

LABORER

Promoting the benefits of Union construction in MN & ND

A Minnesota Laborers-Employers Cooperation & Education Trust Publication

SPECIAL ENERGY ISSUE

LIUNA's Campaign to Win Energy Infrastructure Investments

ADVOCATING FOR AN ALL OF THE ABOVE APPROACH TO ENERGY POLICY

By Liuna Minnesota and North Dakota | Lucas Franco, PhD, Research Manager and Kevin Pranis, Marketing Manager

LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota works tirelessly to secure job-creating investments in our regional energy infrastructure. We advocate for projects that create family-supporting jobs for our members and work opportunities for our signatory contractors, while also generating affordable and reliable energy for Minnesota and North Dakota.

Over the last three years we have successfully advocated for construction of the Line 3 pipeline, thousands of megawatts of union-built utility-scale wind and solar, the use of skilled local labor on coal fired power plant decommissioning and a commitment to new investments in innovative renewable natural gas infrastructure.

Our strategic advocacy has relied on a multi-faceted approach rooted in cultivating relationships with key stakeholders including energy regulators, utilities, and developers, while also mobilizing grassroots support for job-creating projects through member advocacy and media engagement.



Photo source: Bismarck Tribune, 2017

Some of our biggest victories over the last few years have come in the clean energy sector. Our clean energy campaign has increased market share for union contractors on utility-scale projects from nearly zero to 80% or better and made LIUNA a go-to partner for top utilities and clean energy developers in Minnesota. We are creating work opportunities for signatory contractors and putting members to work at the same union

wage and benefit rate that they receive on highway and water/sewer jobs.

We began our campaign with a focus on wind energy. We identified the problem as the industry's use of a traveling workforce that was willing to work for roughly half the rates of LIUNA members and other wind trades. We responded by highlighting the cost of the industry's failure to

Continued on Page 3

May 2021 Issue Highlights

Under Your Hard Hat Page 3

Energy Advocacy Results Page 4



LiUNA!

Feel the Power

LOOMAN APPOINTED IN U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

Jessica Looman was appointed as the Principal Deputy Administrator for the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) on January 20, 2021. WHD enforces worker protections and provides outreach and education about federal labor laws including minimum wage, overtime, child labor, and family and medical leave for 143 million workers and nearly ten million employers nationwide.

Before joining WHD, Jessica served as the Executive Director of the Minnesota State Building and Construction Trades Council, where she advocated to expand construction career pathways, protected the physical and financial health of union construction workers, and increased private and public investment in construction infrastructure. Before

joining the Building Trades, Governor Mark Dayton appointed Jessica to serve as Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Commerce. She also served as the Deputy Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioner for the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry where she oversaw the strategic coordination of DLI's five divisions.

She has previously served as the General Counsel of the Laborers District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota. Jessica is a graduate of George Washington University and the University of Minnesota Law School. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota with her husband and two sons.¹

¹United States Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division, www.dol.gov, 4/16/2021.

BOARD ADDS TWO NEW TRUSTEES

The Minnesota LECET Board announced the appointment of two new Trustee members, due to retirements.



Keith Petersen

Keith Petersen, Assistant Business Manager with Laborers Local 563 joins the board with 22 years of experience working in a variety of industries and

most recently as a Business Agent for the local. **Kim (Maher) Schrupp**, Workforce Relations Coordinator for Local 563, brings 32 years of experience in the construction industry with a strong focus on building the next generation workforce.

Retiring are **Mike Bubalo**, LECET Chairman and Financial Secretary of Local 563, who built a 35 year career with the Laborers working in the field and in leadership roles for the Union. **Tom Vevea**, Trustee and Director of Contractor Relations for Local 563 has also retired. Tom spent five years with the Laborers in his position and had a storied construction career as well, working in management roles for 39 years with McGough Construction.



Kim (Maher) Schrupp

WELCOME NEW CONTRACTORS!

- Becho Inc
- Blakeborough Hardscape
- Cardno
- Colstrup Sod Farm
- Jewell Scanning and Coring LLC
- Kiminski Paving Inc
- Snow Contracting LLC

UNION CONTRACTOR MILESTONES



Bituminous Roadways, Inc. (BR) is celebrating 75 years in business in 2021. From a humble beginning of three-man crew in 1946 to more than 200 employees during the 2020 paving season, BR has been a leader in the asphalt paving industry creating a successful company that is known for having great people, extraordinary service and expanding opportunities.

LECET MISSION

The Minnesota Laborers-Employers Cooperation & Education Trust (LECET) fund was created in 1992 as a non-profit joint Labor/Management cooperation effort affiliated with the Minnesota Laborers Union. LECET aims to promote the many benefits of Union construction while addressing a number of initiatives that are of mutual benefit to both signatory Union Contractors and LiUNA members.

