



Meeting Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting Monday, August 31, 2015 – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Phoenix, Arizona, USA

The CPWA Board of Directors met on August 31, 2015 in Phoenix, AZ. CPWA President Kealy Dedman (Ontario) chaired the meeting. The meeting was also attended by Board members Andrew Stevenson (Saskatchewan), David Knowles (Atlantic Provinces), David Sparanese (British Columbia), Claudine Claessens (Quebec), Darwin Durnie (Alberta) Steve Blayney (Manitoba) and Craig Kennedy (Newfoundland/Labrador).

Interim APWA Executive Director Larry Frevert and Gail Clark, Canadian Advocacy and Outreach Manager were in attendance. APWA Director/CPWA Liaison Rick Stinson attended. CPWA Advocacy Consultant Alan Young, Tactix, was also in attendance.

Signing of the APWA – CPWA Letter of Understanding

The Presidents of CPWA and APWA signed the 2015 Letter of Understanding with the prior approval of their respective Boards of Directors. CPWA President Kealy Dedman signed on behalf of CPWA and APWA President Brian Usher signed on behalf of APWA. The Letter of Understanding is effective until 2020 when it will again be reviewed, updated, and submitted for approval of both organizations. (A copy of the Letter of Understanding is attached).

Welcome/Introductions

Kealy welcomed the Board of Directors and thanked them for their support for the CPWA activities at Congress.

CPWA Monday at Congress Review

Kealy Dedman briefly reviewed the CPWA events held on August 31, 2015 noting that the International Infrastructure Round Table was well attended by representatives of Australia, Canada, US, Ghana, Finland, New Zealand, and Mexico. Doug Drever led the conversation as moderator. Among the discussion topics included were updates from each country, asset management, infrastructure funding, and association issues such as attracting young professionals and the use of social media.

Kealy noted that CPWA's education session updated members regarding CPWA projects and activity and the session also included an update from Alan Young (Tactix) on the election in Canada.

The CPWA Luncheon was very well attended with 160 attendees from Canada, the US, Australia, New Zealand and others. Keynote Speaker Brock Carlton of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities provided an excellent presentation which included FCM's progress efforts on changing the conversation about infrastructure investment. FCM would like upcoming conversations with government to focus more on the results that investment in infrastructure can achieve for the cities and for the economy.

Kealy also noted that Paul Smeltzer, National Public Works Week Committee Member, did an excellent job of announcing the NPWW award winning municipalities and that the program continues to raise the bar for educating the public about public works and the enhancements that public works brings to our communities and lives.

APWA Board of Directors Update

Executive Director Search: APWA Director Rick Stinson reported to the Board that that APWA will be conducting a search for the new Executive Director. An executive search will be conducted using a search firm and will be led by an APWA executive search committee. The APWA executive search team will also include a young professional and a member of the Council of Chapters. It is estimated that a new Executive Director should be on board by April 2016. He also noted that APWA is in the process of renegotiating their KC lease or considering new space for the offices in Kansas City.

APWA Finances: Rick noted that, financially, APWA is in good shape. The Toronto Congress was financially successful and APWA met FY 15 expenses without the use of any the reserve fund.

Upcoming Congress/PWX: The next Congress will be held in Minneapolis, MN in 2016, followed by Orlando in 2017, and Kansas City in 2018. The International Federation of Municipal Engineering (IFME) will meet jointly with the 2018 Congress in Kansas City.

International Agreement: Rick noted that APWA, CPWA and ICLEI-Mexico will be signing an agreement to cooperate. The agreement will be signed at APWA's International Committee Meeting on September 1, 2015..

Asset Management: Rick updated the Board that APWA and CPWA are launching a "Task Force on Asset Management" to assist in furthering members/municipalities in implementing asset management. Three of the seven-member Task Force are from Canada: Steve Wyton of Calgary, Alain Gonthier of Ottawa, and Joline Macfarlane of Airdrie.

Technical Committee Meetings: Finally, Rick noted that the Technical Committees will hold a joint February meeting in Kansas City.

Update from Ottawa

CPWA's Ottawa advocacy consultant Alan Young (Tactix) gave a report on the election noting that this election campaign period is the longest since 1872. He observed that, at the present time, the election is a legitimate three-way race with the Conservative, Liberal, and NDP parties all gathering near equal support. Alan noted that CPWA's efforts to reach out not only to the Conservatives but also to the opposition parties in the past months has been the smart move. He also noted that Ontario will play a major role as it has 1/3 of the seats in Parliament.

Alan noted that it is possible that there will not be a majority party seated in Parliament and discussed three different approaches that a minority might take to govern: (1) on a case by case approach with leader party brokers working with other parties; (2) by a formal coalition government (which has been used in the past - David Cameron coalition government as example) and (3) two or more parties agree on a legislative program and work together on the program.

The Mike Duffy trial resumed in August but is now on hiatus until after the election. Alan noted that 25% of Canadians are following the trial closely. Only 14% believe the Prime Minister has acted properly in response to the Duffy case and 49% believe he has acted improperly. Alan noted that the scandal could hurt the Conservatives in the upcoming election.

Alan reported that infrastructure is playing a big role in the upcoming election and pointed to the Liberal platform that is promising \$60 billion in new investment in infrastructure. He did note that the Liberal proposal brought a new dynamic into the campaign – the question of which party will better will "manage government finances?". The Liberals will invest by creating a deficit, while the Conservatives and NDP promise to keep the budget balanced. Liberal Trudeau argues that money is currently cheap, and this is the time to borrow to generate growth and grow the economy. The NDP and Conservatives oppose creating a deficit.

