



The AGC of North Dakota is the unified voice of the construction industry promoting quality, integrity, and commitment to completing projects successfully and safely.

January 9, 2020

Chapter News

Busy Non-Session Year

One year ago, we, AGC of ND members and staff, were busy everyday monitoring the activities of the North Dakota legislature. We testified in support of business-friendly legislation and spoke up in opposition to legislation that made doing business more difficult. While this is a non-session year and there will not be any "floor votes" during 2020, there is still a lot for us to stay up on in terms of policies and legislation. If you have any comments or questions on any of our non-session activities, do not hesitate to give Russ a call.

- Interim committees, including the Legacy Fund Earnings Committee, Agricultural and Transportation Committee, Worker's Compensation Review Committee, and Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council, are meeting to review studies and proposals. We are monitoring the work of the Legacy Fund Earnings Committee and will promote infrastructure spending as the best way to leave a legacy for future generations.
- There is continued conversation on the Unemployment Insurance fund and the assessment of a penalty against negative-balance employers. In response, we will continue to argue that the system is fair and working the way it is intended.
- Year round, we are working to build positive relationships with agencies and policy makers. This week alone we have met with two legislators, the president of one of our institutes of higher education, two governmental agencies, one of Governor Burgum's senior policy advisors, and a senior management official with the Bank of North Dakota to discuss the revolving loan fund for construction.

It's Not Too Late to Get out of North Dakota!

[REGISTER NOW](#) for the annual Winter Outing & Recessed Board meeting being held January 24th-26th at the Wild Horse Pass in Chandler, AZ. Contact [Stacey](#) if you have any questions.

First Annual North Dakota Transportation Forum

In conjunction with National Infrastructure Week, the North Dakota Transportation Coalition is hosting its First Annual Transportation Forum on May 13, 2020 in Bismarck. Participants in the Transportation Forum will discuss strategies for addressing needs for roads, bridges, rail and air in North Dakota. Attendees will hear policy makers, industry representatives, local government officials, and state agencies discuss transportation needs in our state, how these needs impact them, and how North Dakota is addressing infrastructure.

Formed in 2019, the ND Transportation Coalition is comprised of the AGC of ND and 19 other statewide and regional trade associations, agricultural groups, political subdivisions, and business entities who all know how critical transportation infrastructure is to our future. The Coalition's purpose is to advance and enhance our state's transportation infrastructure through sustainable funding and public policy.

Click [here](#) to see the full agenda. Registration is now open.

New NDDOT Electronic Signature for Contracts

Effective for the February 7, 2020 bid opening, the NDDOT will be using an electronic signature process called DocuSign to execute NDDOT construction contracts and associated documents (Contract Bond and Fuel Cost Adjustment Affidavit).

There are no costs for Contractors to use DocuSign. Nor is there any software to purchase or download.

Contractors who are awarded NDDOT construction contracts (excluding city/county contracts) will receive an email from the Department with instructions to complete the contract process. Once the contractor and their surety have completed their part in the electronic contract process, the documents will be automatically returned to the Department. The Department will then complete its part in the contract execution process electronically as well. When all parties have completed the contract execution process, the contractor will receive an electronic copy of the executed contract.

To facilitate the DocuSign electronic signature process, the Department needs to have a current email address on file. Therefore, AASHTO Project Bids will be updated to capture a point of contact email address for each bidder. The Electronic Bid Submission Certification tab in Project Bids will contain the following new language:

If your firm is awarded the low bid for this contract. The NDDOT may send the contract documents to you for electronic signing via DocuSign.

In the space below, please provide the processing Point of Contact email address for receiving the electronic contract documents. The Point of Contact isn't necessarily the person who signs the contract documents.

Point of Contact (email address)

If you have any questions, please contact the NDDOT Construction Services Division at 701-328-2563.

Classes are Filling Up – REGISTER NOW

Construction Supervision Fundamentals

This highly interactive course presents basic information about the skills and knowledge needed for successful construction supervision across all types of commercial construction. The 25 hour course consists of nine sessions including Team Management & Leadership, Communication Skills, Project Scheduling, Risk Management, Construction Law & Contract Documents, Productivity & Cost Control.

