

# OHIO VALLEY CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYERS COUNCIL

March 21, 2017

Weekly Bulletin

## OVCEC

The Ohio Valley Construction Employers Council, Inc. is a multiemployer contractors' trade association consisting of member firms primarily engaged in the construction and related industries. Organized in the 1940's as the Ohio Valley Builders Exchange, Inc.,

The organization grew out of a conviction among a group of astute, farsighted contractors that industry objectives can best be attained by team work and cooperation - by  
ASSOCIATION.

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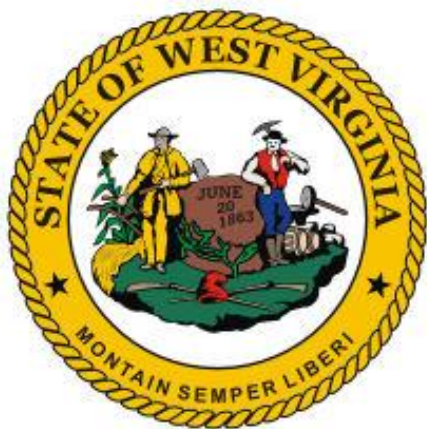
## Upcoming Events

OVCEC Annual Golf Shamble – May 1

OVCEC Stag General Membership Meeting and Steak Fry – May 18

## WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Budget - Deliberations continue in the Senate on the difficult issues surrounding the state budget. A Senate Finance sub-committee has passed out to the full Finance Committee a bill (SB 335) that creates a sweeping array of taxes and revenue enhancements. Chief among them is an 8% sales tax imposed on most sales transactions, including utility bills, food and most personalized by and professional services. The bill also reduces corporate and personal income tax rates over a number of years. The bill will be considered by the full Committee sometime this week. A close vote is expected in the Finance Committee and,



especially, the Senate floor. House of Delegate leadership has expressed deep skepticism about the Senate proposal. The House leadership has publicly stated its intention to cut government spending to balance the state's budget and expected \$400-500 million deficit.

**SB 399** - a bill that would prohibit any local jurisdiction or political sub-division from enacting an ordinance, policy or rule that would allow consideration of the benefits employers provide to employees before public works projects are awarded. The bill is being pushed by the Associated Builders and Contractors who believe that current benefit information requirements prejudice non-union contractors. The bill currently sits in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

**SB 224** - the bill that eliminates wage bond requirements has passed the House and has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. The committee is expected to consider the bill next week.

**HB 2554** - this is the Contractors Licensing bill that has been reported on in earlier reports. The committee substitute has passed the House and has been referred to the Senate Government Organization committee. I expect the committee will put the bill on its calendar once the Legislature has reached the "crossover day". Crossover day is the benchmark date when all bills must pass their house of origination. That date is the 50th legislative day.

**SB 190** - this is the bill that eliminates the 5% in state vendor preference for state printing and heavy equipment sales transactions. The bill has passed the Senate and has been referred to the House Government Organizations Committee then Finance.

## **CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT STAGNANT AS WEST VIRGINIA RANKS 47TH IN CONSTRUCTION JOBS**

West Virginia ranks 47 in construction employment figures. In the latest analysis of U.S. Labor Department data released by AGC of America, Alaska lost the highest percent and total number of construction jobs between January 2016 and January 2017 (-10.1 percent, -1,700 jobs.) West Virginia lost 600 jobs, a 1.9 percent decline over the past year. In January 2016, 31,200 West Virginians were working in West Virginia's construction industry. In January 2017, that number had dropped to 30,600. This puts West Virginia 47th out of 50 states and the District of Columbia. Alaska is last at 51.

## **SENATE COMMITTEES TO TAKE UP GOVERNOR'S ROAD BILLS THIS WEEK**

Governor Justice's bills on highway funding are moving in Senate Transportation and Infrastructure and Senate Finance committees. S.B. 482 continues the tolls on the WV Turnpike and increases tolls that can be used to bond future road projects. S.B. 477 increases funding for the WVDOH through raising DMV fees and raising the gas tax. Both have passed the T&I Committee and will go to Senate Finance this week.

