

BLUE TOP



THE VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION CONSTRUCTION ALLIANCE

January 2016

General Assembly Convenes January 13

The 2016 session of the Virginia General Assembly will convene on January 13. While the main focus of the session will be the biennial budget, we do expect to see quite a bit of activity on issues of concern to our industries. We will keep you informed on these and other issues as they develop during the session.

Tolling: One tolling bill has been introduced, but we expect several others dealing with tolling on I-66 inside the beltway. In addition, we expect a statewide bill on tolling existing interstates.

SWaM: What qualifies a business as “small” for purposes of Small, Woman-owned and Minority Business (SWaM) designation will likely be up for consideration again. Currently a business can qualify as “small” if it has less than 250 employees or less than \$10 million a year in revenues. A workgroup that includes VTCA’s Jeff Southard has been looking at alternative definitions of “small” in response to legislation passed last year. Under consideration is legislation that would change the “small” definition to be consistent with the U.S. Small Business Administration’s definition. According to a survey of our members, such a change in definition would have little impact on our members’ designations.

VDOT MEL: We expect VDOT to request an increase in its maximum employment level (MEL) by 315 positions, bringing the Department’s MEL to 7,800. VDOT would use those positions to fill needs for inspector trainees, bridge inspection/maintenance crews, and in right-of-way.

Bonding: We expect the Administration to ask for more than \$1 billion in “contingent” bonding authority for I-66 outside the beltway. The bonding authority would only be used if VDOT is unable to strike a deal on a P3 concession deal and decides instead to proceed with a VDOT administered design-build project.

Funding: The special additional gas tax allowed in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads does not have a “floor,” thus revenues have fallen with the decline in the price of gas. We expect legislation to be introduced that would add a floor on these gas taxes consistent with the floor on the state-wide gas tax. There is also likely to be legislation introduced to increase revenues for transportation in Hampton Roads so that there would be less of a reliance on tolls for future projects.

Alternative Technical Concepts: VTCA is supporting legislation that would clarify existing state law, and specifically permit VDOT to seek alternative technical concepts when procuring design-build projects.

Professional Services Procurement: We anticipate legislation that would further clarify and limit local governments’ ability to seek information from proposers during a professional services procurement that is not consistent with Quality Based Selection.

Every VTCA member is encouraged to enjoy the legislative process by joining VTCA staff members at the Capitol during the Session. Committee and subcommittee meetings are especially informative. Contact Jeff Southard or Jan Morehead to explore further.

Countdown To Disney – Room Block Closes January 11!



Why should you attend the Winter Meeting?

- ✦ Benefit from exceptional networking opportunities with your customers and business partners
- ✦ Attend business sessions that focus on your company's current needs
- ✦ Learn about the VDOT business plan update from Garrett Moore
- ✦ Earn Professional Development Hours
- ✦ Get "off the grid" for a few days.

Past attendees frequently comment on the unique intimacy of the VTCA Winter Meeting – a place where you can really get to know folks you are working with, or folks you would like to work with. Claim your spot by making a room reservation, and then registering with VTCA. Should you need assistance in any way, don't hesitate to contact Jan, Lisha or Stephanie at the VTCA office.

- ✦ February 4 – 7, 2016
- ✦ Disney's Yacht Club Resort
- ✦ Details at: www.vtca.org/vtca_calendar/events/2016_vtca_winter_meeting/

Save The Date

Mark your Calendar for the 2016 Spring Transportation Construction Conference, April 6 - 8, Hampton, Virginia.

The VTCA Spring Conference is the ONLY statewide conference and trade show for transportation contractors, aggregate producers, consultant engineers, material suppliers, and government transportation officials. In 2015 the event drew over 850 attendees and 94 exhibitors.

The Spring Conference Golf Tournament which raises funds for VTCA scholarships, will kick off the Conference the morning of April 6. Pre-arranged teams are welcome so start thinking about your ringers!

Registration will be opening up in early February. The room block at the Embassy will open when the registration materials for the conference are available.



2016 TCMI – Registration Open

Register by February 10 – Space is Limited!

The Transportation Construction Management Institute will be held February 16-26 on Virginia Tech's campus in Blacksburg. TCMI's 30 participants will include 15 VDOT staff members so industry space is limited to 15. The registration deadline is February 10. Secure your seat and register now at www.cpe.vt.edu/tcmi.