- March 10-12, 2020 – Bismarck - Class is Full - Contact [Carey](#) to get on a wait list
- March 24-26, 2020 - Dickinson - ONLY 1 SPOT LEFT - [Register Here](#)
- March 31-April 2, 2020 – Fargo - Class is Full -Contact [Carey](#) to get on a wait list
- April 14-16, 2020 – Grand Forks - Class is Full -Contact [Carey](#) to get on a wait list

Erosion & Sediment Control Certification

The NDDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Construction Certification Program provides information on regulations & special provisions; temporary & permanent erosion and sediment control measures; SWPPP development & management; and project management & phasing. This certification is **mandatory** for NDDOT personnel, prime/sub-contractors, contractors responsible for installation of erosion/sediment control measures, private consultants working on NDDOT construction projects.

- January 28-29, 2020 – Bismarck - Class is Full
- February 11-12, 2020 – Fargo - Class is Full
- February 18-19, 2020 – Bismarck - Class is Full
- March 3-4, 2020 – Fargo - Class is Full
- March 24-25, 2020 - Bismarck - **Limited Spots Available** - [Register Here](#)

Crane Operator Certification/Recertification & Rigger Level 1/Signalperson Qualification

The AGC has booked Herzog Construction for two weeks of training this year – March 31-April 3, 2020 and April 14-17, 2020. Please let Carey know by **January 15th** if you are interested in either the Crane Operator Certification/Recertification class or Rig/Sig class. Final details will be set for the classes by February 1st. [Email Carey](#)

OSHA 30

This 30-hour training program is intended to provide workers with some safety responsibility a greater depth and variety of training. Training emphasizes hazard identification, avoidance, control and prevention.

- January 21-23, 2020 – Bismarck – [Email Jack to Register](#)
- January 28-30, 2020 - Bismarck - [Email Jack to Register](#)

OSHA 10

This 10-hour safety course for workers covers general safety and health hazards and is free to members.

- February 5-6, 2020 – Minot – [Email Jack to Register](#)
- February 11-12, 2020 – Bismarck – [Email Jack to Register](#)

Support the AGC NDSU Student Chapter

Since being founded in 1971, the NDSU AGC Student Chapter has offered construction management and engineering students the chance to gain real-life experience through large group meetings with contractors, construction site visits, and the Associated Schools of Construction competition. Unfortunately, these are poor college kids and they must rely on the generosity of industry partners to cover the costs of these activities. [CLICK HERE](#) to make a donation or to become a sponsor of the AGC NDSU Student Chapter.

Call for NDDOT Spec Issues

The next AGC/NDDOT Spec Committee Meeting will be held on January 22, 2020. If you would like to submit an issue for consideration, please use the [Issue Submittal Form](#). If you have any questions, contact Spec Committee Chair [Ted Billadeau](#).

Dates to Remember

January 24-26, 2020 – [Winter Outing & Recessed Board Meeting – Chandler, AZ](#)
 May 6-7, 2020 – [Joint AGC/COE Meeting – Omaha, ND](#)
 May 16, 2020 - [Touch A Truck - Mandan, ND](#)
 July 15-16, 2020: [AGC of ND Summer Outing Scholarship Fundraiser - Bismarck, ND](#)

[For a complete list of AGC of North Dakota events click here](#)

Bid Lettings

Bid Envelopes are available at the office, contact [Stacey](#).

ND-DOT

February 7, 2020
 March 6, 2020
 April 17, 2020

MN-DOT

January 31, 2020
 February 28, 2020
 March 27, 2020

MDT

January 23, 2020
 February 13, 2020
 February 27, 2020

SD-DOT

January 22, 2020
 February 5, 2020
 February 19, 2020

WY-DOT

January 9, 2020
 February 13, 2020
 March 12, 2020

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 Matt Halvorson, Sec/Treas
 Chad Erickson, Division VP
 Steve Farden, Division VP
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Tom Todd
 Dave Zavoral
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 Paul Diederich
 Paul Hartmann
 Eric Johnson

Randy Johnson
 Steve McCormick
 Harley Nesheim
 Rob Rebel
 Nancy Slotten

Member News

[Want to see your news here? Contact Carey.](#)

