



Minutes
CISCO Legislative Committee
Monday, March 12, 2012
Concrete Contractors Association Office, Oak Brook, IL.
Start Time 7:30AM

CISCO Executive Director John Brining welcomed everyone to the meeting. Evan Williams asked for a review of the Minutes from the January 9, 2012 Legislative Committee Meeting. Being that no changes were necessary, a motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes as presented. The motion was approved.

Discussion Items

HB3636/Mechanics Lien Act – Evan Williams stated that the bill designed to overturn the IL Supreme Court’s Cypress Creek decision, passed out of the Senate Judicial Committee by a vote of 6-0-1. He said that he felt that the bill would be read in the Senate sometime before the end of March. The committee felt that there are strong arguments to overturn, but that the banks have the money to fight it. All agreed that we need to continue to reach out to our members and lobbyists. Jim McGlynn said that Senator Majority Leader Christine Radogno (R-Lemont) was now in support of the bill, and that Senator Matt Murphy (R-Palatine) had changed from being against it to undecided.

SB3792/Lien Rights Extension – Evan briefly mentioned that this bill, another one of IMSCA’s priorities, passed without a NO vote. He said that the Senate would call this bill in the next few weeks as well. The bill extends lien rights from three to five years.

SB3573/Illinois Water Systems Viability Act – Tim Leahy, who could not attend the meeting, sent a one-page synopsis on the bill, which was sponsored by Sen. Bill Haine (D-Alton). John relayed what Tim has previously stated that both CUB and the Attorney General’s Office are the principle stumbling blocks to the legislation. He also mentioned that at the last CISCO Board meeting, the discussion was tabled. The flyer details, the issue, the position rationale and the current support for the bill. CISCO staff will verify if the bill’s language has changed from the previous document.

Fisk & Crawford – John relayed information submitted by Tom Villanova, in Tom’s absence, pertaining to the latest word that Chicago Alderman Joe Moore was successful in pushing for the early closure of both coal-burning power plants. Fisk will now close this year, and Crawford will be shuttered in 2014. Hundreds of job and more than 200,000 man hours will be lost.

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HR755/Leucadia – The news regarding the fate of the planned construction of this synthetic natural gas plant was much better. John and Evan reported that HR 755 called for the ICC to rehear the Leucadia plan. The resolution expressed serious concerns over an order that the ICC entered in January that stripped the Leucadia project from obtaining full cost recovery from consumers. This project has been on a roller coaster ride as the Governor first vetoed the bill, then signed the bill on its second go-around, only to have the ICC derail the plan.

SB3825-26, SB3807-08/Insurance Reform Bills – A series of 4 bills sponsored by Sen. Kwame Raoul and Se. Ed Maloney were briefly discussed. Evan mentioned the age-old division of thinking of setting worker's comp rates based on either wages paid versus hours worked. Marc Poulos said that he didn't feel that these bills would be successful as they attempt to create a workers' comp insurance fund, a rating bureau, change how employers (and construction employers) are charged for workers' comp premiums; and from how wages are paid to an employee to the hours worked by that employee.

III-FFC Constitutional Amendment – Marc update the group saying that proponents of creating a construction fund "lock-box" would pursue the plan via legislation rather than through a constitutional amendment for the time being. HB 3864 and SB 2519 are the bills currently in the hopper, and Marc said that at least 30-40 sponsors are lined up. He said, proponents have identified and documented many examples of how funds, which were earmarked for construction in the past, were used for other purposes. This kind of evidence will help make a case for passage of the bill(s).

Workers Comp Insurance/CBWC Pilot Program – Marc stated that right now three building trades have expressed interest for the two spots that can participate in the new Workers Comp Reform bill pilot program. He said that the Department of Labor has yet to act on this. He said he is confident that the Operator's Engineers will receive approval. The other two trades are the Ironworkers and the Laborers.

Good of the Committee

Marc talked in length about a Political Action Committee (PAC) that was being formed called the Illinois Lunch Pail Republicans. In essence the PAC was vetting potential candidates to determine whether they would be labor-friendly, and if so, they would receive support from this PAC. Determining labor-friendliness was done by asking about their support of the Davis-Bacon Act, Project Labor Agreements, infrastructure bills, etc. He said that the time had come to secure support for pro-labor legislation, and that this was the most logical course of action.

Marc also mentioned stirring up support for legislation that would increase the Department of Labor's budget by about \$320,000 for general purposes, and by an additional \$620,000 to upgrade its archaic computer system.

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On the National front, Scott Dworschak stated that he thought the best that the construction industry could hope for concerning a \$100 billion transportation bill was a six-month version of this bill that would take us up to the November General Election.

Marvin Jendro mentioned that a Right-To-Work Rally was being held in Champaign, Illinois on Thursday, April 19.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Monday, May 7. There being no other business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Karafiat, Public Relations Director, CISCO

In Attendance: CISCO, Legislative Committee Meeting – Monday, November 7, 2011

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|---------------------|---|
| 1. John Brining | Executive Director, CISCO |
| 2. Gary Karafiat | Public Relations Director, CISCO |
| 3. Evan Williams | Mechanical Contractors Association |
| 4. Jim O'Connor | MCAGC |
| 5. William Habel | IBEW, Local 701 |
| 6. Cathy Kirin | RCEC |
| 7. Tim Taylor | ECA |
| 8. Bob Morreale | CCAC |
| 9. Mark Maher | CRCC |
| 10. Steve Schurch | CRCC |
| 11. Marvin Jendro | IPTAP |
| 12. Jim McGlynn | McWilliams Electric Co., Inc./CISCO Board |
| 13. Scott Dworschak | UCA |
| 14. Marc Poulos | III-FFC |
| 15. Bill McHugh | Chicagoland Roofing Council |
| 16. Sam Tipton | Chicago Decking, Inc. |