Oaks, likely on May 4. More info to come.

Website chair Paul Durham announced that changes are coming to the web site which will allow meeting reservations to be made directly through it. It is possible that this will be up and running in time for the March meeting.

Eric Beck introduced the Schramm Awards presentation. The following projects were presented:

Over \$5 Million

- *I-71/Western Row Road Interchange Improvements* – Steve Shadix (Stantec) and Rob Lichter (Jurgensen), Owners: ODOT, Mason, Warren County TID
- *BUT-CR19-1.89/2.34* – Matt Brubaker (BCEO), Designers: Structurepoint, Stantec, Owner: BCEO, Contractor: Barrett Paving

Up to \$5 Million

- *SR 32 Improvements at Bells Lane* – Paul Durham (Stantec), Contractor: Jurgensen and Ford Development, Owner: Clermont County TID
- *Lanes Mill Bridge Replacement* – Rob Lichter (Jurgensen), Designer: Prime, Owner: BCEO
- *Van Blaricum Road* – Nick Yeretzian (Kleingers), Contractor: Smith Construction, Owner (HCEO)

After the presentations concluded, instructions on voting were given and ballots collected.

Eric Beck made a motion to adjourn at 12:47 pm and Paul Durham seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
David Emerick
TRIKO Valley Section Secretary



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ASHE PIN Report - March 2020

After the Super Tuesday election, the Democratic field of candidates has shrunk to just two candidates, former Vice President Joe Biden and Senator Bernie Sanders. The Biden transportation plan proposes to immediately spend \$50 billion over the first year of his administration to kickstart the process of repairing our existing roads, highways, and bridges. In addition to sending these funds to states, some of the dollars will go directly to cities and towns that own and run most of our roads. Biden will also expedite permitting, so that projects can break ground faster. However, a funding plan on where the new revenues will come from has not been put forth for highway spending. Biden did not mention the use of an Infrastructure Bank, but wants to utilize the federal loan program to improve and streamline the loan process for rail infrastructure. Biden wants to focus on the Northeast Corridor's higher speeds that will shrink the travel time from D.C. to New York by half, and wants to complete the California High Speed Rail project. He wants to build a high-speed rail system that will connect the coasts for both passenger and freight transportation. Biden supports infrastructure for pedestrians, cyclists, riders of e-scooters, and other micro-mobility vehicles.

Sanders' January 2015 infrastructure bill (S. 268, 114th Congress) would have transferred \$600 billion over eight years from the general fund to the Highway Trust Fund, which would have allowed \$425 billion in above-baseline spending, in addition to ensuring baseline solvency. His plan did not mention the federal loan program, but Sanders proposes the creation a National Infrastructure Bank to make loans, capitalized with \$25 billion in budget authority. Sanders plans on spending \$607 billion on a regional high-speed rail system that would complete the Obama administration's vision to develop high-speed intercity rail in the United States, however, the plan makes no mention of freight rail. The Sanders plan does not mention pedestrians, cyclists, riders of e-scooters, and other micro-mobility vehicles.

Neither Democratic candidate mentioned bond financing, the gas user's fee, or the vehicle miles traveled as options for funding of their transportation plan.

President Trump's transportation plan has not changed since it was presented a few years ago. As you recall, his outline for a new infrastructure bill is not limited to transportation projects, but includes all infrastructure, including water ports, airports, and railroad, to name a few. The outline calls for \$200 billion in federal funding over the next 10 years. This money is divided into of pots of \$100 billion each. The first pot is assigned to standard funding mandated by law, such as the Highway Trust programs. This funding would continue to utilize the traditional 80-20 funding split. However, it is the other \$100 billion that has everyone talking. This outline lays out new ideas, where public-private partnership and non-traditional funding sources can shine. The Infrastructure Incentive Initiative program would only provide a 20% federal match, requiring the locals to come up with the 80% match for core infrastructure projects. Rural infrastructure would be a focus with investments to facilitate freight movements, to improve access to reliable and affordable transportation, and to improve access to high-speed broadband. The Transformative Project Programs would provide \$20 billion for innovative projects not currently supported by the market, such as Hyperloop. The TIFIA program would be expanded to provide funding for water port and airport infrastructure. Passenger facility charges at airports and rail facilities would be expanded for the good of those facilities. Private Activity Bonds, comparable to municipal bonds, could be used for broadband, flood control, and energy projects. Tolling for new road expansion and rest area commercialization could aid interstate projects. Capital Investment Grants can have a 50% match for transit purposes. While these new funding ideas were presented, streamlining processes was also addressed. Projects requiring only a 20% federal match would not be required to follow federal processes. The NEPA timeline would be altered as well, in that utilities could be relocated and right-of-way acquisition could start in advance of a final NEPA approval. An environmental challenge to a NEPA ruling is limited to 150 days instead of 3 years. While this outline presents new ideas, it lacked what everyone was hoping for, a funding stream solution. President Trump said that he would support a 25-cent increase in the gas user's fee.

