



Texas Association of
Community Schools



-- and --

THE
FOWLER LAW
FIRM, P.C.

-- Present --

The Seventh Annual
Practical Hands-On
Construction & Facilities Advice
for Community School Districts
and Community Colleges

*With a special focus on finding money where you
least expect it*



*November 16th, 2009
at the Joe C. Thompson Center
Room 2.102
Austin, Texas*

Sponsored by
The Fowler Law Firm, PC
Texas Association of Community Schools
Council of Educational Facility Planners International
The Cooperative Purchasing Network / Region IV Education Service Center's Facility Solutions

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:00-9:00 **Registration**

9:00-9:15 **Mr. Ken McCraw**
Executive Director
Texas Association of Community Schools
Introductory Remarks

9:15- 10: 00 **TIME IS MONEY: THE MOST COSTLY MISTAKES IN ALL OF SCHOOL AND COLLEGE CONSTRUCTION AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO AVOID THEM**

Ms. Laura Fowler JD

Hear what you can do to avoid costly mistakes in construction from a lawyer who has spent twenty five years fighting for the rights of Texas school districts and colleges. This presentation teaches you how to avoid lost time and expense in acquiring land and buildings, how to get the builder or designer to give you more so you pay less, how to use insurers and bonding companies to make the builder behave, and to gain big bargaining power even if you only build one building. Learn what nobody else is teaching, information that will allow you to protect your construction program as you never have before!

10:00-10:45 ***SABRE RATTLING WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS: THE CITY, THE COUNTY AND THE GREAT STATE OF TEXAS...WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THEY WON'T DO WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO DO?***

Mr. Thomas O Meara JD

Do you feel like cities and counties are trying to take money from your school or college in the form of permitting and inspection fees? Do you wish you could get more done faster and for less money? Is there land you absolutely must have to conduct your programs effectively that is under the control of the city or county? This presentation by the attorney who tried what is still the landmark case in Texas in which school districts established the right to battle back against unfair and onerous city and county rules and ordinances will surprise you and discover the real vulnerabilities of cities and counties and the way they assess fees

and limitations. You will hear valuable suggestions that can streamline and speed up your construction schedule.

10:45-11:00 BREAK

11:00-12:00 TAKE A CLOSER LOOK: DESIGNING SYSTEMS TO REVIEW PAYMENT APPLICATIONS

Mr. John Pearce JD CPA
The Fowler Law Firm

Learn what you need to do as a building owner to make sure you get what you pay for in your construction program from the amazing experience of this accomplished lawyer/CPA joint licensed in Texas, Louisiana, Georgia and Kentucky who has conducted many multi million dollar forensic audits. Using actual construction documents, he will teach the supporting details many architects do not require for their owners that should always be produced. This is not to be missed if you are involved in any kind of construction, whether you are a building owner, design team professional, builder, subcontractor or supplier

12:00-12:15 BREAK FOR LUNCH

12:15- 1:00 LUNCH AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER

TREASURE HUNTS FOR CHESTS OF GOLD: YES, THERE IS STIMULUS MONEY OUT THERE WAITING FOR YOU!

Mr. Andy Pechacek
Deputy Director of Financial Services and Facilities Solutions
Education Service Center Region IV

Whether you are a unitary school district, a booming community college or a K-8, there are amazing opportunities to receive federal Stimulus funds and grants if you just know where to go. This fast paced presentation is a real eye opener filled with invaluable advice about how to get and keep funds and use them for everything from constructing a classroom to outfitting it. You can't afford to miss this!

1:00-1:15 BREAK

**1:15:2:00 THE RULES AND TOOLS OF 2009: WHAT THE STATE
AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE MADE
AVAILABLE FOR YOU AND A FEW MISTAKES YOU
SHOULD AVOID**

Mr. Gary Marek
Director of School Facilities
Texas Education Agency

Learn exactly what is available and affordable in the way of grants, loans and other fund sources from the director of those very funds. As an extra bonus, hear what actually changed in construction purchasing.

2:15-2:30 BREAK

**2:30-3:15: LAND ACQUISITION THAT DELIVERS WHAT IT
PROMISES**

Mr. Rick Jacobi JD PE

When you buy land in a developing area, even if your school or college trustees and you played in the fields and forests where you propose to build an educational facility, it may surprise you to learn what uses were made of the land in the past that make it either not a good purchase for a school or college campus or make it much more expensive to use. The time to know this is *before* you make a purchase. Learn from a highly respected attorney/ licensed professional engineer who has dealt extensively with large land acquisitions and every imaginable sort of environmental issue on behalf of many different types of large building owners what you must do to protect yourself before you spend your precious dollars on land acquisition. This is indispensable advice for any school or community college in a rapidly developing area of Texas.

3:30-4:00 Question and Answer Period

4:00 Adjourn



REGISTRATION FORM

7th Annual Texas Association of Community Schools
Construction Conference

NOVEMBER 16, 2009

Sponsored by
The Fowler Law Firm
Texas Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN)
Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI)

7th Annual Practical Hands on Construction & Facilities Advice for Community
School Districts & Community Colleges

November 16, 2009 8am-4pm Breakfast & Lunch Provided

Joe C. Thompson Center
2405 Robert Dedman Drive, Austin, Texas 78712
Room 2.102 (Conference)
Room 2.120 (Exhibits)

TO REGISTER FOR THIS CONFERENCE, PLEASE MAIL FORM WITH CHECK TO:

Texas Association of Community Schools
1011 San Jacinto Blvd., Ste. 204
Austin, Texas 78701

Make checks payable to: Texas Association of Community Schools

Registration for this conference is on a first come, first served basis. The conference has been a sellout every year. PO's will not be accepted.

PLEASE RETURN BY NOVEMBER 6, 2009.

Approved for 6 hrs. School Board Trustee Training and State Board of Education Certification Training. Approved for CEFPI Credit.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE IS NOVEMBER 6, 2009

_____ I am a member of TACS. Please register 1 person at \$140 and _____ persons at \$110 each for this conference. (Please provide the following information for each registrant).

_____ I am not a member of TACS. Please register 1 person at \$190 and _____ persons at \$160 each for this conference. (Please provide the following information for each registrant).

Organization Name: _____ Address: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____
Contact Name: _____

**TACS CONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 16, 2009**

BADGE REQUEST FORM

NAME

SCHOOL/BUSINESS NAME

Reminder: Please mail your Registration Form along with your check and Badge Request Form to the TACS office. If we do not receive your Badge Request Form, you will not have a badge waiting for you at the registration table.

**Mail to: TACS
 1011 San Jacinto Blvd., Ste. 204
 Austin, Texas 78701
 Attn: Construction Conference Registration**

If you have any questions please call 512/440-8227.