VTCA member employees are eligible for a TCMI scholarship! An exclusive member benefit is a \$500 tuition rebate for attending the 2016 TCMI program. Contact VTCA's Tom Witt for details.

TCMI is designed specifically for transportation construction industry professionals – particularly those who are responsible and actively engaged in the project's management. The program will focus on the latest procurement and contracting trends in Virginia with an emphasis on the management of design-build contracts and building and maintaining a safe working culture. The rigorous and rewarding Institute will improve participants' ability to:

- Establish effective teams and maintain strong relationships and high trust levels with and within VDOT and the road building industry;
- Administer contracts, make decisions, resolve disputes on-site, and complete projects in a more cost-effective and competitive manner;
- Apply newly acquired leadership, management and interpersonal skills to areas of increased responsibility and authority.

Why Advertise In The Online Buyers' Guide?

VTCA's Online Buyers' Guide is a web-based, searchable Guide - the only interactive industry reference product in Virginia. This is where buyers and suppliers are turning for contacts. Available 24/7, the Online Buyers' Guide allows your customers to find your company quickly and easily.

All VTCA members have been given basic listings at no charge. Through premier listings and display advertising, you can provide links to images, videos and more!

We developed this exciting product in partnership with Naylor Association Solutions, the producer of our printed Directory. To learn more about advertising opportunities, contact Chris Zabel at Naylor, 800-369-6220, extension 3420, czabel@naylor.com.



ESCCC Class Schedule Announced For 2016

VTCA will continue to offer, in conjunction with VDOT, the Erosion and Sediment Control Contractor Certification Program in 2016. This course is intended to train individuals involved in implementing Erosion and Sediment Control Plans on VDOT projects and rights-of-way. This certificate meets VDOT's E&S certification requirements. Seven classes are on tap for 2016. Visit www.vtca.org for more details.

Date	Location
February 26	Richmond - VTCA Office
March 4	Front Royal - Holiday Inn & Suites
March 25	Roanoke - Higher Education Center
May 6	Richmond - VTCA Office
June 3	Abingdon - Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center
November 4	Roanoke - Higher Education Center
December 16	Richmond - VTCA Office

2016 VDOT Letting Calendar

1st Ad	2nd Ad	Bids Due Letting Date
DECEMBER 8	DECEMBER 22	JANUARY 27
JANUARY 12	JANUARY 26	FEBRUARY 24
FEBRUARY 9	FEBRUARY 23	MARCH 23
MARCH 8	MARCH 22	APRIL 27
APRIL 12	APRIL 26	MAY 25
MAY 10	MAY 24	JUNE 22
JUNE 14	JUNE 28	JULY 27
JULY 12	JULY 26	AUGUST 24
AUGUST 9	AUGUST 23	SEPTEMBER 28
SEPTEMBER 13	SEPTEMBER 27	OCTOBER 26
OCTOBER 11	OCTOBER 25	NOVEMBER 16
NOVEMBER 8	NOVEMBER 22	DECEMBER 21
DECEMBER 13	DECEMBER 27	JANUARY 25

Surface Treatment Schedules will be advertised in October. Slurry Seal will be advertised in November. Plant Mix Schedules will be advertised in December and January.

Finally A Federal Funding Bill

On December 4, 2015 President Obama signed the FAST Act (Fixing America's Surface Transportation). The bill includes \$225.2 billion from the HTF for highway investment, a \$20.2 billion increase over five years compared to maintaining FY 2015 funding.

Virginia's annual allocation of federal transportation funding will rise from \$982,180,040 in 2015 to \$1,126,962,342 in 2020.

In addition, the FAST legislation includes provisions on:

- A national freight program that funds freight-related highway improvements
- Accelerated project delivery
- Reductions in TIFIA funding
- Continuation of the DBE program
- Provisions to encourage states to bundle bridge projects

Details about the FAST Act can be found in the ARTBA analysis at: www.artba.org/newsline/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/ANALYSIS-FINAL.pdf

Dr. Alison Black, Senior Vice President with the American Road and Transportation Builders Association, will make a presentation about the details of the FAST Act at the VTCA Winter Meeting in February.

