

Board of Directors Meeting June 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Roll Call

The CPWA Board of Directors met by teleconference on June 13, 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

- Don Morehouse, Atlantic Provinces Chapter
- Sal Iannello, Ontario Chapter
- Steve Wyton, CPWA Canadian Infrastructure Report Card Representative
- Rich Berning, APWA Region V Director
- Jill Marilley, APWA Region IX Director
- Scott Grayson, APWA Executive Director

Absent

- Darwin Durnie, Alberta Chapter
- David Sparanese, British Columbia Chapter
- Steve Blayney, Manitoba Chapter
- Craig Kennedy, Newfoundland/Labrador Chapter
- Luc Fugere, Quebec Chapter

Approval of May 8, 2017 and May 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the May 8, 2017 and May 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes is postponed until the July meeting when quorum can be established.

CPWA Coalition Updates

Canadian Infrastructure Report Card (CIRC)

Steve Wyton reported that Infrastructure Canada is working with Statistics Canada (StatsCan) who will issue a survey (mandatory for municipalities) to collect data for the next Canadian Infrastructure Report Card.

StatsCan is very hesitant to provide raw data to the CIRC Steering Committee, so Nick Larson (CSCE) and Alain Gonthier (CNAM) are looking at past survey data (from one asset type) to create a “sample” of the level of data that the CIRC Steering Committee wants in order to further negotiate with StatsCan. The survey is expected to be issued in September (and be open during September and October).

The Canadian Construction Association (CCA) suggests that the CIRC partner organizations provide Infrastructure Canada with funds (\$3,000 from each partner) to promote the survey as a show of faith. The CIRC Steering Committee has quotes from RENEW and Water Canada.

Andrew Stevenson asked about StatsCan’s hesitancy. **Steve isn’t sure, but will reach out to Bill (Ferreira, CCA) and Alana (Lavoie, FCM).** Andrew suggested it would help to know StatsCan’s concerns. Steve noted that when raw data is provided in detailed form (broken down by region, province and size of municipality) the CIRC Steering Committee is able to see trends in the data.

Canadian Common Ground Alliance (CCGA)

Darwin Durnie not in attendance. No report.

APWA Update

Scott Grayson reported that it has been a busy time. Membership has hit a historic high this week of more than 29,800. Many APWA staff have been on the road for PWX and Snow Conference site selection. The APWA Board, at its meeting June 23 – 24, will review 18 committee charters for approval, which were all developed to align with APWA’s strategic

plan. In addition, The APWA Board will review an operational plan compiled by staff that links the operational activities of the association with the strategic plan.

To mark National Public Works Week, the APWA Washington, D.C. office hosted “Donuts and Trucks” on Capitol Hill in partnership with the D.C. Department of Public Works (DC DPW). The House of Representatives Public Works and Infrastructure Caucus supported the event and one of the Caucus Co-Chairs attended the event to recognize public works professionals and DC DPW staff.

Ottawa Update

Alan Young reported that the House of Commons is already sitting for an extra week of work and will sit next week as well, as the Government tries to get several things done. The House is expected to rise Friday June 23rd and the Senate will sit for an additional week.

The most important bill is [C-44, the Budget Implementation Act, 2017](#). The Senate is showing its independence, particularly regarding the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB), with some senators proposing that the CIB section of Bill C-44 be carved out and addressed in the fall. This presents the potential for a showdown.

The CIB is receiving a great deal of attention and two primary concerns have been raised. The business community is concerned about the CIB’s governance provisions (too much scope for the Government). Opposition parties are concerned about the CIB’s risk allocation (too much risk for the taxpayers). The outcome is unclear.

Alan suggested two things to watch over the summer. First, the Prime Minister may shuffle his cabinet, which is typical halfway through a mandate and may happen in July. There are lots of rumors, but Alan hasn’t heard anything about Minister Sohi.

