

The Mid-Allegheny Minutes



Most Recent Dinner Meeting: January 9, 2020

The third meeting of the ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section 2019-2020 program was held at the Rustic Lodge in Indiana, PA.

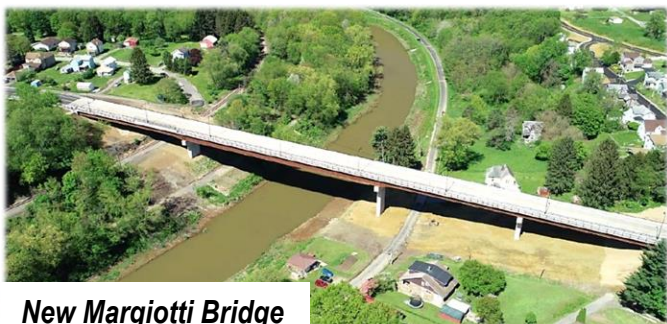
Following Section updates provided by Section President Brad DiCola and the conclusion of dinner, **Jason Layman, EIT** PennDOT District 10-0 Project Manager, and **Jason DeFlicht, PE** Project Manager with SAI Consulting Engineers gave a presentation on the Margiotti Bridge replacement in Punxsutawney, Jefferson County. The bridge carries SR 0436 over Mahoning Creek, Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Mahoning Shadow Trail, and Water Street.

The existing bridge was constructed in 1937 and was comprised of seven spans that included three 172-ft single span deck trusses and two adjacent box beams spans at each end of the bridge.



Existing Margiotti Bridge

Several alternatives including rehabilitation and online and offline reconstruction were considered. The selected alternative reconstructed the bridge offline and downstream from the existing bridge, which resulted in the realignment of SR 0436, and the realignment of SR 3008 and a cul-de-sac at the end of Perry Street at the northern end of the bridge. The new structure is a 4-span continuous steel beam bridge that includes ornamental pedestrian railing and ornamental highway lighting.



New Margiotti Bridge

Project challenges included coordinating with Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad and representatives from the Mahoning Shadow Trail, extensive coordination with the US Army Corp for the hydraulic and causeway analysis that could impact the circa 1950 Punxsutawney Local Flood Protection Project, and maintaining traffic along

Water Street, which is the only viable access to the Punxsutawney Sewage Treatment Plant.



The Mid-Allegheny Section thanks Jason and Jason for their presentation.



Jason Layman, EIT (left) and Jason DeFlicht, PE (right)

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Joint Meeting With ASHE Altoona Section

A joint meeting with the ASHE Altoona Section was held on February 19, 2020 at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (UPJ). ASHE Altoona



Section President William Wieserman III, PE and ASHE Mid-Allegheny President Brad DiCola, PE, PTOE opened with announcements ahead of a buffet dinner. Following dinner, a transportation industry panel fielded questions from UPJ students and meeting attendees. The panel was comprised of state and consultant professionals with varying backgrounds, roles, and years of experience. The discussion was led by ASHE Mid-Allegheny's Robert Schmidt, who served as the moderator. During the discussion, panel members took questions and offered their experience and advice, with the goal of helping students to better understand the varying job functions and what can be expected from prospective employers and colleagues when entering the workforce.



The panel consisted of:

- Jarid Antonio, PE, Sr. Engineer – Tunstall Engineering Group
- Ralph DeStefano, PE, District Bridge Engineer - PennDOT District 9-0
- Brian Krul, PE, PTOE, Vice President - TranSystems
- Jason Layman, EIT, Project Manager - PennDOT District 10-0
- Jennifer Sheesley, PE, President - Sheesley & Associates, LLC
- Jessica Urbes, PE, Project Manager - PennDOT District 9-0
- Sam Weaver, EIT, Design Engineer - The Markosky Engineering Group, Inc.

Several engaging questions resulted in diverse, yet thoughtful and valuable information from the panel and made for another successful event. The meeting was well attended by students and members from both ASHE sections, and should help the students to have a better

understanding of potential opportunities and what to anticipate as they begin their careers.

After the panel discussion, student members of the ASCE Student Chapter and Associated General Contractors Student Chapter at Pitt Johnstown gave an update on their recent events and volunteering efforts, as well as an update on the current groups and team competitions including Steel Bridge, Concrete Canoe, and Geo-Wall.



Chris Joseph – ASCE Student Chapter Vice President



Austin Uric – AGC Student Chapter President

Mid-Allegheny News

Fall 2020 Scholarships

The ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section will again be sponsoring a scholarship program for the Fall 2020 semester. Scholarships will be provided for students seeking both two-year and four-year degrees related to CADD, engineering design, and civil engineering. Applicants must be residents of the state of Pennsylvania. Applications and instructions are available on our Section's website <http://www.midallegheny.ashe.pro/>

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Upcoming events include:

- Dinner meeting on March 12, 2020 at the Rustic Lodge with a presentation on the Allegheny County Bicycle and Pedestrian Assessment Study by Brian Krul, PE, PTOE (TranSystems). The project involved an investigation for providing bicycle and pedestrian facilities on County owned roadways and included an assessment for 400+ miles of roadway, solicitation of feedback from municipalities and the development of a prioritized list of feasible improvements for future multimodal projects.
- Joint meeting with ASHE Franklin, Pittsburgh, and Southwest Sections on April 16, 2020 in Cranberry Township. More information will be coming soon.
- Dinner meeting on May 7, 2020 at the Rustic Lodge.
- Mid-Allegheny Section Golf Outing on May 15, 2020 (tentative)
- ASHE National Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina from June 3-7, 2020

Additional information on the events above can be found on our website.

We sincerely thank all of our Members and Sponsoring Firms for your continued support of the Section.

Contact the ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section

Website: www.midallegheny.ashe.pro

Email: ashe.midallegheny@gmail.com

If you have comments or suggestions related to presentations, meetings or this newsletter, please forward a brief e-mail to the effect. Our board welcomes feedback so we can better serve our membership and industry.