Building Internal Capacity as an Issue to Pursue

Kealy Dedman noted that there is an emerging lack of capacity and lack of qualified individuals with municipal expertise to lead in public works and believes this is an issue that CPWA may want to champion in the future. Kealy noted that internal expertise is all but disappearing.

CPWA Website

Staff Gail Clark noted that the CPWA website has gone live and includes updated materials and information. Gail noted that she had updated the information and resources and that APWA Staffer Patty Mahan played a major role in getting the website operational.

CPWA Policy for Posting on the CPWA Website

Following several requests from other organizations to post information about upcoming events on the CPWA website, the Board discussed the need for a policy on this issue. The current request comes from our partner organization, Canadian Common Ground Association. Darwin Durnie and David Knowles offered to form a subcommittee on this issue and provide information on the next call. Rick Stinson said he would provide the New England policy for their review. Larry Frevert will look for APWA policy on this issue and report back.

Canadian Click Listen and Learn

The Board was asked for ideas for a Canadian Click Listen and Learn to be produced by APWA. The Board noted that as a Board directed at advocacy, CPWA does not handle education as it is a Chapter initiative, but provided the following ideas:

- (1) Unpaved /Gravel Road Maintenance
- (2) New regulations for rail crossings in Canada (this is a Canada-wide issue)
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/railsafety/grade-crossings-standards.htm>
- (3) City-wide distribution maintenance

Additional 2016 Appointments

Additional CPWA appointments for the 2015-2016 year include: Darwin Durnie was reappointed as representative for the Canadian Common Ground Association and Steve Wyton was reappointed for the Canadian Infrastructure Report Card project. Neither of the positions are funded for travel/other. Gail Clark will notify the individuals involved to confirm their continued involvement.

Awards Ceremony

Kealy Dedman reminded the CPWA Board that both Darwin Durnie and Paul Smeltzer were being recognized in the APWA Awards Ceremony having been chosen as APWA Top Ten Public Works Leaders for 2015. She asked that the Board attend the ceremony to cheer on these leaders.

Chapter Reports:

David Spananese, BC Chapter: This year's PWABC Technical Conference & Trade Show will be held in Penticton from September 21st-23rd. The theme of the conference is: Public Works on the Job 24/7. The PWABC Annual Awards will be presented at this Conference. The Chapter is holding a three-day asset management course in October 2016. The Roadrunner magazine for summer was published and continues to be a great cooperation between the western Canada CPWA Chapters.

David Knowles, Atlantic Chapter: The Chapter will be hosting its 40th Year Anniversary Chapter Conference on October 21-23. They anticipate a gathering of approximately 125. David noted that the Board will be naming a new representative to the CPWA Board of Directors at that time and that it will be Don Morehouse of Moncton. Membership holds steady with a recent gain of 2 members.

Andrew Stevenson, Saskatchewan Chapter: The Chapter will hold a full day fall Operator Workshop: '*Standard Operating Procedures, Contingency Plans & Emergency Planning Workshop*' on October 2. The CEU training event will be followed by a social Casino Night event. The Chapter has a new administrator and is converting to the T4 template for the Chapter website. The Chapter is doing well financially, with membership, and is welcoming new younger members to the Board of Directors.

Craig Kennedy, Newfoundland: Craig noted the 29th Fall Conference and Equipment Show to be held in St. Johns from September 30 to October 2. The Chapter Board will be naming a new CPWA representative most likely to be Ron Fleming of Paradise, NL.

Steve Blayney, Manitoba: The Chapter is doing a membership study to try to achieve balance in their membership. There is a snow and ice winter road maintenance one day Conference to be held this fall. The Chapter recently presented two projects of the year awards to the City of Winnipeg and received good press coverage. The Chapter contributes to the Road Runner magazine as part of the western Canada cooperation. Steve congratulated Saskatchewan on their efforts for National Public Works Week in May in procuring a large number of municipal proclamations.

Claudine Claessens, Quebec: The Quebec Chapter is working to bring more small cities into the Chapter membership. They are holding their Fall Conference September 8 – 11, 2015. The Chapter is reviewing their strategic plan, reviewing their program offerings and is working with a communications consultant to improve their communications.

Kealy Dedman, Ontario: The Chapter has a new strategic plan that will assist them in becoming more relevant to the membership. The Chapter plans an OPWA Fall Workshop entitled **Livable Communities' in Focus** In November, The session will focus on the planning and operational aspects of cities that lead to healthy, functional and growing communities. The Chapter is holding a Chapter dinner at Congress and is sponsoring an OPWA hospitality suite for Canadian members at Congress.

Darwin Durnie, Alberta: Having left the meeting as a recipient in the awards ceremony, Darwin Durnie was not available for a report.

Adjournment:

Having concluded their business, the Board adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.

Next Meeting:

The Board of Directors will next meet by phone on October 13, 2015 at 1:30 pm Eastern Time.

The minutes were recorded and are respectfully submitted by:

Gail Ann Clark

CPWA Advocacy and Outreach Manager

Attachment: Letter of Understanding between CPWA and APWA, 2015



CPWA APWA
Agreement 2015.pdf