MINNESOTA LECET BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Shawn Braford, Co-chair
Laborers Local 1097

Dan Olson
Laborers Local 1091

Keith Petersen
Laborers Local 563

Kim Maher Schrupp
Laborers Local 563

Sheldon Steele
Laborers Local 405

Rick Peper, Chair
Ryan Companies US Inc.

Andy Ristrom
Carl Bolander & Sons Inc.

Chris Born
PCL Construction Services

Laura Ziegler
AGC of Minnesota

Randy Kramer
Bituminous Roadways Inc.

Dwight Engen
LECET Construction
Marketing Director

ADVOCATING FOR AN ALL OF THE ABOVE ENERGY POLICY *continued*

make promised jobs available to local workers, and by working with elected officials and regulators to push for greater transparency and prioritization of local labor. We also engaged key clean energy developers, advocates and utilities, and became involved in energy policy making at the legislature. We especially focused on engaging in the permitting process - advocating for projects that prioritized the creation of family-supporting jobs for local workers and raising concerns over projects that failed to maximize local benefits.

The result of this work is that Minnesota is now recognized by leading national developers and contractors as a union market for installation of utility-scale wind and solar projects – a sharp reversal from the period from 2012 to 2018 when nearly every major project was built nonunion. We continue working to consolidate our gains in wind and solar through legislative and regulatory efforts, along with outreach to key industry players including developers and contractors. But we are also

looking to leverage our position to capture additional work, including renewable energy projects built out-of-state to serve Minnesota customers, conventional energy work such as decommissioning where our market share has been uneven, and natural gas innovations that could affect the future of work in the distribution and pipeline industry.

We have also worked tirelessly to advocate for the Line 3 replacement pipeline project. We have championed the project through our relationship with the Governor, via involvement as an official party in the Minnesota Public Utility Commission (PUC) permitting process, and through public advocacy. This June, we won an historic victory when the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approved a Certificate of Need for Enbridge's \$2.6B Line 3 Replacement project following years of proceedings. The Commission cited arguments made by LIUNA in its decision, which found that the project was necessary to prevent spills and would not contribute to climate change. Since

then, we have begun engaging progressive allies and preparing a communications strategy to ensure that L3R does not become another Dakota Access. These efforts have helped us get ahead of the opposition and, so far, win the public argument.

We have made substantial progress in expanding work opportunities and leveling the playing field for signatory contractors in the energy sector, but we have much work left to do. Some small-scale solar projects, such as community solar gardens, are being built by union contractors, but too many have been built by cut-rate, out-of-state firms. Additionally, there are emerging opportunities in renewable natural gas, decommissioning, storage and transmission, all sectors in which we are actively monitoring and advocating for new opportunities for LIUNA contractors. We look forward to continue to partner with signatory contractors to expand work opportunities, create family-supporting jobs for our members and develop a thriving all-of-the-above regional energy economy.

WHAT'S UNDER YOUR HARD HAT

May is mental health month

DID YOU KNOW?

Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed in May in the United States since 1949. The construction industry across the United States is one of the most affected sectors when it comes to mental health and suicide events. These events are preventable.

Don't be afraid to talk. People care.

The Minnesota Laborers Health & Welfare Fund and LECET are launching a mental health and suicide awareness and prevention campaign starting in May with a personal mailing to all members highlighting the importance of mental health and outlining available resources.

888.243.5744



LIUNA'S ADVOCACY BUILDS ENERGY

LIUNA's advocacy efforts are creating jobs in new and traditional energy markets

By Liuna Minnesota and North Dakota | Lucas Franco, PhD, Research Manager and Kevin Pranis, Marketing Manager

We know from Minnesota's response to the last Great Recession and from academic research that investments in energy infrastructure are one of the most effective forms of investment to stimulate economic recovery. The following articles highlight the opportunities that have resulted from LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota's advocacy work.

Utility Scale Wind and Solar

LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota has helped to transform Minnesota's utility scale wind and solar industries. We've effectively encouraged major utilities like Xcel Energy to prioritize union construction and encouraged major clean energy developers to follow their lead. Today, Minnesota's clean energy sector is booming with little prospect of slowing down. Xcel alone has set ambitious decarbonization goals with new investments in utility-scale wind and solar in Minnesota being a key means of achieving their targets. Other utilities, such as Great River Energy, Minnesota Power and Otter Tail Power, have also set out ambitious goals of their own. These utilities are increasingly looking to use local union labor for most of their new clean energy infrastructure.

