

Winter 2008

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LECET

NEWS



LABORERS' - EMPLOYERS' COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

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Congratulations to the following employer partners who have entered into working agreements with the Wisconsin Laborers!

Since the beginning of the year, the Wisconsin Laborers have partnered with more than 50 new contractors performing in the state. From Building projects to Pipeline work, the Laborers have contacted and been contacted by contractors interested in our workforce and its training facility in DeForest

B.A. Construction, LLC
 Badger State Site Preparations
 Benchmark Construction Co., Inc.
 Berglund Construction Company
 Bore Master, Inc.
 C & C Drilling, LLC
 Clean-Co. Systems, Inc.
 Custom Drywall, Inc.
 Custom Fence, Inc.
 Cutting Edge Drilling & Sawing LLC
 Dana Construction, Inc.
 Diversified Maintenance & Mgmt.
 Fencing Plus, Inc.
 Gausman Plastering & Stucco
 Gene A. Wagner Plumbing Co.
 Harmon Construction, Inc.
 Hill Trucking/Construction
 J.I. Construction, LLC
 J.L. Allen Company
 J.M Brennan, Inc.
 JB Johnson Bros., LLC
 K & L Construction, Inc.
 Kembles Greenhouse
 King Cut, Inc.
 Mark Fondell Excavating, Inc.
 Mecon Industries, Inc.

Midwest Drilled Foundations & Eng.
 Mike Harris Mason Contractor, Inc
 Minnesota State Curb - Gutter Div.
 Natural Athletic Turf, Inc.
 Neblett-Tuck Pointing Post Const.
 Nicholson Construction Company
 Northland Concrete and Masonry
 Northland Constructors of Duluth, LLC
 Northwest Contractors, Inc.
 Porter Maintenance, Inc.
 R.C. Masonry Restoration, Inc.
 Reyes Lawn & Landscaping Co.
 SJ & J Window & Cleaning
 Sommit Concrete & Masonry, Inc
 Sterling Grouting Company
 Svenco, LLC
 Swanson Spray Systems, Inc.
 Ti Zack Concrete, Inc.
 Twin City Tile & Marble Company
 Valeo Construction, Inc.
 W.L. Fergus Masonry, Inc.
 Weatherproofing Resources
 White Construction, Inc.



Wisconsin LECET News
 Laborers'-Employers' Cooperation
 and Education Trust

Wisconsin LECET News is a publication of the Wisconsin Laborers' - Employers' Cooperation and Education Trust (Wisconsin LECET) and is intended to promote communications within the construction industry by identifying and presenting issues of mutual benefit and concern to both union labor and signatory contractors.

Wisconsin LECET will consider unsolicited submissions for future publications. Please forward submissions to:

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 DeForest, WI 53532
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LECET:

At the Forefront of Labor - Management Cooperation

Wisconsin LECET brings the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council and its signatory contractors together to address matters of importance to both. Working together they secure jobs, increase market share and develop a great workforce.

The Laborers' partnership with the contractor employers is evident in legislative issues as well. The Laborers' District Council and the Wisconsin Transportation Builders' Association met in tandem with Wisconsin legislators in an attempt to resolve the transportation budget. The District Council also worked with the Associated General Contractors on issues in the budget proposal that affected building construction projects. And the Laborers' membership responded to post card pleas to contact their legislators regarding the passage of the budget.

Wisconsin LECET actively protects the bidding process in this state by monitoring public works projects for labor standards and prevailing wage compliance. And to assist more of our signatory contractors in establishing the prevailing wage rate, LECET provides a prevailing wage survey program to our employers to ease the chore of submitting their wage rates to the Department of Workforce Development.

Through community job fairs and high school career day events, Wisconsin LECET has been recruiting a new generation of laborers to the Wisconsin construction workforce. LECET promotes the training involved in union apprenticeship programs on these occasions and at trade shows around the state.

On a national level, National LECET has been successfully marketing the Laborers' unions across the country to the pipeline industry and to the railroad industry. Pipe laying contractors signatory with the Laborers' are laying oil and natural gas pipelines in Canada, Texas and in Utah as well as here in Wisconsin. Signatory contractors are also heavily involved in the growth of railroad development and repair.

Nearly twenty years ago, the Laborers' International Union of North America recognized the need to assist its contractor employers in positioning themselves to win project awards. Today, the 32 regional LECET programs in America and Canada are working in partnership with these contractors not only to win jobs but to improve construction industry standards and promote community improvement.

LECET is at the forefront of Labor-Management cooperation. It has shown the power of a partnership between two entities who are so heavily invested in an industry. Combining union training with its contractor's supervisory expertise, the Wisconsin Laborers and Wisconsin LECET are not only helping signatory contractors to advance within the construction industry but also helping them to improve it.

