



Meeting Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting December 8, 2015

The CPWA Board of Directors met by teleconference on December 8, 2015. As CPWA President Kealy Dedman (Ontario) led the discussion. The meeting was attended by Board members Andrew Stevenson (Saskatchewan), Steve Blayney (Manitoba), Darwin Durnie and David Sparanese (British Columbia). Don Morehouse (Atlantic Provinces), Ron Fleming, (Newfoundland/Labrador) and Claudine Claessens (Quebec) were unable to attend.

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

Welcome/Roll Call/Approval of November 2015 Meeting Notes

Kealy Dedman welcomed the Directors to the call. The attending Directors approved the meeting notes from November 10, 2015.

APWA Update

New Offices in KC: Rick Stinson noted that the Board met in Kansas City in November and toured the new office space that will be located in a downtown Kansas City location -- One Kansas City Place. The office move will take place in February 2016, one week prior to the combined meetings of the technical committees.

Executive Director Search: Rick Stinson that Search Committee for the new Executive Director includes the Executive Committee of the APWA Board of Directors, Kealy Dedman as President of CPWA, and a young professional. The search will be narrowed first to 8-10 possibilities, then to three for interviews in March. With negotiations and contracts thereafter, it is estimated that the new Executive Director may on board in June, 2016.

Chapter Finance Webinar: Rick noted that APWA would hold a webinar to assist Chapters with the change of fiscal year. The change is to bring Chapters on the same fiscal reporting schedule as APWA. Larry Frevert will follow up with the Board with more detail.

Awards: Rick noted that awards nominations were due on February 1, 2016 and that the snow awards nominations were due on March 1, 2016. He expressed that the Board should encourage Canadian members to nominate.

Combined Technical Committee Meetings: Rick noted that the combined technical committee meetings have been scheduled for February 17-19 in Kansas City, MO. Larry Frevert noted that the asset management task force would meet with each of the technical committees during their meetings to assess the use of asset management in each of their disciplines.

Strategic Plan for International: Larry Frevert noted that the International Affairs Committee will meet in Kansas City on February 3-4 to work on a strategic plan for APWA's international efforts.

Update on Ottawa

Alan Young noted that Parliament had finally returned to Ottawa during the first week of December. Halifax MP Geoff Regan was named Speaker of the House of Commons for the 42nd Parliament. The Speaker's role is to ensure the

orderly flow of business in the House. Regan has been a member of the House since 2001 and is a Liberal MP representing Halifax West.

Governor General David Johnson delivered the Speech from the Throne to open the 42nd session of Parliament on December 4th. The speech was relatively brief – outlining in broad strokes the Government’s agenda which includes transparency in government and which puts emphasis on growth for the middle class. Opposition Leader Rona Ambrose and her conservative colleagues criticize the “big government and big spending” approach and criticized the Speech for a lack of economic focus, particularly on the private sector side.

First up on the PM’s agenda is reforming taxes with a reduction for the middle class and a new tax bracket of 33% for annual incomes over \$200,000. The Government is moving quickly on this agenda and will implement the tax cut by January 1.

Having received a large number of CVs for consideration, new Infrastructure and Communities Minister Sohi is working on putting together his new staff. He made two recent speeches before the Canada 2020 and CUTA Conferences. In these, he mentioned his past experience of driving a bus in Edmonton. He has received his Mandate Letter from the Prime Minister which outlines his responsibilities. <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/minister-infrastructure-and-communities-mandate-letter>. Particularly of interest to CPWA, the Mandate asks the Minister to “promote better asset management of infrastructure in Canada” – an issue that CPWA and other stakeholders have promoted.

Alan suggested that Kealy Dedman should make initial Hill visits in Ottawa in February. Any committee meetings held in Parliament will present another opportunity for CPWA to make a statement. It is likely that there will be pre-budget consultations in the new year. Darwin Durnie noted that municipal funds are often pirated by the provincial government and believes that this is good discussion for the visits in Ottawa.

Update on the Grade Crossing Regulations for Railways and Road Authorities

Gail Clark noted that CPWA is still awaiting FCM’s draft of a collaborative communique regarding the new regulations and their requirements and deadlines. FCM is awaiting more information from Transport Canada. If not received promptly, perhaps CPWA should go ahead with an alert to the CPWA membership.

https://www.tc.gc.ca/media/documents/railsafety/GradeCrossings_FACT_SHEET_EN_8x11.pdf

Darwin Durnie reported that the new regulations were a topic of discussion at the western Canada region CPWA discussion at Congress in Phoenix and there has been follow up in the region with the Chapters. Darwin is working with CGGA, Canada Railways, and others on a potential Spring 2016 seminar series on implementing the regulations for the western region Chapters to include British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta.

Steve Blayney offered to assist Darwin in organizing and promoting these seminars.

Kealy Dedman noted that this topic was considered for the Canadian Click Listen and Learn and it is possible that the speakers from the western Canada series of programs could also be used for the CCL. Darwin agreed that this might work.

CPWA Board of Directors Meeting in Ottawa – April 18-19, 2016

The Board discussed possible topics of mutual interest for the morning discussion with IFME Directors in attendance. These included:

- The new Canadian Infrastructure Report Card
- CPWA’s success with working collaboratively with partner organizations
- Chris Champion’s asset management presentation
- ISI presentation on the Envision tool and sustainable infrastructure

The Board discussed possible afternoon visitor/updates from other stakeholder and government organizations:

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- Engineers Canada (new resiliency tool)
- Infrastructure Canada

CPWA Events @ PWX in Minneapolis

The Board of Directors was asked to think about possible speakers for the 2016 CPWA Annual Luncheon at Congress. The Board agreed that the CPWA Education Session with Alan's update on Ottawa and President's Update on CPWA initiatives should continue to be held with the possible addition of CPWA's participating in the Advocacy Super-Session being held by the APWA Government Affairs Committee. Staff will ask Andrea Eales to join the call in January to talk further on the topics and goals for this session.

Rick Stinson noted that CPWA has been very successful in its advocacy in Canada and has much to share with US counterparts including working well in partnership with other organizations.

National Public Works Week Presentations

Gail Clark reported the following presentations were completed in November and December:

- County of Newell, AB – Darwin Durnie – Nov. 5 at 1:00 pm (confirmed)
- City of Port Moody, BC – Doug Regehr, BC Chapter – Nov. 10 at 7:00 pm (confirmed)
- City of Kitchener, ON – Kealy Dedman – Nov. 16 at 7:00 pm (confirmed)
- City of Mississauga, ON – Kealy Dedman – Dec. 9 at 9:00 am (confirmed)

Kealy Dedman noted that the final 2015 presentation of awards is scheduled for December 9 for the City of Mississauga. Kealy also asked staff to contact the City of Kitchener to see if we could get a picture from their event.

Gail Clark noted that Board members Steve Blayney and David Sparanese have volunteered as evaluators for the 2016 National Public Works Week Awards program. Paul Smeltzer will also act as an evaluator for 2016. The program will kick off with the proclamation campaign to be announced in February.

Chapter Discussion

Steve Blayney noted that the Manitoba Chapter is struggling with the new fiscal year change/ financial reporting requirements being requested by APWA. Several of the other Chapters noted that it would present some complications but they are working through them.

Larry Frevert promised to follow up with more information on Chapter treasurer and other resources.

Adjournment:

Having concluded their business, the Board adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting:

The Board of Directors will next meet by phone January 12, 2016 at 1:30 pm Eastern Time.

The minutes were recorded and are respectfully submitted by:

Gail Ann Clark

CPWA Advocacy and Outreach Manager