LIUNA members recently completed 300 MW of wind (Blazing Star II and Mower Repower), and we have



Photo source: Bismarck Tribune, 2020



firm commitments or strong prospects for another 900 MW in the next two years, in addition to 750+ MW of Xcel wind repower projects that have recently been approved by the Public Utilities Commission with LIUNA's support.

Xcel has secured a commitment for Elk Creek Solar (80 MW) to be built with union labor and we are having positive conversations with developers about other projects in the development pipeline, including the 40 MW Red Rock so-

lar project that is being proposed alongside Big Bend wind.

LINE 3

LIUNA members are finally working on Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline after years of PUC hearings and court cases. The project will replace a degraded pipeline with a safe, modern pipeline. The project represents a \$2.6 billion investment in Minnesota, which is the largest privately financed construction project in Minnesota history. It will create an estimated 8,600 jobs over

two years, including 2,800 hospitality jobs, 5,200 construction jobs (half expected to be filled locally), and 1,600 jobs in other sectors. It will also generate significant tax revenue for the regional economy. This project will not only ensure that oil is transported safely and efficiently across the state, but it is vital to help our state recover from the COVID 19 economic downturn.

Utility Recovery

In early May 2020, the PUC opened a utility recovery docket meant to incentivize the expedited investment in utility projects to simultaneously address climate change and stimulate Minnesota's struggling economy. The PUC asked Minnesota utilities to propose projects that could be accelerated by the Commission to assist in economic

recovery. LIUNA fought not only for the development of this docket, but has advocated for specific job-creating projects.

Since May of 2020, the PUC economic recovery docket is moving forward with roughly \$3B in proposed utility investments on the table. LIUNA was the only construction union invited to participate in the PUC's July planning meeting on the docket, and the Commission is now accepting comments on a first tranche of proposed projects that are expected to commence work by July 2021.

BUSINESS
Southwest Minnesota construction unions push back on wind farm outsourcing

REGIONAL -- A project to construct 100 wind turbines near Ivanhoe has provoked outrage among construction unions representing workers in and around southwest Minnesota, who say the project is largely being done by employees outsourced from out-of...

Written By: Karl M. Evers-Hillstrom | 5:53 pm, Sep. 5, 2017



In December 2020, we scored back-to-back wins at the PUC as part of efforts to secure utility investments that can generate opportunities for signatory contractors and put members to work and support economic recovery, including a contested decision that will allow Xcel to put off a rate case for a year (making it easier for the utility to make investments without immediately hiking rates).

LIUNA Minnesota & North Dakota also helped secure PUC approval of \$750M worth of wind repowering projects that will create an estimated 700 union jobs in Southern Minnesota and North Dakota over the next two years. These accelerated investments are a win-win-win for our members, signatory contractors and our regional economy.



2021 LECET SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Information:

Phone: 651.429.1600

Email: info@mndlecet.org

Website: www.mnlecet.org

Minnesota LECET is once again taking applications for the 2021-22 LECET Scholarship/Leadership Grant program. Up to \$1,000 is available per awarded candidates per program year. Since 2007, LECET has awarded \$60,000 in Financial Assistance toward individuals.

Applications are due June 30, 2021.

The two programs are:

Academic Scholarship Program

For candidates currently enrolled in a higher education program or institution with a declared major in a construction related program. Eligible candidates include: Signatory Union Contractor staff/intern representatives and current LIUNA members and/or their eligible dependents.

Leadership Grant Program

For current LIUNA members only who are seeking to further advance in the construction industry through specialized training, higher educational programs or certifications not currently offered at the Laborers Training Center.

LABORERS ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS ROLL IN

Minnesota LECET proudly shares the 58 Laborers Annual Award nominations received from Union Signatory Contractors throughout the state. All nominated LIUNA members were sent a USA Made Jacket sized to fit with a special Safety Driven logo attached. Congratulations to these Laborers and their Union contractor employers:

