



TRIKO Valley News

Volume 24, Issue 3 – January 2024

From Our President...



Happy New Year! Welcome to 2024 and to the January edition of the ASHE TRIKO Valley newsletter. While we are starting a fresh new year, we find ourselves in the middle of the ASHE calendar, which is filling up quickly with some great programs and events.

Before providing our next set of plans, I would like to share the success that was our holiday party. ASHE members, along with members from WTS and ACEC, gathered in December at deSha's. As part of our holiday season celebrations, we also held a canned food drive and our group donated to the Hope House in Middletown. Thank you to all who attended and participated. What a great way to close out 2023!

Coming up, our next General Membership meeting is set for this Tuesday, January 23rd at the Original Montgomery Inn in Montgomery. Please join us to learn more about some projects completed around the Tri-State and to cast your vote for the Schramm Awards. In March, for the annual Capital Improvements Program, we will join the Southwest Chapter of the Ohio Contractors Association at their dinner meeting. I will be working with them on a date and time.

Beyond our typical meeting schedule, the board of directors is also considering tour options. Please contact Steve Mary, our program chair, with any ideas. Further out in the Spring, we will complete our Adopt-A-Highway volunteering duties and we will hold our golf outing fundraiser, plus, the board intends to bring back the Reds game social. More details are to come for each of these events but please reach out to the various committee chairs or to the board to offer input or assistance. The next few months are shaping up to be busy ones. And so, I continue to thank all of our membership and our board of directors on all of the work that it takes to keep the ASHE Triko Valley Section running.

Thank you.

Todd Gadbury, PE, SI
Deputy Engineer
Hamilton County

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ASHE - TRIKO Valley Section
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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.

ASHE-TRIKO VALLEY SECTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023 | THE ORIGINAL MONTGOMERY INN, MONTGOMERY, OH

On November 21, 2023, the ASHE-TRIKO Valley Section held the fifth general membership meeting of 2023. President Todd Gadbury called the meeting to order at 11:37 am, welcoming attendees, and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. The previous general meeting minutes were not raised for approval and will be done at our next meeting.

President Gadbury stated that the Bluegrass Section and Derby City Section has asked the TRIKO Valley section to join them in requesting the 2027 National Conference. A vote approved this effort. In addition, the general membership was asked to consider joining the 2027 conference committee if the conference is awarded to the Kentucky sections team.

Stan Harris presented the National update. ASHE is doing well, and membership is now over 7,000. There are 49 sections in 19 states. There may also be a new section in Denver in the Spring of 2024, and other sections in Kansas City, Chicago, Boston, and San Antonio may also be starting up. In 2023, National has sent over \$50,000 to the Regions. However, the annual dues may need to increase in 2024 since they have not been increased for some time.

For the Secretary’s report, Dan Springer had nothing to report.


Eric Kistner presented the treasurer’s report (see right). Todd then asked for a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. The motion was raised by Dan Ficker and seconded by Dave Westendorf.

Caroline Duffy presented the PIN report:

ASHE PIN November 2023

On October 3, 2023, by a 216-to-210 vote in the House, marked the first time in history that the House removed its leader, with eight Republicans voting with 208 Democrats to remove Kevin McCarthy. Then over the next three weeks, chaos reigned in the House as several candidates ran for speaker and could not get enough votes to win the speakership. Then a little-known lawmaker, Mike Johnson from Louisiana, was able to secure the needed 220 votes to become the new speaker on October 24. Johnson now faces a daunting list of challenges with a fast-approaching

government shutdown chief among them. On Friday, November 17, Congress averted a government shutdown. The legislation finances the government at current spending levels and staggers expiration dates for the funding. Roughly 20 percent of the federal government would be financed through Jan. 19 and the remaining 80 percent until Feb. 2 before the country again faces a federal shutdown. Under the bill, funds would expire for military and veteran programs, agriculture and food agencies, and the Transportation and Housing and Urban Development departments Jan. 19. They would expire for the State, Defense, Commerce, Labor, and Health and Human Services departments, among others, on Feb. 2. There is a lot of work to be done to