Second, the Prime Minister may prorogue Parliament before September 18th (when the House of Commons and Senate are otherwise scheduled to return from summer break). Prorogation is the termination of a sitting and is not atypical. Alan thinks there is a 50-50 chance of prorogation, which would happen in late August or early September. At prorogation, all Government bills die, except private members’ business. Prorogation would allow a reconstitution of committees, which the Prime Minister may want since the old party system is crumbling in the Senate.

Alan reported that, in regard to the [Underground Infrastructure Safety Enhancement Act \(Bill S-229\)](#), there was a flurry of activity last month when the Speaker of the House raised a concern about whether or not S-229 is a “money bill”. “Money bills” require the government to spend money and are outside the authority of the Senate. Senate sponsor Senator Mitchell and House Sponsor MP Longfield have been providing information to the Speaker and are fairly confident that the Speaker will rule in their favor before the summer recess.

NPWW and CPWA NPWW Awards Contest Update

Anne Jackson reported that Prime Minister Trudeau provided a Letter of Greetings for National Public Works Week and that letters of greeting and proclamations were issued by six provinces and one territory. In addition, 35 municipalities proclaimed NPWW (15 from Manitoba and 11 from Saskatchewan). Anne also reported that three nominations for the NPWW Awards Contest have been completed and submitted online and another four have been started but are not complete. Conference calls with the evaluators – Steve Blayney, MB; George Jakeman, SK; and Matt Brown, BC (Andrew is going to fill in for Matt on the ‘Large/Metro Centre’ category, since Surrey is likely to submit a nomination) – have been set for June 26th and July 24th.

Draft CPWA Charter

Andrew noted that there was not a quorum, but asked for comments from the Directors in attendance.

Don Morehouse acknowledged that a lot of work had gone in to developing the charter and trying to resolve the concerns raised, but noted that the CPWA Board doesn’t see itself as a committee, which performs a specific task. Don

sees CPWA more as an alliance of two equal associations, or more like a chapter. Don asked if the chapters have been asked to develop charters. He also noted that if there is an issue regarding CPWA's ability to enter into agreements, that should be specifically addressed.

Andrew reported that any reference to 'committee' should have, and has, been removed.

Scott noted that chapters have bylaws, but that legally they are probably not needed. He has hired a new attorney who will be looking at APWA's governance. He noted that the purpose of having a charter is to codify an entity's role and that everyone agrees advocacy is CPWA's primary responsibility. He noted there is confusion about CPWA and that the charter provides a bulleted list of what CPWA works on.

Don suggested that the Letter of Understanding should not be dismissed and that CPWA is like a chapter. Andrew noted that he sees CPWA differently – more like a region.

Sal Iannello reported that the charter was discussed at length with the Ontario Chapter Board and there are no real issues. People feel CPWA is on equal footing with APWA, but that as long as CPWA continues to operate as it has, there is no issue.

Draft CPWA Public Policy Priorities

Andrew again noted that there was not a quorum, but asked for comments from the Directors in attendance. Don reported that he is happy with the document and Sal reported that he is good with it.

CPWA Activities at PWX

Anne reported that an invitation was extended to Jim Leech to be the keynote speaker at CPWA's Luncheon at PWX, but there has been no response. The original invitation was submitted to Infrastructure Canada in March, with follow-up to Infrastructure Canada and directly to Jim Leech (through email) in May and June, with a request for a response either way by June 15th. Anne reported that CPWA identified Senator Mitchell as a second preference. Andrew noted that CPWA may need a 3rd preference as well and asked for thoughts. Anne noted that she had also suggested Bruce McCuaig, another CIB advisor, but that her last follow-up invitation to Jim Leech extended to his colleagues. She also asked about MP Longfield. Don suggested Mike Sullivan, who could speak generally about 'one-call'. **Andrew suggested issuing the invitation to Senator Mitchell if there wasn't a response from Jim Leech by Friday.**

Adjournment

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

The minutes were recorded and respectfully submitted by:

Anne Jackson

APWA Director of Sustainability and CPWA Advocacy