CONTRACTOR	NOMINEES	CONTRACTOR	NOMINEES	CONTRACTOR	NOMINEES
Adolfson and Peterson Construction	James Ojala	Frida Drywall	Nazario Aguilar-Sanchez	McGough Construction	*Brian Olson
Advanced Concrete Sawing	Josh Kreager	Global Specialty Contractors	Peter Scheid	MG McGrath Inc	Luis Zubieta
Advanced Masonry Restoration	Eric Munoz-Sanchez	Gustafson & Goudge	Miles Johnson	Michels Corp - Gas Distribution	Levi Hoskins
Ames Construction	Cornelio Hernandez	Hammerlund Construction	Luke Huotari	Mortenson	*Kelly Martin
Atlas Foundation Co	Jeff Steele	JE Dunn	Ben Bauer	MP Technologies	Chad Bosch
Belair Sitework Services	Jodie Zimmerman	JMF Construction	Mathew Lunde	Northland Concrete and Masonry	Chris Ortendahl
Benike Construction	Tad Rud	Johnson-Nelson Masonry	Tyler Biermaier	Northland Constructors	*Brian Herrick
Bituminous Roadways	Jeff Bowman	Jorgenson Construction	Josh Koslowski	Park Construction	Susie Morrison
Boldt Company	Casey Savall	JR Jensen Construction	Kaelen Hady	PCIRoads	*Debra Miller
Carl Bolander & Sons	Justin Coleman	Kellington Construction	Chuck Young	PCL	Jordan Kadlec
Casper Construction	Lucas Green	Kiffmeyer Inc	Jeff David	Q3 Contracting	John Weber
CHARPS LLC	Chase Torgerson	Knutson Construction	Stacy Goossens	Rachel Contracting	Paul Latour
Custom Drywall	Jonathan Hosmer	Kraus-Anderson Construction	Mike Weeks	Rice Lake Construction Group	Kelsey Koepf
Darold Berger Masonry	Dusty Franz	Kuechle Underground	*Michael Arnold	RJM Construction	Chris Lazarz
Dirtworx LLC	Ryan Voelker	Lakehead Constructors	*Jasen Korva	Ryan Companies US	Cruz Santiago
Donlar Construction	John Schleper	Landwehr Construction	Kyle Haus	Standard Contracting	Andrew Sorenson
EnviroBate	Casey Block	Lloyd's Construction Services	Douglas Hiedeman	Veit	Travis Brown
Four Star Construction	Randy Simons	Magney Construction	*Adam Rudolph	Xcel Energy, Special Construction	Mark Brenny
Fraser Construction	Tait Staven	Maverick Cutting & Breaking	Joel Tormanen		
French Lake Curb	Mark Hurtle	Mavo Systems	Armando Becerra		

**Denotes Finalist for the ATV Random Drawing Ceremony April 30, 2021*

SAFETY DRIVEN | THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

Safety Driven Quarterly Award Winners | 4th Quarter 2020

LABORER	CONTRACTOR	LABORER	CONTRACTOR
James Ojala	Adolfson & Peterson	Ryan Haag	Kuechle Underground Inc
Jeff Steele	Atlas Foundation Company	Mitch Kirchoff	Lloyd's Construction Services, Inc
Bradley Bowstring	CHARPS LLC	Joel Tormanen	Maverick Cutting & Breaking
Matt Potvin	Custom Drywall Inc	Arnulfo Alarcon	McGough Construction
Bo Smith	Dirtworx LLC	Beth Bombardo	Mortenson Construction
Chad Hesse	Donlar Construction Company	Tim Stresow	Northland Constructors
Gerald Edman Jr	Hammerlund Construction	Nick Senn	PCI Roads LLC
Ryan Berg	Kellington Construction Inc	Dan Place	Shaw-Lundquist Associates Inc
Alex Nowrang	Kiffmeyer Inc	Ryan Nelson	Standard Contracting
Mike Quatmann	Kraus Anderson	Brett Laduke	Xcel Energy, Special Construction

All winners receive their choice of a Quarterly Award prize and have been nominated by Union Contractors in accordance with the LECET Safety Driven Program rules.



Due to concerns over COVID-19, please visit the LTC website at www.LTCMN.org to verify all classes.

APPRENTICE OF THE MONTH AWARDS

January

Jessica Lekander

February

Michael Rajewsky Jr

March

William Livermont

Note: Students are reminded that all day classes begin at 7:00 am at the LTC. Trainees must come to class dressed as if they were reporting to work at a construction site. This includes appropriate work boots, long pants and shirt. Failure to do so can result in being asked to leave and to reschedule the class at a later date.