National News

DOL and DHS Scrap H-2B Newspaper Advertising Requirement

The U.S. Departments of Labor (DOL) and Homeland Security (DHS) posted a Final Rule on the Office of Foreign Labor Certification (OFLC) website amending the regulations that govern the H-2B temporary non-agricultural labor certification. The Departments are modernizing and improving the labor market test that the DOL uses to assess whether qualified American workers are available to fill temporary non-agricultural jobs by: (1) rescinding the requirement that all employers advertise in a print newspaper of general circulation in the area of intended employment; and (2) advertising of all H-2B opportunities on [SeasonalJobs.dol.gov](#), the expanded and improved version of the DOL's existing electronic job registry. [CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

OSHA Issues Temporary Enforcement Policy for Crane Operator Certifications Issued by Crane Institute Certification (CIC)

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a temporary enforcement policy to allow for crane operator certifications issued prior to December 2, 2019 by the Crane Institute Certification (CIC) to be temporarily accepted by the agency. OSHA requires crane operators engaged in construction activity to be certified by an entity holding accreditation through a nationally recognized agency. CIC no longer holds such accreditation. The policy explains that, although CIC-issued certifications are not compliant with OSHA's operator certification requirement, OSHA does not intend to cite employers for operating equipment that violates that requirement if their operators, in good faith, obtained CIC-issued certifications prior to December 2, with the belief the certifications met the standard's requirements. Until further notice, OSHA will not accept CIC certifications – including re-certifications – issued on or after December 2, 2019. [CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

Toolbox Talk Series

AGC of America's Lean Construction Forum Steering Committee has developed a resource to introduce Lean Construction concepts to the jobsite. The [AGC Lean for Trades Toolbox Talk Series](#) are 10-minute conversational huddles to help construction companies identify ways to improve processes, eliminate waste and adopt a Lean culture in the shop and field. Each Toolbox Talk session, released monthly, reviews a concept that can be used to create discussion, teach and grow your company's understanding of Lean and help you work more productively and collaboratively.

This month, the Lean Construction Forum Steering Committee highlights 8 Wastes in Construction:

- [8 Wastes in Construction PowerPoint](#)
- [8 Wastes in Construction PDF](#)
- [8 Wastes in Construction Printable Card](#)

AGC WebEd/Podcasts

[CLICK HERE](#) to access all AGC of America WebEds

[CLICK HERE](#) to access all AGC of America PodCasts

Workforce Worries Persist: 2020 Hiring & Business Outlook – January 13th – 12:00pm-1:00pm: Will 2020 be a good year for the construction industry? Will the worker shortage ease or worsen? How are contractors turning to training and technology to work more efficiently? Hear how contractors answered these questions in the 2020 AGC of America-Sage Hiring and Business Outlook Survey, along with the steps AGC of America is taking to help. In this lively one-hour WebEd, you'll hear from AGC CEO Steve Sandherr, Chief Economist Ken Simonson, and Sage VP Dustin Anderson, and you'll get to pose your own questions. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Training/ Education Opportunities

Please contact [Jack](#) if you would like to register or if you need training that is not listed. As always, these classes are free to AGC members.

7,072
Training Hours YTD
Provided by AGC of ND

OSHA 30

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OSHA 10

February 5-6, 2020 - Minot - [Email Jack to Register](#)

February 11-12, 2020 - Bismarck - [Email Jack to Register](#)

Construction Supervision Fundamentals Class

Limit 3 spots per company

March 10-12, 2020 – Bismarck - Class is Full - Contact [Carey](#) to get on a wait list

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Crane Operator Certification Class

March 31-April 3, 2020 - TBD

April 14-17, 2020 – TBD

AGC/NDDOT Erosion & Sediment Control Certification Class

January 28-29, 2020 – Bismarck - Class is Full

February 11-12, 2020 – Fargo - Class is Full

February 18-19, 2020 – Bismarck - Class is Full

March 3-4, 2020 – Fargo - Class is Full

March 24-25, 2020 - Bismarck - [Register Here](#)

Member Benefits

The following offers are some of the membership benefits of the AGC of North Dakota. Check them out and start getting the advantages now.

[AGC of America Member Discounts](#)

[National Purchasing Partners - AGC of North Dakota](#)

[General Project Advertisements - View and List Project Opportunities](#)

[AGC Career Center - Find a Job, Post a Resume or Job Opening](#)