LECET

Grant Promotes Union Contractors



National LECET has awarded a \$100,000 grant to the Laborers' District Councils in Wisconsin and Minnesota / North Dakota to employ a marketing representative for the Laborers' union and its signatory contractors.

Jerry Knapp was hired September 24, 2007 to fill the marketing representative position and will be directed by Tom Fisher President / Business Manager of the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council and Jim Brady President / Business Manager of the Minnesota / North Dakota Laborers' District Council.

Knapp had been on staff with the Construction Business Group since 2002 where he monitored prevailing wage projects in the southeast corner of the state. He has worked closely with the Wisconsin Alliance for Fair Contracting investigator in the Milwaukee area and is familiar with the Laborers and the construction industry. Knapp was a Minneapolis resident for several years and he is also familiar with that area.

In his position as the Laborers' Marketing Representative, Knapp will be meeting with project developers and promoting those contractors in Wisconsin and Minnesota who are signatory with the Laborers' union. Knapp's experience in dealing with developers and contractors in the Milwaukee area will be an asset to the District Councils in both states.

Upcoming Projects

La Crosse - New Stadium & Fields Complex

This project will consist of demolition of the existing stadium structure, running track and stadium lighting system and construction of a new 10,000 seat stadium, artificial football playing surface, running track, stadium lighting, sound system, scoreboard and all other systems required for this type of exterior public competition venue. The project will also include the relocation of all of the exterior natural turf recreation fields, as well as installation of a lighting system for all of these fields, construction of permanent seating for the competition soccer fields and the construction of permanent fencing and cages for track and field throwing events. The project will be completed in two phases: the track & fields surfaces will be completed by fall of 2008 and the Stadium portion of the work will be completed by the summer of 2009.

The State Building Commission voted Sept. 19, 2007 to approve the completed design report; increase the project budget by \$1 million, and proceed with planning, bidding and construction, for a total cost of \$15,612,000. They did not approve the request to waive the usual bidding requirements to accept a single prime contractor bid for the project. There is no bid schedule at this time as the project is still under review by State Building Commission.

The owner of the project is the Wisconsin Department of Administration by Division of State Facilities, State Administration Building, 7th Floor, 101 E. Wilson St. (53702), P.O. Box 7866, Madison, WI 53707-7866.

The architect for the project is HSR Associates in association with RDG Planning & Design, 100 Milwaukee St. (54603), P.O. Box 129, La Crosse, WI 54602; 608-784-1830, Fax 608-782-5844. On December 6, 2007, HSR reported that the preliminary schedule for the project indicates that the plans will be available from the state on January 31, 2008 (access at www.doa.state.wi.us/dsf), with bids due on March 4, 2008.

Wild Rose - Fish Hatchery Renovations Phase II

The State Building Commission has approved the completed design report for Phase II of the Wild Rose Fish Hatchery Renovation and Compliance Project, Project No. 0311F. The Commission voted to increase the project budget by \$9 million and approved the construction Phase II at an estimated total cost of \$33,300,000.

The engineering firm for the project is HDR Engineering of Springfield, Illinois. The contact person there is Bob Rhodes, phone 217-585-8333. On December 10, 2007, Mr. Rhodes reported that the plans will be available on January 31, 2008, a pre-bid meeting (not mandatory) will be held on February 19, 2008 and bids are due on March 6, 2008.

The Wild Rose project is owned by the Department of Natural Resources by Division of State Facilities, State Administration Building, 7th Floor, 101 E. Wilson St. (53702), P.O. Box 7866, Madison, WI 53707-7866.



Superior - University Library Renovations

The State Building Commission voted Nov. 15, 2007 to approve the completed design report for the Jim Dan Hill Library Renovations at University of Wisconsin, Superior. The Commission authorized the planning, bidding and construction phases of the project for an estimated total project cost of \$7,823,400. No bid schedule has been set at this time.

For more information regarding this project, contact River Architects Inc., 125 N. 4th St., La Crosse, WI 54602-2496; Phone 608-785-2217, Fax 608-785-2214.



Stevens Point - Residence Hall Renovation

The State Building Commission voted Nov. 15, 2007 to approve the completed design report for the Baldwin Residence Hall Renovation Project at University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. The Commission authorized proceeding with the planning, bidding and construction phases at an estimated total cost of \$4,986,000. No bid schedule at this time.

The architect for the project is Somerville Inc., and they can be contacted regarding Project No. 07C2R at 2100 Riverside Drive, Green Bay, WI 54301-2375; Phone 920-437-8136, Fax 920-437-1131. The project owner is the Board of Regents of University of Wisconsin System by Division of State Facilities.

