



Ohio Construction Coalition

“News Blast”

February 14, 2006

www.ohioconstructioncoalition.org

O.C.C. ASSISTS ATHENS AREA WITH PREVAILING WAGE DRIVE

At the request of Parkersburg/Marietta Building and Construction Trades Council Business Manager Sam Davis, Ohio Construction Coalition representative Patty Camacho gave a presentation on Responsible Contracting to an Athens-area group last month. The visit was set up to assist the Parkersburg/Marietta Building Trades Council in promoting Responsible Contracting in school and public authority projects in the area.

Patty met with the Council’s business managers and agents, an Ohio University prevailing wage representative, City of Athens City Council members, Athens County commissioners and the local Port Authority for a breakfast meeting to discuss the issue and why they must act on it.

Rep. Jimmy Stewart, a Republican from the Athens area who is a proponent of Prevailing Wage, also attended the meeting.

Patty reported that about 35 people from Southeast Ohio heard the presentation, and she felt it was well received. “I fielded questions and promoted dialogue amongst the group to gauge their thoughts on Responsible Contracting Policies,” she said. “It started the process for some of the authorities to act on it. Sample resolutions and sample legislation was passed out and appreciated.”

According to Patty, Mr. Davis would work to continue the dialogue with those in attendance, with the support of the O.C.C., “so that buildings such as the local Frontier School District’s new schools nightmare will not happen again. At least not in Southeast Ohio.”

The Frontier Local School District in Southern Ohio, with the help of the O.C.C., is seeking to move ahead with legal action against the Ohio School Facilities Commission and contractors over the faulty construction of the district’s new schools.

“I left the meeting feeling that a lot was accomplished and that other areas around the state need to do what Sam Davis did,” Patty said. “That is to call the O.C.C., ask for help and guidance and request representatives of the O.C.C. to come to their area in the state to help spread the message.”

The Parkersburg/Marietta Building Trades Council is a member of the O.C.C. For more information, visit www.pmbctc.org.

O.S.B.C.T.C. DECLARES FULL SUPPORT OF O.C.C. AT FRONTIER

During its February 1 meeting, the Board of the Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council, an O.C.C. member, voted to support the O.C.C. in its campaign to assist the Frontier School District in Southern Ohio battle the Ohio School Facilities Commission (O.S.F.C.) over poor work on its new schools.

The O.C.C. is assisting the Frontier District with legal action against the O.S.F.C. and certain contractors over the faulty construction of the district’s new schools, which have leaking roofs and failing masonry work among many other problems. The O.C.C. is collecting funds for Frontier and formulating a law suit for the school district. The Building Trades Council already has pledge \$10,000 to the community fund for Frontier.

The O.C.C. still needs to raise additional money in the coming months for the community fund. **Funds should be made out to “Ohio Construction Coalition” and the memo on the check should read “Frontier Legal Project;” send to Ohio Construction Coalition, 1845 Collingwood, Toledo, OH 43624.**

Contact O.C.C. co-chair Bill Brennan at 419-241-3601 for more information and to make your commitment to help.

To **report any school construction problems and successes** in your area, contact Calvin Jefferson at info@ohioconstructioncoalition.org or 1-888-445-8255.

LABOR-, CONSTRUCTION-FRIENDLY FRESHMAN REP ON O.S.F.C.

Ohio Rep. Matthew Szollosi of the 49th District, a friend of labor and the construction industry who served as legal counsel for the O.C.C., has been appointed to the Ohio School Facilities Commission as a non-voting member.

The O.S.F.C. consists of three voting members and four non-voting members from the state legislature. The three voting members are the Director of the Office of Budget and Management, the Director of the Department of Administrative Services, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The four legislative members include two members from the Ohio Senate and two members from the House of Representatives.

Rep. Szollosi is a first-term legislator from Toledo who recently won election as a freshman representative in November.

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