

# TRIKO Valley News

Volume 23, Issue 1 - September 2022

## From Our President...



Welcome to the 2022 – 2023 season of ASHE Triko Valley! I am happy to be leading our Section this year with a great Board of Directors who have been busy planning a series of exciting programs and social events.

To kick things off, our first meeting is set for Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Original Montgomery Inn in Montgomery where we will learn more about the University of Cincinnati's Transportation Center. I hope that many of our members are able to join us. Next up will be our first sporting clay shoot which is scheduled for Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Middletown Sportsman's Club. Please save the date for this event and look for more details to come. Then we will finish up 2022 with our November

ethics program and our December holiday party. Time flies!

As the Board continues to work on these and other upcoming programs and events, I appreciate taking some time to look back over the last few months and seeing what we have accomplished, which is a lot. At our May meeting, we installed the Board for this next year. Please join me in welcoming Samantha Barnes as our newest director. We also congratulated Caroline Duffy with an ASHE Lifetime Membership. Thank you to Caroline for her service to our Section and to the transportation industry. Most recently, on September 17<sup>th</sup>, we completed the fall cleanup of our adopt a highway section at the I-71SB entrance to Ronald Reagan Highway (Route 126). Thank you to all who attended and to Dan Ficker for organizing our Community Service events. From our Scholarship Committee, we are getting ready to announce our scholarship recipients. Thanks to Terry Dull for heading up this group. And while we have been busy working to update our website, we are aware of some issues that have come up. When this happens, please reach out to any board member or committee chair for ASHE related needs. Even with the challenges, the website is a great improvement and many thanks to Paul Durham for taking on this task. I also want to recognize and give a big thank you to our immediate past president, Brian Rhodes. Brian did a fantastic job for Triko Valley over the last year and beyond, leading us and paving the way for this Board in the year and years to come. Thanks Brian! And finally, thank you to our many members for creating such an active and engaged Section. Together, we have all created a remarkable group that I know will continue to grow and flourish. Here's to a great 2022 – 2023 season of ASHE Triko Valley!

Sincerely,

Katie Dillenburger  
Bayer Becker

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# ASHE-TRIKO VALLEY SECTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022 | THE ORIGINAL MONTGOMERY INN, MONTGOMERY, OH / VIRTUAL MEETING

On May 17, 2022, the ASHE Triko Valley Section held the third general membership meeting of 2022. The meeting was also available virtually to membership that could not attend the meeting. President Brian Rhodes called the meeting to order at 11:40 am, welcoming attendees, and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. He announced that ASHE Triko Valley started a Linked In page and discussed the success of the ASHE National Conference in Columbus, Ohio. He also mentioned the 2023 National Conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia. Brian then asked for a motion to approve the March General Membership Meeting minutes. The motion was raised by Eric Beck and seconded by Stan Harris.

For the Secretary's report, Dan Springer was not present at the event. Shawn Mason assumed Secretary duties for the meeting. No report was provided.

The treasurer's report was provided by Eric Kistner who updated the group on the income and expenses for the month which resulted in a current balance of \$22,835.21. Eric also reminded the group of the upcoming membership renewals.

Caroline Duffy presented the PIN report. At the ASHE 2022 National Conference Opening Session on May 13th, Hari Kall, Associate Administrator for Infrastructure for FHWA, gave a summary of the Bipartisan Infrastructure (BIL) funding programs. The BIL contains many different funding programs, with \$305B slated for the highway programs for FY 22 through FY 26. The funding of the program includes the Highway Trust Fund supplemented by \$47.3B from the general funds plus another \$90B transfer from the General Fund to the Highway Trust Fund to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent.

There are several funding programs, including formula programs such as resilience, carbon reduction, bridge formula program, transportation alternatives, and electric charging infrastructure (500,000 charges by 2030), and discretionary programs such as existing programs like INFRA and MEGA, and new funding programs such as rural surface transportation grant, resilience, wildlife crossing, safe streets and roads for all, and reconnecting communities pilot program. This new funding is focused on safety, bridges, climate change, resilience and project delivery.