In Wisconsin

Madison - New Biochemistry II Building

The State Building Commission voted Nov. 15, 2007 to approve the completed design report for the new Biochemistry II Building at the University of Wisconsin, Madison; the Commission approved an increase in the project budget of \$6,950,000. The Commission approved the planning, bidding and construction phases of the proposed project at an estimated total cost of \$116,950,000 (\$58,500,000 of which will be Gift Funds). There is no bid schedule at this time.

The owner is the Board of Regents of University of Wisconsin System by Division of State Facilities. For more information, contact the architect, Flad & Associates Inc., 644 Science Drive, P.O. Box 44977, Madison, WI 53744-4977; Phone 608-238-2661, Fax 608-232-1286.

Madison - Steenbock Parking Ramp Addition

The State Building Commission voted Nov. 15, 2007 to approve the completed design report and authorize planning for this project. Bidding and construction are to proceed at an estimated total cost of \$2,150,388. There is no bid schedule set at this time.

For current information about this project, contact Bloom Consultants LLC regarding Project No. 06F1V, Lot 36 Steenbock Parking Ramp Addition at University of Wisconsin, Madison. Bloom Consultants LLC, 5420 S. Westridge Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151; Phone 414-771-3390, Fax 414-771-4490.

The project owner is the Board of Regents of University of Wisconsin System by Division of State Facilities, State Administration Building, 7th Floor, 101 E. Wilson St. (53702), P.O. Box 7866, Madison, WI 53707-7866

Upcoming Projects Continued...

Platteville - University Building Addition/Remodel

The State Building Commission voted Oct. 17, 2007 to approve the completed design report on the Glenview Commons Addition and Remodeling at University of Wisconsin, Platteville, and to increase the budget by \$1,054,000. The Commission also authorized proceeding with the planning, bidding and construction phases at an estimated total cost of \$4 million. There is no bid schedule at this time.

On December 13, Brett at Connolly Architects Inc. indicated that the bid date would probably be in late February or early March 2008. Brett can be contacted at Connolly Architects Inc., 229 E. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 1000, Milwaukee, WI 53202; 414-289-0900, Ext 302. Refer to Project Number 03C1G.

The project owner is Board of Regents of University of Wisconsin System by Division of State Facilities, State Administration Building, 7th Floor, 101 E. Wilson St. (53702), P.O. Box 7866, Madison, WI 53707-7866.



Fort Atkinson - Madison Area Technical College

The Madison Area Technical College officials have announced plans to undertake a 10,000 sq. ft. addition and renovation project at the Fort Atkinson campus on Madison Avenue & Banker Road. The construction is slated to begin next April.

In an update on December 7, 2007 the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation Board of Directors announced that it has pledged \$200,000 towards this project. A community fund drive is continuing.

For more information, contact the owner, Madison Area Technical College, 827 Banker Road, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; Phone 920-568-7200



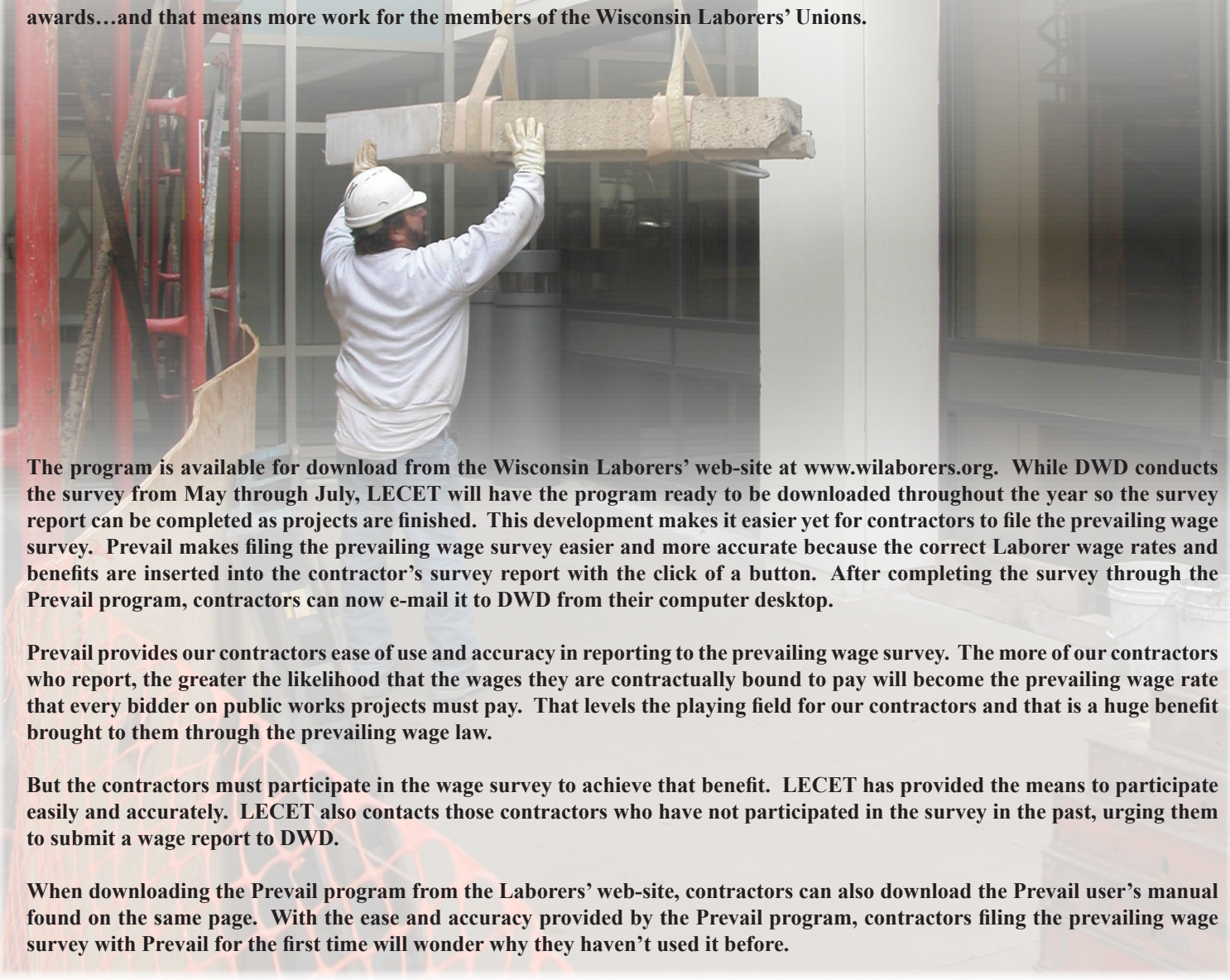
PREVAIL Program Available Throughout the Year