VTrans2040

The VTrans2040 Vision and the VTrans Multimodal Transportation Plan 2025 Needs Assessments for Corridors of Statewide Significance, Regional Networks, and Urban Development Areas (UDAs) were adopted by the Commonwealth Transportation Board on December 9, 2015. The final Vision, Goals, Objectives and Guiding Principles can be found at <http://bit.ly/vtransPrinciples>, and the Needs Assessments can be found at <http://bit.ly/vtransNeeds>.

While these plans have been adopted, and were used as the first screening for House Bill 2 projects this year, several areas within these planning documents will continue to be evaluated and refined under the direction of the CTB. The UDA portion of the Needs Assessment will continue to evolve as new UDAs or similarly code referenced designated growth areas are formed in the Commonwealth. Needs profiles for recently added UDAs or similarly Code-referenced designated growth areas will be added online on a continuous basis.

In the coming months a VTrans action plan will be developed that synthesizes the needs identified in the VTrans Needs Assessment and develops recommendations for such aggregate needs based on the VTrans Vision and constrained resources. Additionally, an analysis will begin of 2040 Scenarios to assess the impacts of divergent future trends on the transportation network, local communities, and regions.

Over One Million Hours Worked Safely In Virginia Mines

VTCA and DMME Work Together to Recognize Safety

Thirty-four Virginia mines worked a combined total of over one million employee hours without a lost time accident in 2014. All mines were recognized for their extraordinary achievements with awards presented by the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) on behalf of the Virginia Mine Safety Board to coal mines, and in coordination with VTCA to mineral mines.

Mine Division Chief Randy Moore applauded Virginia mine workers and their safety record. "DMME's number one purpose is to keep these miners safe."

Mineral Mining Director Phil Skorupa noted the accomplishments of these miners. "It is clear miners are focusing on safety at all levels. Working thousands of hours in an industrial zone without an injury is quite an accomplishment."

DMME provides assistance to operators that don't have the budget for a large safety program through the Small Mine Safety Service Program. It allows DMME's mine safety group to help operators use best practices for a safe environment underground and on the surface.

Two VTCA members were among the top award winners. A tip of the hard hat to **Mountain Materials** for 116,141 employee hours (Russell County) in the Quarry category and **Bennett Mineral Company** for 86,655 employee hours (King and Queen County) in the Open Pit category.

Safety Seminars A Big Success

The annual Aggregate Safety Seminars were held last month in Fredericksburg and Roanoke. Attendance at this year's seminars was the highest since their inception. This is largely due to an impressive slate of presenters including VTCA members Dave Hardy of **Hardy Pence** and Ross Ellis with **Austin Powder**.

Also in attendance were representatives from the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME). DMME took this occasion to roll out their new Emergency Response/Training Vehicle. This multi-purpose vehicle will be available to mining operations across the state for emergency responses and various training opportunities. Funding for this vehicle was provided by a federal grant from MSHA.



The success of the Safety Seminars is due in part to the support of our members. Our thanks go out to these companies for their contributions.

Door Prizes

Sauls Seismic
Branscome, Inc.
Carter Machinery
Rish Equipment Co.
Godwin Pumps (Xylem)
Old Dominion Equipment and Supply
James River Equipment

Lunch and Break Sponsors

Boxley
James River Equipment Co.
Vulcan Materials
Luck Stone
Salem Stone
Godwin Pumps (Xylem)
The Frazier Quarry
Chesapeake Materials
Rockydale Quarries
Martin Marietta
Carter Machinery

Individuals Recognized For Safety

VTCA, in partnership with the Division of Mineral Mining, presents safety awards to individuals who have attained superlative safety records. On December 4 at the Morefield Gem Mine in Amelia, Sam Dunaway was recognized for achieving 48 years without a lost time accident.



On December 7 at **Boxley's** Fieldale Plant, Stacey Barbour and John Rakes were recognized for 15 years of service without a lost time accident. George Nutter was recognized for 25 years. Congratulations to these individuals for setting the safety bar high for their companies and for their coworkers.



Aggregate Community Outreach Toolkit Online - Use It!