MEETING DATE: 11/21/2023

LOCATION:
ORIGINAL MONTGOMERY INN
MONTGOMERY, OHIO

TREASURER'S REPORT

OPERATING CAPITAL AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2023:		\$14,232.47
(LAST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING)		
INCOME:	MEETING/LUNCHEON SALES	\$2,430.00
	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES	\$80.00
	2023 GOLF OUTING SALES	\$250.00
	TOTAL CREDITS:	\$2,760.00
EXPENSES:	BANK FEES	\$50.00
	MEETING/LUNCHEON EXPENSES	\$1,861.46
	REFUND	\$25.00
	REGIONAL DUES	\$100.00
	REGIONAL PROJECT AWARD FEE	\$150.00
	REGISTRATION WEBSITE FEES	\$288.40
	REGISTRATION WEBSITE TRANSACTION FEES	\$69.56
	MISC. GIFTS	\$247.73
	NATIONAL ASSESSMENT	\$2,945.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$5,737.15
OPERATING CAPITAL AS OF NOVEMBER 21, 2023:		\$11,255.32
<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>		
	NUMBER OF REGULAR MEMBERS	142
	NUMBER OF STUDENT MEMBERS	9
	TOTAL	151



ERIC M. KISTNER, TREASURER

come to consensus as the conservative republicans are pushing for a spending reduction that is below previously agreed to spending ceilings.

On the local front, voters approved Issue 22 on November 7 which will allow that City of Cincinnati to sell the Cincinnati Southern Railway, the only city-owned railroad in the country, to Norfolk Southern Corporation for \$1.6 billion in March 2024. The majority of this sale will be kept in a trust overseen by the railroad board, which will produce no less than \$26.5 million a year (interest only) to the city to fix or replace city streets, bridges, buildings, and other public spaces. Supporters say it's a great deal and believe the annual disbursements could be substantially higher than the \$25 million Norfolk Southern currently pays to lease the railroad, which runs 337 miles from Cincinnati to Chattanooga, Tennessee. City officials will now be held to the agreement that they campaigned on to address the \$400 M in infrastructure needs within the city limits.

For the Regional Representative report, Katie Dillenger was not in attendance, so a report was not presented.

Brian Rhodes presented the membership report. Membership is holding steady, but Brian encouraged all attendees to ask younger staff to join ASHE.

Brian Rhodes presented the golf outing report. Brian and Dave are currently looking at several venues for the 2024 golf outing. Katie Dillenger was not in attendance, but the Newsletter and Scanner went out early November.

For the Student Chapter report, Shawn Mason had no updates.

Steve Mary presented the Program Report. Steve is looking for speakers for May and September 2024.

Samantha Poehner presented the Scholarship report and had no updates.

For the Social Events report, Brian Hendrickson mentioned that the holiday party will be at deSha's on December 11th.

Dan Ficker announced that he is looking into replacing the highway cleanup with other events.

Paul Durham was not in attendance and did not report on the website.

For the Schramm Awards, Todd Gadbury mentioned that the applications are due December 15th.

Tyler Holden gave a brief presentation about the Dirt World Summit.

Susan Willeke gave the Ethics presentation.

Eric Beck made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Brian Rhodes.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 pm.



ASHE PIN – January 2024

The return of Congress on January 7th had the announcement that a \$1.7 trillion budget agreement had been reached by Senator Chuck Schumer and Speaker Mike Johnson, which is the first step in averting a government shutdown for the fiscal year that began on October 1, 2023. Congress still has until January 19th to negotiate the budget for the Transportation-Housing appropriations. The ASHE PIN has faith this budget will be negotiated before the deadlines, as future stop-gap measures as not likely to pass either house.

The Kentucky legislature is currently in session. HB 110 introduces the Governors recommended Transportation Cabinet Budget for approval. Another bill, HB 246, will establish the procedures for the Transportation Cabinet and local governments to enter into a lease agreement with private entities for the naming rights of roads or bridges and for the installation of signage. Here's to naming the Brent Spence Companion Bridge the "Who Dey" bridge! Stay tuned as the outcome of these bills are decided by the republican lawmakers and the democratic governor by mid-April.

