EREF Board of Directors Elects 2016 Officers, Expands Strategic Direction

Raleigh, NC (January 28, 2016) – The Board of Directors of the Environmental Research and Education Foundation (EREF) is pleased to announce the election of its 2016 Officers:

Chairman
Leonard “Butch” Joyce, P.E.
President and CEO, Joyce Engineering

Vice Chairman
Patrick Carroll
President and CEO, Environmental Solutions Group

Secretary/Treasurer
Ven Poole
Chairman and CEO, Waste Industries

Leonard ‘Butch’ Joyce is President and CEO of Joyce Engineering, Inc., which he founded in 1983. Joyce Engineering offers consulting engineering, training, and environmental and operations management services to the waste industry throughout the southeastern U.S. Joyce Engineering has offices in VA, NC and SC.

Butch works closely with clients serving as a Project Consultant and Principal of the Firm. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Waste Industries Association since 1990 serving as its Chairman and currently chairs the Legislative Committee. He chairs the Education committee of the National Waste & Recycling Association. He is an Elder at Stony Point Reformed Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia. He has served on the EREF Board of Directors since 1999.

Butch and his wife Judy have been married for 37 years and they have 3 children and 2 grandchildren.

Patrick Carroll has been President and CEO of the Environmental Solutions Group (ESG) since 2010. ESG, whose corporate headquarters is in Chattanooga, TN, is a combination of Heil Environmental, Marathon Equipment Company, Curotto-Can Company and Bayne Machine Works.

Prior to this role, Pat was the President of DE-STA-CO (a Dover Company) for 5 years. DE-STA-CO is a global company focused on industrial automation components with manufacturing locations in 9 different countries in the U.S., Europe, Asia and South America. Prior to his role at DE-STA-CO, Pat was with Terex Corporation for five years, four years as President of the Telelect Utilities business and one year in business development at the corporate headquarters. Prior to his role at Terex, he spent twelve years with Ingersoll-Rand in their construction and mining business where he
held a number of positions with increasing global responsibility in sales, marketing, new product development and business unit management.

Pat holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Science from Montana Tech and an MBA from the University of Texas in Austin. Pat and his wife Jennie have three daughters – Mandee (28 years), Sydney (24 years) and Lexie (21 years).

Ven Poole joined Waste Industries in 1990 and has served as the Chief Executive Officer since 2008. Waste Industries is headquartered in Raleigh, NC and provides waste collection services across the southeastern United States.

Prior to being CEO, Ven served as Vice President, Corporate Development at Waste Industries for six years. Prior to that Ven served as Director of Support Services, and from 1990 through 1995 he served as the company’s Risk Management Director. He holds a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from North Carolina State University. Ven has more than 22 years of experience in the solid waste industry. In addition to being on the Board of EREF, Ven also serves on the Boards of the NC State University Entrepreneurship Initiative and St. David’s school. Ven and his wife Lisa have been married for 29 years and have three daughters.

“We are confident that this new leadership will continue to help grow EREF’s scientific research and educational initiatives,” said Bryan Staley, Ph.D., P.E., EREF President and CEO. “EREF is the leading source of research within the waste industry and our Board of Directors and its leadership are instrumental in growing and maintaining our core programs.”

EREF Repositions Itself for Expanded Strategic Direction

The EREF Board of Directors has determined a new and expanded strategic direction for the next five years. As a part of this direction, the Board has established the goal of the foundation during this period is to substantially increase the amount given in grants, scholarships and internships annually. In addition to this strategic goal, the Board has outlined several objectives that will help to keep EREF along this path. By maintaining the strength of its core programs, EREF will continue to build a recognized brand as a leader in solid waste research and education. The Research Grants, Scholarships, Continuing Education and Internal Research programs are essential to the continued growth of EREF and expanding its stakeholder base, both within the solid waste industry and in peripheral/related industries such as utility and manufacturing.

Another goal is to seek substantial revenue growth. This will be done via two primary avenues for revenue growth. First, by expanding EREF’s donor base to peripheral industries such as manufacturing and utilities, as well as identifying major donors (corporate and individual) with philanthropic interests that parallel EREF’s mission. Second, to maintain and increase fundraising revenue from existing events and programs such as the EREF Annual Charitable Auction, Fall Classic and Networking Event, Poker Tournament, Continuing Education and Internal Research Program.

“By outlining this strategic direction for the coming years, we can keep EREF on track to continue doing what it does best, providing solid waste research and education initiatives that will benefit the industry as a whole,” said Butch Joyce, P.E., Chairman of the EREF Board of Directors. “EREF is vital in developing sustainable waste management practices, as well as providing scholarships and internships to students interested in the field in order to ensure new ideas are always being explored. By increasing the amount given in grants, scholarships and internships, EREF will be able to benefit the solid waste industry even more than it already does.”
In order to accomplish these goals, EREF will make staffing adjustments in 2016 to provide sufficient bandwidth for the desired growth through the creation of two new positions: a Communications Coordinator, who will be responsible for executing all communications supporting brand awareness, programs, partnerships, fundraising and marketing campaigns, and a Program Manager for Research and Scholarships, who will manage the research and scholarships programs. Additionally, areas of responsibility for key staff will be realigned. As part of these changes, Kristy Pickurel is now the Vice President of Development and Communications, and has primary responsibility of all communications and fundraising staff.

“The addition of two new full-time staff to EREF will allow the Foundation to continue to grow and meet these strategic goals that the Board has outlined for the next five years," said Bryan Staley Ph.D., P.E., EREF President and CEO. “With the additional staffing and management support, EREF is well positioned to fulfill its mission more effectively and to serve the solid waste industry in a greater capacity.”

For a complete list of the 2016 EREF Board of Directors or to learn more about the foundation and its mission, visit www.erefdn.org.

EREF is a 501(c)3 class charity that funds and directs scientific research and educational initiatives for waste management practices to benefit industry participants and the communities they serve. For more complete information on EREF funded research, its scholarship program and how to donate to this great cause, visit www.erefdn.org.

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