



Brought to you by TACERA

Texas Association of County Engineers & Road Administrators
www.TACERA1.COM

WHAT IS TACERA?

The Texas Association of County Engineers and Road Administrators is a professional organization which was chartered in 1987 to provide technical and professional interchange. Membership is open to all county road engineers, administrators and their staff. TACERA is affiliated with the National Association of County Engineers (NACE) and the Texas Public Works Association (TPWA). Our organization is headquartered in Austin, TX. This allows TACERA to bring its members timely, informative programs and services.

TACERA partners with LTAP to provide continuing education credits for professional engineers and county commissioners. Our annual conference and one-day workshops provide an opportunity to earn CEUs for your professional requirements.



TACERA 2018 Conference & Golf Tournament

by Charlie Hastings, P.E., CFM, County Engineer,
 Kerr County – Current TACERA Vice President



Celebrate TACERA's 30th Anniversary at the annual Fall Conference and Golf Tournament in San Antonio, TX, October 15-

18! Make your reservations now at the Wyndham Riverwalk Hotel (111 Pecan Street, San Antonio, TX 78205), space is limited and sure to sell out early.

The conference opens up on Monday October 15th with a shotgun start golf tournament at The Quarry Golf Club (444 East Basse Road, San Antonio, TX 78209), an award-winning golf course, designed by nationally-recognized golf designer Keith Foster. This tournament benefits several established TACERA college scholarships. Tuesday October 16th marks the first day of concurrent technical sessions and professional exhibits both located on the second floor of the Wyndham. There will be four networking breaks, capped with TACERA's 30th Anniversary Opening Reception and special recognition to our former presidents/founding fathers and door prizes. Wednesday October 17th begins the second day of concurrent technical sessions and professional exhibits, four networking breaks and an evening networking social and door prizes. Thursday October 18th is the final day of technical sessions, culminating with Engineer and Administrator of the year awards, and welcoming your new TACERA officers into their 2018-19 terms.

In summary, this conference boasts 200+ County Road Officials, 40+ Exhibits, 20+ Presentations, 10+ Networking

Opportunities, and 13+ Professional Development Hours. See you on the Riverwalk in San Antonio!

2018 Waxahachie One-Day Workshop

by Joseph Jackson, P.E., CFM, County Engineer,
 Ellis County – Current Board Director

Another successful TACERA One Day Workshop took place on Thursday, March 29, 2018 in the Courts and Administration Building of Waxahachie, Texas. There were 30 registered attendees at the event including staff from Bell, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Johnson, Moore, and Tarrant Counties. Topics were presented by the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) Texas Local Technical Assistance Program (TxLTAP) staff.

Topics presented were: Maintaining Asphalt Pavement, County Signage Issues, Tort Liability, and Road Crew Safety. Mr. Kent Nobis with Integrated Pavement Solutions (IPS), the Platinum Sponsor of the event,



presented on Effective Strategies for Lowering the Cost of Pavement Assets.

On behalf of the TACERA Board, I would like to extend many thanks to TACERA Office Staff (Markie and Selina) for the hard work put into organizing the event. I would also like to extend a thank you to our Platinum Sponsor (Integrated Pavement Solutions) and Silver Sponsors (Big R Bridge and B-Greener Industrial Cleaners). Aaron, with Big R Bridge, was able to park a sample bridge structure directly outside of the building for display to

the attendees. Finally, I would like to thank Dawn Hinton, Eldon McCurley, Keith Johnson, and David Hearnberger with the TxLTAP for providing valuable training and education to the attendees.



2018 Amarillo One-Day Workshop

by Chad Davis, P.E., CFM, County Engineer,
 Wise County – Current TACERA President

We had a good turn out from the panhandle region for our One-Day workshop in Amarillo. TxLTAP provided an interesting program about safety concerns in the workplace and offered several suggestions for improving safety for both the traveling public as well as the work crews. Hopefully everyone was able to put into practice the ideas conveyed at the workshop.