## **TODAY LAST DAY TO INTRODUCE BILLS**

Last Tuesday was the last day to introduce bills in the House. Over 1100 bills were introduced in the House this session. Today is the last day for Senate bills. As of Friday, almost 390 Senate bills have been introduced. Bills must be out of committee in their house of origin by March 26 to ensure three full days for reading. This week will be busy as committees work toward this deadline

## OHIO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



**Budget** - legislative activity in the Ohio General Assembly is monopolized by daily budget hearings as it considers Governor Kasich's two year \$144 million spending plan. Kasich's budget contemplates: raising the state sales tax from 5.75% to 6.25%; eliminating professional sales tax exemptions; increasing the severance tax on oil and natural gas production; and, increasing taxes on beer, wine and alcohol. The Governor's budget also calls for lowering the personal income tax rates and the number of tax brackets. Kasich has earmarked \$425 million for local infrastructure improvement projects such as roads, bridges, water and sewer systems.

**SB 72** - has been introduced in the Ohio Senate. The bill would allow political subdivisions and higher education institutions to apply prevailing wage requirements on public projects.

## PLAN ROOM NEWS

### HARRISON COUNTY, WV – WATTERS SMITH MEMORIAL STATE PARK POOL DEMO PROJECT

BID DATE:	<b>March 23, 2017 (1:30 p.m.)</b>	BIDS TO:	Dept. of Administration, Charleston, WV
ARCHITECT:	Alpha Associates, Inc.	PRE-BID:	<b>MANDATORY – 3/9/17 (10:00 a.m.)</b>
PLANS RECEIVED:	3/1/17		

### WHEELING, WV – HOME FOR MEN – ELEVATOR & LOBBY ADDITION

BID DATE:	<b>March 30, 2017 (2:00 p.m.)</b>	BIDS TO:	Home for Men – Wheeling, WV
ARCHITECT:	M&G Architects & Engineers	PRE-BID:	<b>MANDATORY – 3/16/17 (2:00 p.m.)</b>
PLANS RECEIVED:	3/13/17	ADDENDA:	#1, #2

### STEUBENVILLE, OH – JMHA – EARL F. RODGERS PLAZA – ROOF REPLACEMENT

BID DATE:	<b>March 31, 2017 (1:30 p.m.)</b>	BIDS TO:	Exec. Dir. – JMHA – Steubenville, OH
ARCHITECT:	Shaffer & Madama, Inc.	PRE-BID:	<b>3/21/17 (3:00 p.m.)</b>
PLANS RECEIVED:	3/9/17		

### MONTGOMERY, WV – WVU – TECH HI-RISE DEMOLITION – WV TECH CAMPUS

BID DATE:	<b>April 4, 2017 (3:00 p.m.)</b>	BIDS TO:	WVU Procurement – Morgantown, WV
ENGINEER:	Thrasher Engineering	PRE-BID:	<b>MANDATORY – 3/21/17 (10:30 a.m.)</b>
PLANS RECEIVED:	3/14/17		

### HUNTINGTON, WV – MARSHALL UNIVERSITY – JOAN C. EDWARDS STADIUM – PHASE 2 RESTORATION

BID DATE:	<b>April 6, 2017 (3:00 p.m.)</b>	BIDS TO:	Office of Purchasing – Huntington, WV
ARCHITECT:	THP Limited, Inc.	PRE-BID:	<b>3/23/17 (10:00 a.m.)</b>
PLANS RECEIVED:	3/10/17		

### WEST LIBERTY, WV – WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY – ELEVATOR REPLACEMENT FOR PAUL N. ELBIN LIBRARY

BID DATE:	<b>April 7, 2017</b>	BIDS TO:	West Liberty University – West Liberty, WV
ARCHITECT:	M & G Architects & Engineers	PRE-BID:	<b>3/24/17 (10:00 a.m.)</b>
PLANS RECEIVED:	3/20/17		

### WHEELING, WV – FORT HENRY BUILDING – FRONT PORCH RESTORATION

BID DATE:	<b>April 10, 2017 (3:00 p.m.)</b>	BIDS TO:	McKinley and Assoc. – Wheeling, WV
ARCHITECT:	McKinley and Associates	PRE-BID:	<b>MANDATORY – 3/29/17 (3:00 p.m.)</b>