The sale of the Cincinnati Southern Railroad, which is slated in March 2024, will add \$26M to the City of Cincinnati coffers to spend annually. The streets & Sidewalks wish list includes the following:

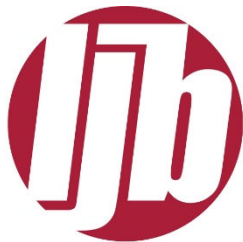
1. Mill Creek Road Bridge Rehabilitation;
 2. Street rehabilitation;
 3. Converting electrical lights to LED;
 4. Improving traffic signals citywide;
 5. Traffic calming: asphalt speed hump reconstruction citywide;
 6. Streetlight replacement in Central Business District; and
 7. Replacing pavers in the crosswalks and sidewalks in Central Business District.

Stay tuned for more information on these movements as we move forward in 2024!

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 katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com

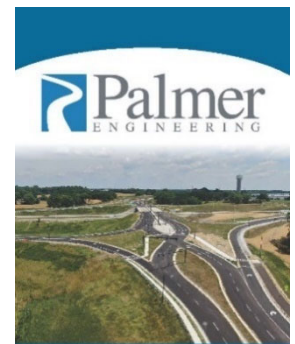


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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to our 2023 scholarship recipients, Colby Sipos and Derek Rauh! We will be accepting applications for this year soon. Please check our website for more information.

GOLF OUTING

The golf committee will soon start planning the 2024 ASHE Triko Valley Section LlyodWallace Golf Outing. Please reach out to our 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.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Thank you to Dan Ficker for organizing and completing our Adopt-A-Highway work at the SR 126 and I-71 interchange. Stay tuned for a future clean up date and let's do better to assist Dan this time!

ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING

General Membership Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024, 11:30 AM | THE ORIGINAL MONTGOMERY INN

Please join us for the next general membership meeting, where the Schramm Award project presentations will be presented.

For future meeting presentations, please contact program chair, Steve Mary, with ideas.

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President	Todd Gadbury	Hamilton Co. Engineer's Office	513-946-8445	todd.gadbury@hamilton-co.org
1st Vice President	Dan Ficker	Palmer Engineering	513-469-1600	dficker@palmernet.com
2nd Vice President	Dan Springer	LJB	937-259-5192	dspringer@ljbinc.com
Treasurer	Eric Kistner	Stantec	513-842-8213	eric.kistner@stantec.com
Secretary	Dan Springer	LJB	937-259-5192	dspringer@ljbinc.com
4th Year Director	Shawn Mason	American Structurepoint	513-407-8317	smason@structurepoint.com
3rd Year Director	Samantha Poehner	Compass Infrastructure Group	513-262-7277	spoehner@compassinf.com
2nd Year Director	Kevin Hendrickson	Advanced Drainage Systems	513-497-9953	kevin.hendrickson@adspipe.com
1st Year Director	David Westendorf	Terracon	513-612-9095	david.westendorf@terracon.com
Past President	Katie Dillenburger	Bayer Becker	513-492-9837	katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com
Regional Representative	Katie Dillenburger	Bayer Becker	513-492-9837	katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com

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	Samantha Poehner	spoehner@compassinf.com
Program	Steve Mary	steve.mary@terracon.com
Social	Kevin Hendrickson	kevin.hendrickson@adspipe.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	katiedillenburger@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

General Membership

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Jamal Adhami
Eric Adkins
Frank Aransky
Travis Baker
Eric Beck*
Amanda Beiting
Sam Bell
Bryan Bender
Gerard Berding
Steven Bergman
William Brayshaw*
Tom Brayshaw
John Brazina
Wayne Breitenstein
Greg Brown
Matt Brubaker
Jon Brunot
Dennis Brunton*
Kassidy Buschor**
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Ben Dusina
John Elliott
David Emerick
Richard Engle
Joe Espelage
Jeremy Evans
William Fair
Dan Ficker
Nathan Fischer
Andy Fluegemann
Bronson Funke

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** Student Members