



AGC of Texas

Highway, Heavy, Utilities & Industrial Branch

E-BULLETIN

QUICK LINKS:

[August 2010 CD Request Form](#)

July 13, 2010

Commission Names TxDOT Reformers

At the special meeting July 2, the Texas Transportation Commission voted to appoint a former Sunset Advisory Commission member, Howard Wolf, and Texas Youth Commission reformer, Jay Kimbrough, to head up a reorganization effort of the Texas Department of Transportation.

Over the past decade, Kimbrough has been appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to many positions involving homeland security and law enforcement issues -- most recently as conservator of Texas Youth Commission, overseeing massive reforms. Wolf is an Austin-based attorney and investor, appointed in 2003 to the Sunset Advisory Commission by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst.

The reorganization was prompted by an external audit report from firm Grant Thornton, received on May 26, suggesting a long list of reforms to be made in the state's transportation division. Other members of the reorganization committee will be appointed in the near future.

TxDOT Administrative Announcements

[Casey](#)

[Macik](#)

The Texas Department of Transportation has announced the appointment of John Casey to the position of Corpus Christi district engineer. Most recently, John was Vice-President for T.Y. Lin International.

San Angelo District Engineer Walter McCullough has also announced his retirement. Effective Date and official Administrative Announcement has not yet been released, but will be provided shortly.

Executive Secretary Shirley Macik has also announced her retirement, with more than 37 years with the department.

To learn more about John Casey or Shirley Macik, please click on their Administrative Announcements.

DOL to Host Information and Outreach Forum

[Flyer](#)

[Registration](#)

The United States Department of Labor will provide free workshops designed to assist employers, community based organizations, and others in gaining knowledge of Federal labor laws. The Wage and Hour Division, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA), Veterans Employment and Training Service, and Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) will provide presentations on FLSA, FMLA, Davis Bacon, and Service Contract Act. The event will take place on August 20, 2010 at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Please see the above invitation and registration form for all event details.

Texas Department of Rural Affairs Updates Project List

[Projects](#)

The TDRA has updated its project list. To view the latest list, click the link above.

Texas811/DigTess to Host Local Safety Meetings

[Invite](#)

Linked above is an invitation to upcoming safety meetings in Texas. If you are interested in attending, please call (877) 280-8636 or fill out the invitation and fax it to (877) 280-8637. You may also register online at www.digtess.org.

2010 Nominating Committee

In accordance with the chapter constitution and by-laws, the 2010 Nominating Committee has been appointed by President Larry Johnson and consists of the seven most recent, active past presidents of the chapter:

Chairman, Jack Albert, Reece Albert, Inc., 325/653-1241
Tracy Schieffer, A.L. Helmcamp, 903/626-5911
Jim Andoga, Austin Bridge & Road, 214/596-7320
Zack Burkett, III, Zack Burkett Company, 940/549-0436
Terry Bryant, Jones Bros Dirt & Paving Construction, Inc. 432/332-0721
Art Daniel, A.R. Daniel Construction Services, Inc., 972/291-3304
John R. Weisman, Hunter Industries, LTD, 512/353-7757

If you would like to make a recommendation for the chapter board of directors please contact any member of the Nominating Committee. If you would like to present your recommendation to the Nominating Committee, they will meet Wednesday, September 8 at 11:00 a.m. and again at 2:00 p.m. or immediately following the membership luncheon, and again Wednesday, October 20 at 9:30 a.m. All three meetings will be held at the chapter office, 300 Barton Springs Road in Austin. Members are encouraged to contact any of the committee members and make nominations for chapter directors for 2011-2012.

In addition to directors, the chapter Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for Life Members. The chapter constitution and by-laws state: "Section 3. The Branch may, by affirmative vote of the members, at the recommendation of the Directors, grant the title 'Life Member' to any individual who has ceased to be active in the construction industry providing the individual, firm, or corporation has been an active member for at least five years prior to nomination as a 'Life Member.'"

Please send recommendations to the chapter office by fax, 512/478-7936, mail to P.O. Box 2185, Austin, Texas 78768, or to dkoehler@agctx.org.

July Low Bid Results

	Construction Jobs	Maintenance Jobs
Total Low Bids	\$507,319,699.23	\$28,195,583.65
Total Second Low Bids	\$536,028,940.66	\$30,544,434.73
Amount Left on the Table	\$28,709,241.43	\$2,348,851.08
% of Low Bids Left on the Table	5.66	8.33
Average Number of Bidders per Job	5.44	5.04
Total of the Engineer's Estimate	\$553,511,399.38	\$28,589,685.24
Difference between Estimate & Low	-\$46,191,700.15	-\$394,101.59
% Over/Under Engineer's Estimate	-8.35	-1.38
Total Number of Projects	136	25

August Local and Statewide Letting Estimates

August Local and Statewide Letting Estimates: The August letting is scheduled for August 10 and 11 and currently is estimated at \$635.93 million for 235 projects statewide and \$32.79 million for 22 projects local-let. The monthly luncheon will be held August 10 at the Four Seasons Hotel.

To view the current letting schedule, go to <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/business/schedule.htm>. To view more information regarding the locally let projects, click on the appropriate month at the bottom of the page.

In Memoriam: Billie Don Willis

Billy Don was born in Lawn, Texas to Dick and Jewell Willis on March 30, 1937. He graduated from Lawn High School and electrical training school. He married Barbara McCollum August 31, 1956 in Abilene. He worked with Willis Electric Company for 50 plus years. He was a member of Southwest Park Baptist Church and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Billy Don was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, and one sister. Don is survived by his wife, Barbara Willis; daughter, Donna Wise and her husband, David, of Abilene; another daughter, Sharon Hill and her husband, Greg, of Oviedo, Florida; his brother, Lonnie Willis and his wife, Maggie, of Garland; two sisters, Dickie Haggard and Anita Dumis and her husband, Mack, of Abilene; his sister-in-law, Sue Willis of Abilene; four grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Memorials may be made to Hendrick Hospice Care, 1682 Hickory, Abilene, Texas 79601. The family of Billy Don wishes to extend our sincere thanks to Hospice and all of those who cared for Don during his illness.