Rob McLean, Roebbelen Contracting, Inc., Elected 2024 CEA President

On January 9, Rob McLean, Executive Vice President/COO, of Roebbelen Contracting, Inc. was elected as the 2024 President of the Construction Employers’ Association (CEA), presiding over the association’s Annual General Membership Dinner Meeting held in Concord. Nearly three hundred Northern California building industry executives attended the event which featured keynote speaker Alex Smith, former NFL quarterback and “NFL Comeback Player of the Year.”

CEA’s other newly-elected officers were also introduced at the event: CEA First Vice President Kevin O’Riordan, Executive Vice President, Hathaway Dinwiddie Construction Co.; Vice President Kathryn Cahill Thompson, CEO, Cahill Contractors LLC; and CEA Past President/Treasurer Jon Foad, President and CEO of Rudolph and Sletten, Inc. Michael Walton continues to serve as Secretary of the association of more than 100 union-affiliated building contractors who collectively perform $30 billion in construction volume annually. CEA’s membership list includes most of the leading building contractors in Northern California who construct a broad spectrum of prominent projects, including K-12 schools, community colleges and universities, commercial and government buildings, health care facilities, multi-family housing, water infrastructure, energy and power facilities, bio-life science labs, technology and data centers, sports stadiums and parking structures.

McLean joined the Roebelen organization in 1996. He served as a Project Manager until 2004, when he took on the role of Division Manager in charge of construction operations for the Roebelen Construction Management Services Division. In 2006, McLean became a partner in the organization and in 2009, was promoted to Vice President of Corporate Operations where he led all business operations of the company. In 2010, McLean was appointed Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer where he currently oversees all construction activities; organizing, planning and managing resources to ensure a successful project completion.

McLean’s participation in CEA has been active and diverse. He has served on the CEA Board of Directors and the CEA Legislative Committee since 2011. As a member of both the CEA Carpenters and Laborers Craft Committees for the past ten years, he is part of the team responsible for negotiating the Carpenters and Laborers building industry agreements. As McLean begins his year long term as the association’s leader, he emphasized the strong relationship between CEA and its labor partners, noting “the success of both parties is intertwined. With the current economic conditions and the State’s fiscal challenges, our solid labor-management partnership will help us weather changing market conditions.”

As a member-driven and led organization, CEA is especially proud of its efforts to support the next generation of construction leaders. For more than a quarter of a century, CEA has annually funded its university grant program. In 2023, CEA granted $225,000 to the construction management programs of CSU Chico; CSU Fresno; Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; CSU Sacramento; Stanford University; CSU East Bay; and UC Berkeley, bringing CEA’s total university grant funding to $3.8 million.

CEA’s Annual Meeting also included presentations to seventeen member firms who received the prestigious CEA President’s Safety Award: BNBuilders, Inc.; Bradley Concrete; Cahill Contractors LLC; Dome Construction Corporation; DPR Construction, A General Partnership; Herrero Builders, Inc.; Lathrop Construction Associates, Inc.; Level 10 Construction, LP; McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.; Novo Construction, Inc.; Performance Mechanical, Inc.; Rodan Builders, Inc.; Rudolph and Sletten, Inc.; S+B James Construction California, Inc.; S. J. Amoroso Construction Co., LLC; The Core Group; and Truebeck Construction, Inc. The Most Improved Safety Program Award was awarded to Schultz Industrial Services, Inc.
CEA provides professional labor relations representation, legislative and regulatory advocacy, safety education and advocacy, labor-management partnering, builder networking opportunities, an annual confidential building industry compensation survey, and many other services and benefits.

The association maintains offices in Walnut Creek and Sacramento. For more information, visit www.cea-ca.org.

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2024 CEA Officers. (L-R) Michael Walton, Rob McLean, Jon Foad, Kathryn Cahill Thompson and Kevin O’Riordan.