We had several vendors from the region represented as well as a few vendors who brought equipment to showcase during the breaks for all the members to see and "put their hands on". Special Thanks go out to Wes McDougal for his efforts in soliciting vendors and putting this workshop on as well as Randall County for allowing us to their facility, which was a very nice venue for our workshop.

Would you like to host a TACERA workshop?

Contact us! Tacera1@att.net

2018 NACE Conference

by Robert Berndt, REM
Tarrant County – TACERA Past President

The 2018 NACE Annual Conference was held in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin on April 22 to April 26, 2018 at the Wisconsin Dells Center and Chula Vista Resort. Texas was represented by Robert Berndt, Joe Trammel, Bill Riley and Keith Melton from Tarrant County, Tony Vasquez from Bexar County, Bryan Neaves from Bell County, Charlie Hastings from Kerr County, Yancy Scott from Waller County, and Debra Dehn from the Texas LTAP. The Texas group was 14 members strong including the spouses who attend the event. We also had some attendees from the private sector including Bart Williamson from DTS.

Some of the Texas highlights from the Conference included Yancy Scott giving a presentation on Wednesday during the Emergency Preparedness Track about Transportation Disaster Damage Assessment, Bill Riley winning a door prize from the Kansas Delegation, NACE deciding to come to San Antonio for their Fall 2018 Board Meeting during the TACERA Conference and the Texas Hospitality Room Party for the NACE Executive Board and State Board Members to inform the group about the fun they will have in San Antonio during our State Conference. The Texas State Affiliate Dinner was in the Texas Hospitality Room with pizza from MooseJaw Pizza on Monday night. It was a great evening of pizza, beer and fellowship with our Texas friends and family.



Your Texas delegation attended several NACE committee meetings during the Conference. Robert attended the Awards Committee meeting. Yancy attended the Unpaved Roads Committee meeting. Joe attended the Safety Committee meeting and Tony attended the Board of Directors meetings. Serving on NACE Committees is a great way to stay informed on breaking national issues and get your say on topics for the next NACE Conference.

The amount of topics covered at the Conference are too numerous to mention but the attendees had their choice of three to four different topics during each program

track. The two days in the Exhibit Hall brought companies from all over the United States. Your delegation made many contacts and hopes to bring new vendors to the TACERA conference in October. Please check out the TACERA picture page on the website to view some of the snapshots of the Texas folks in Wisconsin.

NACE 2019 will be held in Wichita, Kansas from April 14 to April 18, 2019. Make sure you include money in your budgets to attend this event next year. The knowledge and contacts you will make at this Conference will enhance your professional career and give you the tools to perform your county job better. If you have any questions about the NACE Conference, please contact anyone of this year's attendees.



TACERA Environmental Corner

by Robert Berndt, REM, Tarrant County
TACERA Past President

The TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair and Conference was held on May 15 and 16, 2018 at the Austin Convention Center. I attended the Conference and was overwhelmed by the amount of new environmental issues and changes coming toward the regulated public.

First, if your facility submits Tier Two Reports to the TCEQ before March 1 of every year, you will have to enter the information into a different program. Instead of using Tier 2 Submit from the EPA, you will enter your report directly into STEERS program on the TCEQ website. Please make sure you leave plenty of time to complete this report and do not wait until the last week of February 2019.

Are you in charge of the Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) at your site or facility? A new set of rules and regulations went into effect in May of this year regarding UST rules and regulations. Many of the new rules and regulations do not start until 2020 but you will need to start planning right now to be ready for the changes. The TCEQ plans to have training classes in the near future but you need to connect to the TCEQ website and start to review what needs to be done now and what can wait.

Finally, stormwater issues are moving and shaking. The TPDES Construction Stormwater

Permit was updated in March and there are a few new issues that need to be addressed at construction sites. Also, starting September 1, 2018, the TCEQ will not accept paper NOIs for Construction Sites. In the MS4 Stormwater Program, the current 5 Year Permit expires this year. The new permit should be ready for review and public comment late summer or early fall.

Please keep up on all these issues by reviewing the TCEQ website regularly. By following instructions on the website, you can receive email updates on all of these programs and the changing environmental rules and regulations.

