

Board of Directors Meeting April 6, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Roll Call

The CPWA Board of Directors met by teleconference on April 6, 2017. CPWA President Andrew Stevenson, Saskatchewan Chapter, welcomed the CPWA Directors and called the meeting to order. Anne Jackson, Director of Sustainability and CPWA Advocacy, staffed the meeting.

In attendance

- Steve Blayney, Manitoba Chapter
- Sal Iannello, Ontario Chapter
- Luc Fugere, Quebec Chapter
- Rick Stinson, APWA Region I Director
- Scott Grayson, APWA Executive Director
- Alan Young, CPWA Advocacy Consultant

Absent

- Darwin Durnie, Alberta Chapter
- Don Morehouse, Atlantic Provinces Chapter
- David Sparanese, British Columbia Chapter
- Craig Kennedy, Newfoundland/Labrador Chapter

Approval of February 14, 2017 and March 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the February 14, 2017 and March 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes is postponed until the May meeting when quorum can be established.

APWA Update

Rick Stinson reported that APWA will be asking all chapters to base their strategic plans on APWA's new strategic plan, which includes the following framework for the association's strategic goals:

- Value: Define the value of public works and enhance its visibility/awareness
- Voice: Be the voice of public works to government leaders and media
- Education & Credentialing: Ensure excellence in education and credentialing
- Membership and Chapters: Create a dynamic membership and chapter model

Anne confirmed that the new APWA Strategic Plan was sent out with the minutes from the last meeting.

Scott Grayson reported that the Council of Chapters Steering Committee will be convening at the end of April to brainstorm its structure in relation to the new strategic plan (e.g. does the Council of Chapters still need committees or should it form groups around projects).

Rick reported that APWA staff is working on the chapter accounting software to make it easier for chapters to report and for APWA to file.

Rick reported that at the APWA Board meeting in February, the Board removed the Charles Walter Nichols Award for Environmental Excellence effective 2018.

Rick reported that APWA staff is moving forward on a plan for the DCS reboot for the APWA Board meeting in June.

Rick reported that APWA IT staff has developed a three-year strategic plan.

Rick reported that the Finance Committee will be in Kansas City April 17 – 18 working on the FY2018 budget.

Scott reported that APWA has set a new record for membership at approximately 29,690 members, and that as of Tuesday, the Snow Conference has a record 591 full registrants.

Ottawa Update

Alan Young reported that the biggest news out of Ottawa is that Finance Minister Bill Morneau tabled [the federal Liberal government's second budget](#) in the House of Commons on March 22nd. This is largely seen as a 'stand pat' budget, since the government does not have a lot of new revenue. It represents a 'wait and see' approach regarding the potential for international tax reform and a border adjustment tax in the US, which could impact the Canadian economy. Minister Morneau and Prime Minister Trudeau are proceeding cautiously and there may be more details in the Fall Economic Statement, which is typically released in October or November.

Given the significant focus on infrastructure investments in Budget 2016, augmented in Minister Morneau's Fall Economic Statement delivered last year, Budget 2017 does not put additional infrastructure money on the table. It was anticipated that legislation to create the Canada Infrastructure Bank would be tabled around the same time as the budget, but that didn't happen. CPWA commended the government on Budget 2017 in a press release, highlighting the data collection initiative announced for Canadian infrastructure. Alan shared CPWA's press release with the Prime Minister's Office, Finance Minister's Office, Infrastructure Minister's Office and Public Safety Minister's Office.

The House of Commons was on break the week after Budget 2017 was tabled. Cabinet ministers and MPs traveled, both domestically and internationally, to promote the budget, and a number of infrastructure projects were announced – particularly in Ontario and Quebec, and specifically water and wastewater projects.

The Canada Infrastructure Bank, as noted above, is awaiting legislation, but another senior advisor has been announced. Bruce McCuaig has been named Executive Adviser at the Canada Infrastructure Bank. McCuaig was formerly the CEO of Metrolinx, the agency responsible for transit planning in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). Mr. McCuaig joins Jim Leech, retired CEO of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, who was named Special Advisor to the Canada Infrastructure Bank in February.

Alan reported that a letter of greeting for National Public Works Week is expected from Prime Minister Trudeau by the end of the week. He isn't sure if it will be sent directly to Anne or come to his office. ***Anne will let Alan know if/when she receives the letter.***

Alan reported that Senator Mitchell and senior staff from Minister Sohi's office are confirmed to meet with CPWA in Ottawa. Alan is still working with staff from Public Safety and Ms. Judy Sgro to confirm meetings. Alan asked whether, if he is able to confirm Ms. Sgro for Monday morning, that can be accommodated by the agenda and Anne confirmed.