The annual prevailing wage survey is conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) from late May through the following July. Last May, contractors throughout Wisconsin received a survey booklet from DWD. The 2007 annual Prevailing Wage Survey will be used to create the wage determinations for public works projects let in 2008.

Those contractors who reported the wages and benefits that they paid in the previous year are the only source of information that DWD has available to make a wage determination for each of the 72 counties in the state. If no contractor reports wages and benefits paid to his labor force on sewer & water projects performed in Dodge county, then DWD uses a complicated formula to create a wage determination for those labor classifications in Dodge county on sewer & water projects. Prevailing wage determinations are compiled by DWD and are examined by LECET, but they are created by the contractors who submit to the survey.

But because of the formula that must be used to create a wage determination where no wages are reported, in a very real way, those contractors who DO NOT report to the survey are also creating the wage determination.

That is why LECET has developed the PREVAIL program. The intention of developing the Prevail program was to urge more of our contractors to report to the survey. If all of the Laborers' signatory contractors reported each year, there is a good chance that the Laborers' contract wage rate would become the prevailing wage rate in each county of the state for the Laborer classification. That situation would increase the opportunity for our contractor partners to win more public works construction awards...and that means more work for the members of the Wisconsin Laborers' Unions.



The program is available for download from the Wisconsin Laborers' web-site at www.wilaborers.org. While DWD conducts the survey from May through July, LECET will have the program ready to be downloaded throughout the year so the survey report can be completed as projects are finished. This development makes it easier yet for contractors to file the prevailing wage survey. Prevail makes filing the prevailing wage survey easier and more accurate because the correct Laborer wage rates and benefits are inserted into the contractor's survey report with the click of a button. After completing the survey through the Prevail program, contractors can now e-mail it to DWD from their computer desktop.

Prevail provides our contractors ease of use and accuracy in reporting to the prevailing wage survey. The more of our contractors who report, the greater the likelihood that the wages they are contractually bound to pay will become the prevailing wage rate that every bidder on public works projects must pay. That levels the playing field for our contractors and that is a huge benefit brought to them through the prevailing wage law.

But the contractors must participate in the wage survey to achieve that benefit. LECET has provided the means to participate easily and accurately. LECET also contacts those contractors who have not participated in the survey in the past, urging them to submit a wage report to DWD.

When downloading the Prevail program from the Laborers' web-site, contractors can also download the Prevail user's manual found on the same page. With the ease and accuracy provided by the Prevail program, contractors filing the prevailing wage survey with Prevail for the first time will wonder why they haven't used it before.



Wisconsin LECET Laborers' - Employers' Cooperation and Education Trust

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Henshue Construction

WE TRAIN - YOU GAIN!

The Wisconsin Laborers' Apprenticeship & Training Center
and the offices of the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council
are located west of the I-90 / 94 and Hwy 19 interchange at
4633 LIUNA Way.