This funding will provide more opportunities for local governments and other non-traditional entities such as tribal governments and nonprofit organizations. Half of the nation's 40,000 fatalities per year are occurring on locally owned roadway systems and this funding is hoped to help the nation reach Vision Zero goals. For example, the bridge formula program of \$27.5M per year is providing 15% of state funding for local bridges at 100% funding with no local match. This federal funding also allows for planning grants for design as well as construction grants. This new funding will have provisions to allow local hiring preference and will require the Buy America on materials.

ODOT is also expected to receive an additional \$250M to \$300M per year from BIL. Go to this website for further information: <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/programs/catalogue-for-jump-pages/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-bil-jump>. The ODOT contact is Andrew Shepler at 614-466-2348 and his email is Andrew.Shepler@dot.ohio.gov.

The ASHE PIN would like to thank you all for your grassroots efforts and support that has resulted in this new game changing law to revitalize our aging infrastructure and to build the new infrastructure our nation needs.

Brian Rhodes announced that there was nothing to report from the student program committee.

Brian Rhodes announced that there was a newsletter sent prior to the meeting and encouraged Schramm Award winners to submit an Article for the ASHE Scanner.

Brian Rhodes reminded the general membership that the Triko Valley Section is looking for new members and encouraged the group to get younger staff involved.

Aaron Muck announced that there was no regional rep update.

Steve Mary provided an update on the programs committee and that we are looking for a speaker for our September Meeting.

Brian Rhodes awarded Carline Duffy with an ASHE Lifetime Membership and presented her with a certificate. Caroline has been with ASHE Triko Valley since 1997 and was honored at the event.

Terry Dull was not in attendance so there was no scholarship report presented. Brian Rhodes announced that applications are currently under review and being scored.

Dan Ficker announced that there was no community report update.

Terry Dull was not in attendance to provide the social committee report.

Katie Dillenburg announced that the golf outing was a success and raised money for the scholarship fund. Glenview GC was nice and the weather was great.

Todd Gadbury was present and had no update for the Schramm Awards.

Brian Rhodes initiated the installation of our new board member, Samantha Barnes as First Year Director. The motion was raised by Stan Harris and seconded by Katie Dillenburg.

Stan Harris presided over the installation and swearing in of the new ASHE Triko Valley Board. The new Board is as follows:

- President: Katie Dillenburg
- First Vice President: Terry Dull
- Second Vice President: Todd Gadbury
- Fourth Year Director: Dan Ficker
- Third Year Director/Secretary: Dan Springer
- Second Year Director: Shawn Mason
- First Year Director: Samantha Barnes
- Immediate Past President: Brian Rhodes
- Treasurer: Eric Kistner

Stefan Spinosa of ODOT District 8 provided an update on the IJJA / BIL and the impact on ODOT's funding and Workplan. Stefan discussed the Ohio Gas Tax passed in 2019 and how it prevented a budget shortfall. He discussed ODOT's funding sources and the impact of limited travel during COVID on the ODOT gas tax revenue. The BIL/IJJA will provide additional funding for ODOT through increased federal funding as well as opportunities for funding through several grant programs. Some existing programs will receive increased funding, but there will also be many new discretionary grants. Stefan provided a summary of Bill Funding levels versus the Appropriated funds and a summary of Community Project Funding. He also provided an update on ODOT District 8's Workplan and the Brent Spence Bridge.

Brian Rhodes requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was raised by Eric Beck and seconded by Dan Ficker.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm.

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# ASHE PIN Report – September 2022

With inflation increasing at a record pace, several states (New York, Florida, Connecticut, Maryland, Kentucky, and Georgia) have suspended their state gas tax collections this year and the federal government has suspended the gasoline tax over the summer break as a way to ease inflation and to significantly lower prices and provide big savings for motorists at the pump. While gasoline prices have dropped continuously over the last 92 days, several segments of the economy still have record inflation. Please consider contacting your representative and let them know that the gas tax holiday needs to expire and not be renewed!

In addition, over the summer many of the programs that were developed as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill are now being rolled out for application. With over 50 grant programs, there is more than \$29B in new funding available in FY 22. Some of these new grants include Safe Roads and Streets for All, Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program, and Thriving Communities grant. Go to this website for a full list of new grants Notice of Funding Opportunities and the submittal deadline date.