CPWA May Meeting in Ottawa – Draft Agenda

Anne provided an overview of the draft agenda for the May meeting in Ottawa. Steve Blayney asked whether CPWA should invite MPs to dinner and Alan noted that most MPs will likely be in transit and that the issue of MPs not being allowed to accept dinner and drinks complicates matters. Sal Iannello mentioned that he knows one MP very well, but suggested that he wasn't sure about the issue of paying.

Alan asked Anne to let him know what room CPWA would be meeting in at the Westin, so he can pass the information along and Anne agreed to let him know as soon as she confirms.

CPWA at PWX – Canadian Chapter Exchange

Anne reported that for the past few years, the Western Canadian chapters have held a meeting during PWX so they can exchange ideas and information. At the Chapter Leaders Training in February, a similar exchange was held for all the chapter leaders from Canada and it seemed to be well received. Anne asked for input about expanding the meeting at PWX to include all Canadian chapters, noting that the meeting is typically held on Tuesday afternoon for 2 hours (3:00 – 5:00) and that each Chapter's President, Delegate, Administrator and CPWA Director are invited. Anne suggested CPWA might help build the agenda. Sal agreed it was a good idea, but noted that it could conflict with the Ontario chapter's activities. Andrew Stevenson asked if moving the meeting up (e.g. 1:00 – 3:00 PM) would work better for Ontario and Sal thought so. ***Anne will coordinate with the Ontario Chapter before confirming the meeting time.***



Canadian Public Works Association
45 O'Connor Street, Suite 1150
Ottawa, ON K1P 1A4
Phone (202) 408-9541 • Fax (202) 408-9542
www.cpwa.net

Sal noted that the Ontario chapter has begun looking for sponsors for their hospitality suite and asked to whom in each chapter requests should be directed. Luc Fugere suggested sending the request to Anne, who can forward to each of the CPWA Directors, who can then forward it to the right person in their chapter. Sal noted that the request is typically sent to the president of each chapter, but he doesn't know if he has an up-to-date list. **Anne has communicated recently with all chapter presidents regarding NPWW and will forward Sal her contact list.** Sal noted that all are welcome to visit Ontario's hospitality suite.

CPWA Draft Charter

Anne reported that the CPWA draft charter was distributed before the last meeting and asked for any comments. She is seeking input so the charter may be submitted to the APWA Board at their June meeting. Anne reported that the only comment received thus far, was something Steve brought up at the last meeting.

Referring to the section of the draft charter that reads "Upon acceptance of his/her appointment, each CPWA Director's employer (or the CPWA Director, if retired) or Chapter is committing to funding this trip...", Steve asked why all three options needed to be spelled out and whether it could simply be the responsibility of the chapter, as in the case of a chapter delegate. Anne noted that the language 'member (or member's employer)' is consistent with other charters and that Andrew suggested adding 'or chapter'. David Sparanese expressed concern about specifying that the responsibility would always fall to the chapter.

Steve noted that he raised the issue because of the reference to 'if retired'. This issue came up for the Manitoba chapter in regard to the Top 10 Public Works Leaders of the Year (the chapter nominated someone, not realizing until after they had completed – or almost completed – the nomination that the person was ineligible because they were retired). Steve also noted that his chapter is trying to get past presidents more involved and asked about whether Region Directors are paid to attend PWX by APWA. Rick noted that as of about 10 years ago, Board members could get reimbursed for attendance at PWX because of the meetings and commitments they have (they aren't able to get much educational value from the conference).

Anne noted that, in terms of the charter and who is responsible financially for CPWA Directors to attend PWX, the reference is to clarify that travel to attend the CPWA Annual Board Meeting in Ottawa is included in CPWA's budget, but that travel to attend PWX is not. Scott confirmed that this is consistent with other committees that address national issues. **Approval of the charter is postponed until the May meeting when quorum can be established.**

Other Business

Anne asked the CPWA Board to consider any issues or projects that could be suggested to the Council of Chapters Steering Committee for their consideration. She mentioned that an issue was raised by the Ontario Chapter at the exchange meeting at the Chapter Leaders Training that she thought might be applicable to a few other chapters. Some communities in northern Ontario may be closer to Manitoba than to southern Ontario where much of the chapter's activities occur, and the Ontario chapter wondered if the Manitoba chapter served any members from Ontario.

Adjournment

Andrew thanked everyone for their time and participation and, having concluded their business, the CPWA Board adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting

The CPWA Board of Directors will next meet in Ottawa on May 8th.

The minutes were recorded and respectfully submitted by:

Anne Jackson

APWA Director of Sustainability and CPWA Advocacy