As announced in December 15's *Heard Along the Highway*, the Aggregate Community Outreach Toolkit has been completed. The Toolkit provides you with simple, clear and easy to convey messages about the aggregates industry in Virginia and the contributions we make to our communities. A companion brochure titled "Aggregates: An Essential Community Resource" was designed for public distribution. It conveys important facts about our industry with a focus on the safety of our operations and our dedication to being good neighbors in our communities.

On December 8 VTCA hosted a webinar to educate producers about the Toolkit and how to use it. The webinar was presented by Sarah Huddle of the Albright Group who worked with VTCA to develop the program.

Both the Toolkit and the brochure can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/AggregateToolkit>.

The Aggregate Marketing Committee will be reaching out to all VTCA aggregate members in the near future to enlist your support in making this initiative a success. Significant resources of both time and money were dedicated to the development of this outreach – it is now up to YOU to champion the initiative, creating a more conducive environment in which to operate.

Why Renew Your Membership?

“Why am I a member? VTCA provides the opportunity to build relationships with VDOT. VTCA provides the platform to network with customers and peers. VTCA keeps us current on relevant industry news. VTCA champions regulatory and funding issues as they pertain to transportation with the General Assembly and the Governor’s office.”

Your investment in VTCA provides a solid return. The Accomplishments Summary we sent with your membership renewal form in November can be read here: www.vtca.org/images/uploads/2015_Accomplishments_Summary.pdf

Your membership renewal (the Volume Report Form) was due December 11. If you have not yet done so, return your form as soon as possible. If you have any questions, any VTCA staff member will be happy to help you. As always, your support is what makes our successes on your behalf possible.

Member News

HAKS is pleased to welcome Andy Sandor as Senior Vice President for firmwide business development initiatives. His 35-year career includes overseeing and implementing business development/marketing strategies. As a civil engineer, his early career included inspection, design and project management for a diversity of projects and iconic structures, including a major rehabilitation and seismic upgrade of the Golden Gate Bridge and the rehabilitation of the Statue of Liberty. The firm also welcomes Sharon Y. Ames as Senior Vice President, South Mid-Atlantic Region. She will be responsible for business development and corporate marketing activities in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. With nearly 30 years of experience, she has strong associations with state DOTs, state, local, municipal and federal agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Aviation Administration.

ATCS is pleased to announce that Tom Schneider, PE has joined the firm as Director of Bridges and Structures. A structural engineer with 33 years of experience, his background includes design and construction of transportation structures with a focus on bridges. His portfolio includes sign and gantry structures, retaining walls, bridge rehabilitations, flyover bridges, bridge widenings, pedestrian bridges, new vehicular bridges, historic bridge replacements, superstructure replacements, viaducts, railroad bridges, forensic investigation for bridge collapse and bridge and traffic ancillary structure inspections. He also has several years of experience working in design-build and public-private partnership environments.

Mark Bodmann, PE has been named Associate with the Highway Engineering Department at **Wallace Montgomery**. He will be responsible for project management, technical quality control, and business development. Mark has over 22 years of experience as a highway project engineer providing civil engineering services for planning, design and construction of highway improvement projects and transit facilities throughout the Mid-Atlantic. He provides day to day supervision of teams of professionals performing design work and has strong experience in the design and development of plans, specifications and estimates for a wide variety of transportation projects. He earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University.

Members Say Claims Webinar “Extremely Relevant And Valuable”

VTCA offered its first members only online educational webinar on December 16. “Claims: Getting What You Are Due” was the first of a two-part series offering insights into the fundamentals of the claims process.

VTCA members Pat Genzler and Gretchen Ostroff of **Vandevanter Black LLC**, presented this timely topic which covered everything from grounds for claim entitlement, notice and procedural requirements under the new VDOT 2016 Road and Bridge Specifications to recent case law affecting claims procedures. Participants agreed that the topic was extremely relevant to their work and appreciated being able to “tune in” from their own remote locations. The course will likely be available on-demand in the near future.

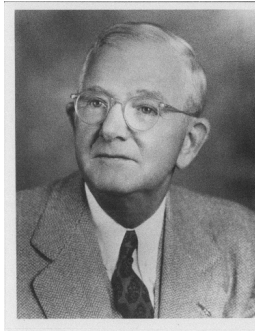
Stay tuned for Part 2, “Claims Pricing and Recent Case Updates.” Date will be announced soon.