Construction Laborers Training Center

2350 Main Street
Lino Lakes, MN 55038

(651) 653-6710

www.Ltcmn.org

May 17, 2021

Asbestos Worker Initial	May 17-20
Blueprint Reading	May 17-21
Concrete Practices/Insulated Forms - <i>Bismarck, ND</i>	May 17-21
General Construction/Flagging/Pro-10 Line & Grade	May 17-21
Pipelaying 1	May 17-21
Safety Week/OSHA 30/CPR First Aid	May 17-21
Intro to Union & Apprenticeship Program - <i>Online Training</i>	May 20
Intro to Union & Apprenticeship Program - <i>Bismarck, ND</i>	May 20
Intro to Union & Apprenticeship Program	May 20
Asbestos Supervisor Refresher - <i>Superior, WI</i>	May 21
Asbestos Worker Refresher - <i>St. Cloud, MN</i>	May 21

May 24, 2021

Asbestos Supervisor Initial	May 24-28
General Construction/Flagging/Pro-10	May 24-28
Hazardous Waste Initial	May 24-28
Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA)	May 24-25
Safety Week/OSHA 30/CPR First Aid CPR/First Aid	May 24-28 May 26
Hazardous Waste Refresher	May 27
Asbestos Worker Refresher	May 28
Excavation Confined Space	May 28

May 31, 2021

Asbestos Supervisor Refresher - <i>St. Cloud, MN</i>	Jun 04
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June 7, 2021

Mine Safety & Health Admin - <i>Virginia, MN</i>	Jun 12
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June 14, 2021

General Construction/Flagging/Pro-10	Jun 14-18
Hazardous Waste Initial	Jun 14-29
Line & Grade	Jun 14-18
Pipelaying 1	Jun 14-18
Safety Week/OSHA 30/CPR First Aid	Jun 14-18
Intro to Union & Apprenticeship Program	Jun 17
Asbestos Worker Refresher - <i>Superior, WI</i>	Jun 18

June 21, 2021

Blueprint Reading	Jun 21-25
Concrete Practices/Insulated Forms	Jun 21-25
Safety Week/OSHA 30/CPR First Aid	Jun 21-25
Scaffold Erecting Competent Person	Jun 21-25
Asbestos Supervisor Refresher - <i>Hudson, WI</i>	Jun 25

June 28, 2021

Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA)	Jun 28-29
Mason Tending	Jun 28-Jul 02
Pipelaying 1	Jun 28-Jul 02
Safety Week/OSHA 30/CPR First Aid	Jun 28-Jul 02
CPR/First Aid	Jun 30
Hazardous Waste Refresher	Jul 01
Excavation Confined Space	Jul 02

LTC KICKS OFF EXPANSION PROJECT

Site work has begun on the expansion of the Construction Laborers Training Center in Lino Lakes to further meet the needs of the Skilled Construction Craft Laborers Apprenticeship and Training

programs well into the future. The expansion includes civil work, parking lot expansion and a new 37,284 square foot building on the east side, which brings the total footprint to over 80,000

square feet of dedicated construction skills, environmental, safety and specialty training.



Image source: Architecture Advantage, April, 2021.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
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TWIN CITIES, MN

LiUNA!

Minnesota Laborers-Employers
Cooperation & Education Trust-LECET
81 East Little Canada Road
Little Canada, MN 55117

P: 651.429.1600
F: 651.653.9745

info@mnnndlecet.org



*****AUTO** ALL FOR AADC 553

Barbara Nelson
Admin-Clk-Treas
City Of Spring Lake Park
1301 81st Ave NE
Spring Lk Pk MN 55432-2188

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RECORD 56 CONTRACTORS ACHIEVE SAFETY AWARD

Minnesota LECET is pleased to announce that 56 Union Contractor Employers have met the program requirements for safe work performance for the Safety Driven Contractor 'Award of Excellence' pertaining to the 2020 calendar year.

Adolfson & Peterson Inc, Advanced Concrete Sawing Inc, Advanced Masonry Restoration, Ames Construction, Atlas Foundation Co, Belair Sitework Services, Benike Construction, Bituminous Roadways Inc, Boldt Company, Carl Bolander & Sons Inc, Casper Construction Inc, Charps LLC, Corval Group, Custom Drywall Inc, Dirtworx, Donlar Construction, Four Star Construction Inc, Fraser Construction Co, Frattalone Companies Inc, Gustafson & Goudge Inc, JE Dunn Construction Co, Johnson-Nelson Masonry, Jorgenson Construction

Inc, JR Jensen Construction Co, Kellington Construction Inc, Kimmeyer Inc, Knutson Construction, Kraus-Anderson Construction, Kuechle Underground Inc, Lakehead Constructors Inc, Lloyd's Construction Services, Mavo Systems Inc, McGough Construction, McNamara Contracting Inc, MG McGrath Inc, Michels Corporation, Mortenson Construction, MP Technologies, Northland Constructors, Park Construction Company, PCi Roads, PCL Construction Services Inc, Q3 Contracting Inc, Rachel Contracting, Restorations Systems Inc, Rice Lake Construction Group, RJM Construction, Ryan Companies US Inc, Shaw Lundquist & Associates, Standard Contracting Inc, Veit & Company, Western Specialty Contractors, Xcel Energy Special Construction.