<https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/key-notices-funding-opportunity>

In addition, there has been a significant increase to existing funding programs. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill allows ODOT's appropriation authority by \$690 million for federal highway construction funding and public transit funding.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PROGRAM

Please contact Steve Mary, program chair, with ideas for future meeting presentations.

### SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship committee is currently evaluating applications. Thank you, students, for the great response!

### SOCIAL

The social committee is planning a sporting clay shooting event that will be held on Friday, October 14, 2022. Stay tuned for more information.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thanks to those who volunteered for cleaning up the ASHE Adopt-a-Highway site at the I-71SB entrance ramp to Ronald Reagan Highway (Route 126), which occurred last Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Dan and Brian!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GOLF OUTING

The golf committee will soon start planning the 2023 ASHE Triko Valley Section LlyodWallace Golf Outing. Please reach out to our new committee chair, Brian Rhodes, to offer assistance or to provide feedback so that we can make continue to support and make successful this very important event that supports our scholarship fund.

### SCHRAMM AWARDS

Our winners of the Schramm Awards, the Wayne Madison Road/Hamilton Trenton Road project and the Montgomery Road/Ronald Reagan project, were submitted to the ASHE Great Lakes Region for consideration of the regional Project of the Year award. Good luck to both project teams!

## ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING

### General Membership Meeting

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022, 11:30 AM | THE ORIGINAL MONTGOMERY INN / VIRTUAL MEETING**

Please join us for our first meeting of 2022 – 2023 where our speakers include Dr. Ahmed and Dr. Li from the University of Cincinnati presenting “UC’s CEAS Transportation Center – Emerging Transportation Technologies Applied Research.”

### ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES!

\$50/year for newsletter ad  
\$150/year for newsletter ad and corporate link  
on the TRIKO website

if interested, contact Katie Dillenburger at  
katedillenburger@bayerbecker.com



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# 2022 - 2023 Board of Directors

Title	Member	Company	Phone	Email
President	Katie Dillenburger	Bayer Becker	513-492-9837	katedillenburger@bayerbecker.com
1st Vice President	Terry Dull	Neenah Enterprises	513-227-3972	terry.dull@neenahenterprises.com
2nd Vice President	Todd Gadbury	Hamilton Co. Engineer's Office	513-946-8445	todd.gadbury@hamilton-co.org
Treasurer	Eric Kistner	Stantec	513-842-8213	eric.kistner@stantec.com
Secretary	Dan Springer	LJB	937-259-5192	dspringer@ljbinc.com
4th Year Director	Dan Ficker	Palmer Engineering	513-469-1600	dficker@palmernet.com
3rd Year Director	Dan Springer	LJB	937-259-5192	dspringer@ljbinc.com
2nd Year Director	Shawn Mason	American Structurepoint	513-407-8317	smason@structurepoint.com
1st Year Director	Samantha Barnes	Parsons	513-262-7277	samantha.barnes@parsons.com
Past President	Brian Rhodes	City of Cincinnati	513-352-3419	brian.rhodes@cincinnati-oh.gov
Regional Representative	Brian Rhodes	City of Cincinnati	513-352-3419	brian.rhodes@cincinnati-oh.gov

## 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	Todd Gadbury	todd.gadbury@hamilton-co.org
Scholarship	Terry Dull	terry.dull@neenahenterprises.com
Program	Steve Mary	steve.mary@terracon.com
Social	Terry Dull	terry.dull@neenahenterprises.com
Membership	Brian Rhodes	brian.rhodes@cincinnati-oh.gov
Student Chapter	Shawn Mason	smason@structurepoint.com
Golf Outing	Brian Rhodes	brian.rhodes@cincinnati-oh.gov
Newsletter	Katie Dillenburger	katedillenburger@bayerbecker.com
Website	Paul Durham	paul.durham@stantec.com
Legislative Review (PIN)	Caroline Duffy	143Engineers@gmail.com
Online Payments/PayPal	Eric Kistner	eric.kistner@stantec.com
Community Service	Dan Ficker	dficker@palmernet.com



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