A Note from the President

By Chad Davis, P.E., CFM, County Engineer,
Wise County – Current TACERA President

Our Annual conference is quickly approaching and our Vice President, Charlie Hastings has put together a list of speakers to provide helpful information to our members; both Engineers as well as Road Administrators alike. Everything is starting to come together for our 30th Anniversary Celebration and we look forward to everyone getting together in San Antonio for a great time. The room blocks at the Wyndham Hotel are going fast so don't waste any time signing up. Check it out on our website (TACERA1) and our Facebook page and feel free to comment/like/share any other interesting facts or stories that can benefit our members.

Upcoming Events/Training

TACERA Annual Conference

October 15-18, 2018

[Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk](#)

www.tacera1.com



TACERA Award Nominations

TACERA recognizes individuals that demonstrate excellence in our profession. In the past, we have awarded the "County Engineer / Road Administrator of the Year" at our annual conference. Eligible candidates for this award are County Engineers, Commissioner's Court Appointed Road Administrators, Public Work Directors, or Staff Engineers.

A nominee for "County Engineer / Road Administrator of the Year" has shown excellence in the field of public works management, promoting public safety and preserving & enhancing road infrastructure. This individual has demonstrated dedication through administration of his/her county's road management program in pursuing the goals of safe roadways while staying within budget.

Again, this year, TACERA is adding the "County Road Employee of the Year" award. Eligible candidates for this award are County Road Supervisors, Equipment Operators, Road Hands, Road Office Administrators or Staff. A nominee for "County Road Employee of the Year" has shown excellence in performing road work duties, interacting with the public and furthering employee safety. This individual has demonstrated dedication to county road work policies, started new or improved current county road procedures and pursued the goals of safe work practices during county roadway maintenance and construction.

This year, TACERA is awarding "Honorary Membership." Eligible candidates include any current or former County Engineers, Road Administrators, Public Work Directors, Staff Engineers, Road Supervisors, Equipment Operators, Road Hands, Road Office Administrators or County Staff whose contributions and dedication to the field make their continued involvement with TACERA highly valuable. The selected individual(s) will receive free lifetime membership in the hopes that they will remain a source of technical and institutional knowledge of public works, safety and road infrastructure even after retirement.

Please be aware that TACERA's four person judging panel will be rotating every year. Therefore, we will have a different panel of judges from last year. Our judges are chosen

from a pool of current and former TACERA members.

We would like your nominations for these awards. Nominations will be accepted from County Judges, County Commissioners and/or TACERA Members. Winners will be announced at the 2018 TACERA Fall Conference in San Antonio which will be held October 15th through October 18th, 2018.

Please return completed nomination forms by August 31st, 2018 to the TACERA Executive Office at tacera1@att.net or by fax at (512) 260-1409.

Industry News

TEXAS LTAP SPRING NEWSLETTER
[HTTP://WWW.TXLTAP.COM/MEDIA/NEWS/TXLTAP%20BETTER%20ROADS%20Afer%20ROADS%20MAY2018_FINAL.PDF](http://www.txltap.com/media/news/txltap%20better%20roads%20afer%20roads%20may2018_final.pdf)

WHEN PUSH COMES TO SHOVE THESE ARE LOCAL LEADERS PRIORITIES
<https://www.routeifty.com/management/2018/07/when-push-comes-shove-these-are-local-leaders-priorities/149609/>

NACE AND FHWA PARTNER TO PROMOTE LOCAL ROAD SAFETY PLANS
https://www.countyengineers.org/nace-news-18jun_3

NACE WELCOMES KEVAN STONE AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
https://www.countyengineers.org/nace-news-18may_2

[BridgeReports.com](http://www.bridgereports.com) is a searchable version of the [National Bridge Inventory](#) (2017 edition)

Membership News

Congratulations to Joseph Jackson, Asst. County Engineer in Ellis County and TACERA Board Member, on successfully passing his exam to become a Professional Engineer!



*We hope you enjoyed this newsletter!
 Feel free to contact the board members with suggestions, news, or interesting articles!*

*Until Next time,
 TACERA Board of Directors*

