CAWV STATE MEETING, MARCH 25 – REGISTER ONLINE

Registration for the CAWV State Meeting, being held March 25 at 7:30 a.m. at the Charleston Civic Center, is now open. Keynote speakers for the breakfast are still being finalized. Held in conjunction with the West Virginia Construction & Design EXPO, the CAWV State Meeting will recognize members for excellence in their safety programs, present quality concrete awards, and the CAWV Scholarship Foundation recipient will accept his or her CAWV scholarship check. Members can register on the EXPO website and will be billed by CAWV.

EXPO will once again host the fourth annual “Marcellus & Manufacturing Development Conference” (MMDC). Opening remarks begin after the CAWV State Meeting and will feature CAWV President Dan Flesher, followed by Chris Smith, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fossil Energy, US Dept. of Energy. Exhibit halls will open after the MMDC opening remarks.

Nearly 200 CAWV members and guests, along with state and federal contracting officials, attended the meeting last year, which is held during EXPO. To register online, go to www.wvexpo.com and click “ATTEND THE SHOW”. Be sure to check seminar/meeting #2 – CAWV State Meeting. Also, don’t forget to register for any of the 85 additional seminars available during EXPO 2015. Anyone needing further information on the meeting should contact Wendy Long at long@cawv.org or (304) 342-1166. Cancellations should be submitted no later than Friday, March 20.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS: CAWV PRESS CONFERENCE – TUESDAY, MARCH 3

A new economic impact study will be released Tuesday that concludes that West Virginia could realize thousands of new jobs and generate nearly $1 billion in additional economic benefits if it were to adequately fund the state’s crumbling infrastructure.

The report will be released by the Contractors Association of West Virginia (CAWV) at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, 2015. We would like to have many CAWV members attend.

WHAT: Economic Impact Study of increased funding for roads and bridges. (The report’s author, Dr. Alison Premo Black, senior vice president and chief economist for the American Road & Transportation Builders Association, Washington, D.C., will be making the presentation).

WHERE: Room 252, Lewis McManus Conference Room, State Capitol

WHEN: Tuesday, March 3, 2015 ~ CAWV Members will want to be there around 12:30 p.m. Parking is available at Laidley Field. Take Shuttle to Capitol. If you are there around 11:30, please sit in the Senate Gallery to listen to remarks by a Senator on the need to increase highway funding.

Please advise if you will be able to attend this important announcement by contacting Wendy Long at long@cawv.org.
PREVAILING WAGE BILL READIES FOR PASSAGE IN HOUSE

On Wednesday, House Government Organization Committee members debated for two hours on S.B. 361 before amending it and sending it to the House floor for passage. A committee substitute was passed by a vote of 17-8, mostly along party lines, and keeps the July 1 implementation date for determining a new prevailing wage. The CAWV objected to a new provision that was added that states, "If the determination is not in place on July 1, 2015, for any reason, no prevailing hourly rate of wages shall be in effect until the determination is made."

The CAWV continues to express concerns over only having 30 days between when the methodology is finalized (June 1, 2015) and the July 1 implementation date. At press time, work continues on a compromise that would give more time to develop the new rate. The bill is on Second Reading today.

In other legislative news, all bills have to be out of committee before Sunday, March 1, in order to be read three separate days. Bills must pass their house of origin by Wednesday, March 4, in order to be considered the rest of the session. Committees in both houses are meeting Saturday to meet the deadline. The Senate is meeting Sunday and the House may as well. S.B. 409, prohibiting Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) on government projects, passed the Senate today by a vote of 21-12-1. The bill now goes to the House where a companion bill has already passed the House Government Organization Committee. Bills that are on the calendar for passage include H.B. 2916 which gives the governor the authority to issue bonds for the renovation of Building 3 (the DMV building which is out for bid) and S.B. 423, a bill to amend last year’s above ground storage tank bill. The Senate Finance Committee has passed S.B. 234 which exempts municipal water and sewer utilities owned by political subdivisions from Public Service Commission ratemaking and certificate of need jurisdiction.

Look for complete synopsis of legislation affecting CAWV members in the March 2 CAWV Legislative Bulletin.

COMPLIMENTARY WEBINAR: HIRING AND RETAINING THE RIGHT PEOPLE – MARCH 5

The Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) is hosting a free webinar titled, “Hiring and Retaining the Right People”, on March 5, 2015, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. The goal of most organizations is to have a robust workforce that supports the right people in the right positions. It is equally important to develop a set of systems and a culture that keeps them in those positions and excited to be there. Click here to register for this webinar, as Shirley Ramos from FMI discusses how to:

- Explore recruiting strategies and assessments to improve your chances of getting the right people to your front door
- Understand primary elements to watch for during the recruiting process to hire quality employees:
- Identify the leadership styles that motivate people and create a productive environment
- Discover the common mistakes that companies may make when addressing poor employee retention

REGISTER NOW FOR EXPO

Online registration for the 36th Annual WV Construction and Design Exposition (EXPO), March 25 and 26 at the Charleston Civic Center is open – click here to register. Over 5000 regional decision-makers are expected to visit the more than 300 vendors. The show is open 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 26.

Over 85 professional development opportunities covering a range of topics from building technology to structural design, source water protection and storage tank rules and regulations,
will be offered. Booths are still available, but space is limited – click [here](mailto:here) to secure your space today. Call EXPO at (304) 342-3976 or email the show at [expo@wvexpo.com](mailto:expo@wvexpo.com) with questions.

Also, EXPO encourages all sponsors and exhibitors to promote this event. You can do this by forwarding the "Pass-Along Email" or passing out/mailing the WV EXPO promotional postcard. Contact EXPO to request the "Pass-Along Email" or postcards.