Basic Construction Celebrates Its 100th Year!

Basic Construction Company, headquartered in Newport News, Virginia, is celebrating its 100th year in business. The commemoration includes a special salute to its late co-founder, Lloyd U. "Casey" Noland.

Noland, an orphan with a fourth-grade education, was an innovator all his life. At 26, he left the security of an engineering job in Newport News to start the Noland-Clifford Co., a mechanical contracting firm, with a partner, T.B. Clifford, and a capital investment of \$10,000.



The year was 1915, and the war in Europe was sparking a bustling economy in Newport News. By 1924, the company had expanded into utilities, highway and building construction and changed its name to the Virginia Engineering Co. Meanwhile, Casey Noland became well-known for his entrepreneurial prowess and civic spirit. His achievements included serving as president and board chairman of the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce and being elected to the Newport News City Council and Virginia Senate. He died in 1952.

In 1962, the company's name changed again, this time to Basic Construction Co. Basic left the building construction field in 1982 but continued with utilities, highway construction and asphalt paving. The company operated under the ownership of three generations of the Noland family until employees purchased the firm in 2013.

Today, as a 100 percent employee-owned company, Basic performs highway and road work, asphalt paving and production, sanitary sewer and force main work, water main installation, and storm sewer works.

Basic continues to be an award-winning provider of construction solutions. The company also has become known for dispensing expert tips about asphalt and construction services through its blog found at www.basicconstructionco.com.

Salute To Fifty And Sixty Years Of Membership!

In 1955 two progressive, forward-thinking men signed on to support the work of the Virginia Road Builders Association – Mr. H. D. Faulconer and Mr. Charles W. Barger. Sixty years later we salute **Faulconer Construction Company** and **C. W. Barger & Son Construction Company** for their unwavering support to promoting the growth and success of Virginia's transportation construction program.

In 1965, another industry leader heeded the call – Mr. T. C. "Tommy" Goodloe, **P. C. Goodloe & Son**. We salute that firm for fifty years of support.

Presidents of all three of these firms served on our Board, as officers, and ultimately as president of what is now the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance – Tommy Goodloe (1983), Jack Sanford (2003), and Chuck Barger (2008-2009). Chuck also served as president of the Virginia Aggregates Association (1996-1998).

In honor of these firms, VTCA made a contribution to the Highway Worker Memorial Scholarship Fund administered by the American Road and Transportation Builders Association.

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Virginia Transportation
Construction Alliance

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VTCA Office Closed

The VTCA office will be closed Friday, January 15 in observance of Lee/Jackson Day and Monday, January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

VTCA Quarterly Board Meeting In February

What's on Your Mind?

In July nineteen industry leaders were elected by you to work for you. The Board roster can be found here: www.vtca.org/committees/

Your Board and the VTCA staff encourage your input on industry issues. If you have something you would like the Board to address, please contact any Board or staff member. The Board next meets on February 4.

Health Care Corner

The Affordable Care Act has many levels of compliance for employers and the regulations continue to grow. In January 2016, employers that have more than 50 Full Time Equivalent employees "FTE's" will need to have forms 1094-C and 1095-C filed with the IRS. 1095-C will be provided to employees as well, it is commonly known as the "Health Care W-2". These forms will allow the IRS to monitor Applicable Large Employers "ALE's", as well as their employees' health insurance coverage.



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We Made A Typo

We apologize for the misspelling of our new member's name in last month's *Blue Top*. Please see the correction below.

Fielder's Choice Enterprises, Inc. (FCE) is a heavy/highway, excavating and utility construction company established in 1987. It is one of six family-owned companies within the Caton Companies, solely owned by Doug Caton. We are headquartered in Charlottesville, Virginia and employee over 100 people throughout the state.

Our resume is diverse. We have completed roadway and bridge projects ranging in value from \$250,000 to \$17,500,000. In addition our portfolio claims the construction of water and sewer treatment plants, along with extensive water, sewer and storm sewer systems. FCE is a player in the local administered projects arena having worked on or completed four LAP projects. Today FCE is a \$20 million construction company, and growing, with a solid expansion plan in place. FCE works under this principle: Quality First, Production Second and SAFETY ALWAYS.

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