While there are rumors of a transportation bill passing Congress this year, the ASHE PIN believes it is doubtful, as bills like this have trouble going through all of the steps necessary during an election year. In 2021, the highway industry will be starting over again with new legislators and possibly a new president. We urge you to review each possible candidate and their plan for transportation so that you can make a wise voting decision in November.

ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING
General Membership Meeting
Capital Improvement Program

MEETING POSTPONED INDEFINITELY

**Check back on our website (<https://trikovalley.ashe.pro/>)
and stay tuned for updated information regarding our next
meeting.**

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ASHE's Spring Interchange Cleanup Event

Come out and join us on Saturday, March 21st at 10:00 AM for our first cleanup of 2020 at our adopted I-71/Route 126 Interchange!

The Triko Valley Section of ASHE will be cleaning up the I-71SB entrance to Ronald Reagan Highway (Route 126) on Saturday, March 21st. We will be meeting at 10:00 A.M. at rear parking lot of The Original Montgomery Inn in Montgomery. We will start with a quick safety briefing and then car pool to the interchange for about an hour of cleanup. The following will be provided:

- Leather gloves
- Safety vests
- Pickers
- Trash bags
- Bottled Water
- Men Working Signage



Suggested attire includes sturdy boots, long pants, long sleeve shirt, and hat. Ages 12 years and up are welcome (ages 12-18 will require special release form)! If you plan to participate, please watch the Adopt-A-Highway Safety Training here prior to event. Please register online or contact Tom Nicholson at tnicholson@pretekgroup.com or call 937.414.5925 if you plan to attend, so we can make sure we have enough equipment.

2020 ASHE TRIKO Valley Section Lloyd Wallace Memorial Golf Outing

The TRIKO Valley Section of ASHE will hold its annual golf outing on Monday, May 4, 2020 at Aston Oaks Golf Club. Our outing is named after Lloyd Wallace, former ODOT District 8 Deputy Director, in tribute to his contributions to the highway engineering field. The outing will be a scramble format with registration beginning at 10:00 am and shotgun start at 11:00 am.

We would like to extend an invitation to you and your firm to join us at the golf outing. The registration fee is \$100 per golfer, which includes greens fees with cart at an excellent golf course, box lunch with soft drinks, hors d'oeuvres following golf, and door prizes. Prizes will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place teams. Contests will include longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt.

This outing is our sole means of raising money for the ASHE TRIKO Valley Section Annual Scholarship Program which provides yearly scholarships to college students who are scheduled to graduate in a transportation or construction program within the next two years.

A donation of \$175 would give your firm a sponsorship at the golf outing, either as a hole sponsor or as a beverage sponsor, with your firm's logo or name placed on a sign at the tee box or on the beverage cart circulating the course. A sponsorship donation of \$250 will provide golfers with a box lunch. Your firm's logo or name will be placed on a sign at the lunch pickup location. Special recognition for each sponsorship will be provided throughout the event as well.

Another method of advertising for your firm is to provide a "Door Prize" or "Cart Prize" (e.g. sleeve of golf balls, golf glove, divot repair tools, etc.). This is a great opportunity to market your firm, as approximately 70 transportation and construction industry personnel will be participating, from consultants and contractors, to clients and owners.

Please see registration and sponsorship information on the next page. Registration is also available online at <http://ashetrikovalley.shuttlepod.org/>. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 513-492-9837 or at katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com.

Thank you for your support!

2020 ASHE TRIKO Valley Section Lloyd Wallace Memorial Golf Outing

Monday, May 4, 2020

Aston Oaks Golf Club

1 Aston Oaks Drive
North Bend, OH 45052
(513) 467-0070

ITINERARY

10:00 am to 10:45 am	Registration and Lunch
10:45am	Announcements
11:00 am	Shotgun Start
4:00 pm (or following golf)	Hors d'oeuvres and Prize Presentation