### BUFFALO, WV – BUFFALO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RENOVATIONS

BID DATE:	<b>April 13, 2017 (1:30 p.m.)</b>	BIDS TO:	Putnam Co. Bd. of Edu. – Winfield, WV
ARCHITECT:	Williamson & Shriver, Inc.	PRE-BID:	<b>MANDATORY – 3/29/17 (1:30 p.m.)</b>
PLANS RECEIVED:	3/7/17		

**HUNTINGTON, WV – LABORATORY & OFFICE ALTERATIONS – ROBERT C. BYRD BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTER**

BID DATE: **April 13, 2017 (3:00 p.m.)** BIDS TO: Office of Purchasing – Huntington, WV  
ARCHITECT: Edward Tucker Architects, Inc PRE-BID: **MANDATORY – 3/30/17 (10:00 a.m.)**  
PLANS RECEIVED: 3/20/17

**BELMONT, OH – UNION LOCAL SCHOOLS – ROADWAY REPLACEMENT PAVING PROJECT**

BID DATE: **April 20, 2017 (3:00 p.m.)** BIDS TO: Union Local School Dist – Belmont, OH  
ARCHITECT: GreenCore Designs, Inc PRE-BID: **MANDATORY – 4/5/17 (10:00 a.m.)**  
PLANS RECEIVED: 3/17/17

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**APPARENT LOW BIDDER**

**WHEELING, WV – WHEELING PARK STONE BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT**

APPARENT LOW: KONRAD CONSTRUCTION-VALLEY GROVE, WV

PHONE: 304-907-2605

**2017 OSHA TRAINING**

Project BEST Safety Consultant Ty Lollini of 1949 Consulting, LLC will be conducting the classes listed below for Project BEST contributors in WHEELING at the OVCEC safety training room located at 21 Armory Drive in Wheeling, WV and in STEUBENVILLE at 626 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, (IBEW Hall) Steubenville, OH. Please note which location the class is being held.

**APRIL 20 – 21: 10 HOUR IN WHEELING**

**APRIL 24 – 27: 30 HOUR WHEELING**

PRE-REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY! CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO 20 PERSONS.

CONTACT LISA AT: (304) 214-9800 or at [lisa@projectbest.com](mailto:lisa@projectbest.com).

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*Reminder: All safety training classes will be **FREE** to Project **BEST** Contributors.*

*No shows who have made reservations will be charged **\$25.00**.*

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*Although OSHA has no expiration date on the 10 and 30-hour safety training cards, they might be considered by our customers as outdated, requiring you to obtain a new card.*

*You are advised to check accordingly before you go to the work site.*

**ADDITIONAL TRAINING INFORMATION**

The 10-hour, 30-hour and specific type training classes can be provided by contacting the safety consultant and scheduled so long as (5) or more persons are scheduled for attendance and advance notice of one week is

made with the instructor. Locations for training will be dependent upon availability and suitability of training space accommodations.

## PROJECT BEST SAFETY COMMITTEE



**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** - The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration launched its "Safe and Sound Campaign" recently, calling on employers to review their safety and health programs to protect workers, and reduce workplace injuries and deaths.

"Workplace safety and health incidents hurt workers and their families, and they cost businesses' capital better invested in growing their business and creating jobs," said Kim Stille, OSHA's Regional

Administrator in Kansas City. "By identifying and controlling job-related hazards that can lead to injuries and illnesses, businesses can improve their safety and health programs, save money and improve competitiveness."

OSHA has found a significant increase in fatalities associated with confined space entry and trenching and excavating. Fatalities involving workers being struck by motor vehicles also doubled from two to four persons for the same time period.

Employers have proven that safety and health programs reduce the numbers of injuries and illnesses, and improve their bottom line. While there are different approaches to ensuring worker safety and health, all effective programs share three core elements:

- **Management leadership.** Top management commits to establishing, maintaining and improving the program continually, and provides any necessary resources.
- **Worker participation.** Employers invite workers to identify solutions. Improved worker engagement can lead to better productivity, higher job satisfaction and worker retention - lowering turnover and recruitment costs.
- **A systematic "find and fix" approach.** Employers and workers examine their workplaces, proactively and routinely, to identify and address hazards before they can cause injury or illness.



*At Project BEST  
Safety is our priority...  
For you, your company and your family*