Cost per Golfer: \$100

- A box lunch will be provided on your cart at registration. During golf, a beer and snack cart will be on the course to accept tickets and/or cash payment. Hors d'oeuvres will be served immediately after golf.
- Please consider a hole or beverage sponsorship for \$175 or a lunch sponsorship for \$250. As a hole sponsor, your firm's name/logo will be on a sign at one of the 18 tee boxes. A beverage sponsorship will get your firm's name/logo displayed on the beverage cart. And as a lunch sponsor, your firm's name/logo will be on a sign at the lunch pickup location. All sponsorships will allow your firm special recognition during the event.
- Prizes will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place teams. Contests will include longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt. There will be chances to win door prizes.
- **Registration deadline is Tuesday, April 28, 2020. Payment can be made by mail, online at <http://ashetrikovalley.shuttlepod.org/>, or the day of at the sign-in table.**
- Any questions, please contact Katie Dillenburger at 513-492-9837 or katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com.

You can register online at <http://ashetrikovalley.shuttlepod.org/>
or

Send a copy of this form and check, payable to ASHE TRIKO Valley, to:
Bayer Becker
6900 Tylersville Road, Suite A
Mason, Ohio 45040
Attn: Katie Dillenburger

Golfer's Name	Company

Sponsors/Donations (Please support our scholarship program!):

Check for Hole Sponsor for \$175 _____

Check for Beverage Sponsor for \$175 _____

Check for Lunch Sponsor for \$250 _____

Name for sign at tee box, beverage cart, or lunch pickup and in outing flyer _____

(Supply Logo in electronic format via email to katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com)

Door/Cart Prize Donation _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Committee Chair Person Contact Information

The ASHE TRIKO Valley Board of Directors has several committees to help promote our organization in a variety of ways. Listed below, you can find the contact information of the chair person for each committee. If you would like to share an idea or would like to volunteer to serve on a committee, please contact the appropriate chair person. The Board thanks you for your continued support and dedication to the transportation industry.

Committee	Chair Person	Contact Information
Schramm Award	Eric Beck	Eric.Beck@hamilton-co.org
Scholarship	Joe Schmeltzer	jschmeltzer@structurepoint.com
Program	Steve Mary	steve.mary@terracon.com
Social	Terry Dull	terry.dull@kzf.com
Membership	Brian Rhodes	brian.rhodes@cincinnati-oh.gov
Student Chapter	Aaron Muck	ajmuck@terracon.com
Golf Outing	Katie Dillenburger	katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com
Newsletter	Stan Harris	stan.harris@stantec.com
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Legislative Review (PIN)	Caroline Duffy	143Engineers@gmail.com
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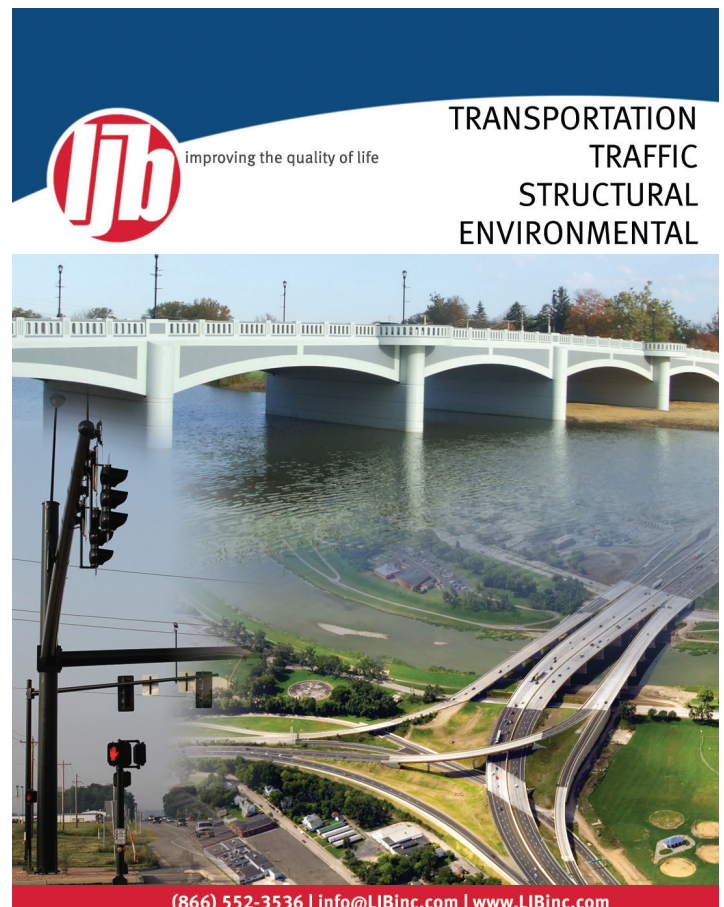
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