



CPWA Board of Directors
San Antonio, Texas
Meeting Summary
Sept. 11, 2007

Welcome/Roll Call/Call to Order

The following CPWA Board Members were in attendance: Darwin Durnie, Ian Vaughan, Stan Siu, Gary Losier, Marc Gauthier and Michel Frenette. Paul Smeltzer attended on behalf of the Ontario Chapter, Wally Wells was present and Chris Tobin was not able to attend the meeting. Also in attendance were Larry Koehle, APWA Region V Director, Doug Drever, APWA Region IX Director, Jean-Guy Courtemanche, APWA Region I Director and Larry Stevens, APWA Region VI Director. Kaye Sullivan and Becky Wickstrom provided staff support.

Review and Approval of June meeting summary

The Board reviewed and approved the June meeting summary, pending an amendment indicating Michel Frenette was in attendance.

CPWA President Activity Report

Ian Vaughan reported on his visits to chapters, including the British Columbia and Saskatchewan Chapters as well as the Quebec Chapter's 40th Anniversary Congress. He will be visiting additional chapters in the upcoming year.

Comments from Regional Directors

Jean-Guy Courtemanche reported an upcoming planned visit to Newfoundland. He made a goal in 2008 to meet with the mayor and public works director in Halifax and will move forward on that endeavor. He has been asked to participate in the New Orleans Congress in 2008 to increase French flair during the event. The Congress will feature a parade and the planning committee is extending an invitation to the Canadian mounted police, who were among the first on site following Hurricane Katrina.

Larry Koehle was appointed chair of the budget committee. He encouraged the CPWA Board to discuss items for inclusion in next year's CPWA budget. He also indicated that Canada will be considered for the 2014 Congress through a modified site selection process that will limit proposals the cities in Canada, and include a financial projection requirement. He noted APWA staff and the APWA Board of Directors have concerns about the process because it's largely unknown, but ideally, multiple submissions from Canadian cities will make the selection process run smoothly. Larry urged the Board to encourage their chapters to submit proposals to host Congress in 2014.

Doug Drever noted Peter Steblin's selection as an APWA Top 10 Public Works Leader of the Year. Doug also reported on attending a Women in Public Works meeting. The group is working on a membership program and Doug encouraged the Board to adopt a similar mentoring program

and find time to attend that meeting. Doug will attend the upcoming British Columbia and Alberta chapter conferences.

Larry Koehle thanked Ian Vaughan for attending the APWA leadership meeting held in Kansas City last August.

Presentation by Clarke Cross of Tactix Government Consulting Inc.

Tactix Government Consulting Inc. of Ottawa has been retained by CPWA to act as an intergovernmental affairs representative and consultant in Ottawa. Clarke Cross of Tactix Government Consulting Inc., principal contact for CPWA, discussed his background, personal experience and outlined the political landscape in Ottawa. He indicated that the federal government has allocated \$33 billion over the next seven years for infrastructure funding.

Additionally, Clarke explained generally how government relations programs work and CPWA's role in influencing policy decisions. Possible areas for CPWA input include NRTSI, Public Infrastructure Emergency Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC), P3s (private-public partnerships), sensible taxation, public safety and clean environment.

Larry Koehle emphasized CPWA's diverse membership as an asset to government relations efforts. Clarke also discussed the need to increase the understanding of what public works entails.

NRTSI Update

Wally Wells updated the Board on his work with NRTSI. He said that since July, the landscape at Infrastructure Canada has changed, making it more difficult to obtain information. He shared his opinions about working with the new government and reported on the history of NRTSI. According to Wally, the main message from Infrastructure Canada is "Stay tuned, but stay here."

The government has \$40 million in discretionary funds, some of which Wally believes will be used for NRTSI. The intention is to have an agreement in hand by the end of September. NRTSI will likely be reorganized. Wally recommends CPWA lead the project, lend many voices to the discussion and stay involved. Wally noted he will resign his position working on this project on behalf of CPWA.

National Asset Management Working Group Update

Wally Wells discussed the history of NAMWG, which was not created as a result of NRTSI, but from the Technology Roadmap. Initially, the intent was the project was to receive multi-year funding, in the millions of dollars. Infrastructure Canada wants a face-to-face meeting in the next several months. Wally also noted that efforts to reestablish and fund the Infraguide project have not been successful and the project is dead.

Wally also discussed CPWA's involvement with the International Asset Management meeting, as organized by Infrastructure Canada and held annually at the APWA Congress. He said the group is not working as a partnership and he recommends the Board consider whether being a part of the group is important to CPWA. He suggested that CPWA involvement is important, though Infrastructure Canada is steering the process.

Jean-Guy reported on his meeting with Carol Beal and expressed frustration towards the lack of recognition for public works officials.

2007 NPWW Canada Awards

Stan Siu discussed his report on the awards selection to the Board. CPWA received 11 submissions, all of which were of exceptional quality. The large centres were close in points.

Becky Wickstrom will coordinate the award presentations and will produce a news release and plaque for each winner.

Dorian Wandzura requested to be replaced on the committee and Stan Siu agreed to serve one additional term. Becky Wickstrom will draft a thank you letter to Dorian on behalf of Ian Vaughan and the CPWA Board. The next CPWA Board meeting agenda will include a discussion of who to serve on the NPWW selection committee.

The Board discussed the recognition structure for the awards and requested that Stan and Dorian review the awards criteria and make suggestions to the Board during the next conference call. Ideas for change included recognizing multiple winners via tiered categories (i.e.: gold, silver, bronze) or announcing honorable mentions. Gary Losier suggested recognizing corporate sponsors of events in winning cities.

A discussion on how to reward CPWA corporate members and partners will be added to the next meeting agenda.

Administrative Business

Board meeting in Ottawa, January 25-26

Becky Wickstrom will confirm hotel reservations for the upcoming Board meeting in Ottawa. Jean-Guy inquired about inviting someone from FCM to participate in the Ottawa Board meeting. He will make a suggestion about who to invite.

Roster update

The Board roster was updated.

Confirmation of monthly conference call

Monthly conference will continue on the second Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. EST.

CPWA Web site updates

Becky Wickstrom will send a request to the Board for a full review of the Web site and suggested updates of materials and information.

Discussion of Government Affairs Issues

Ian requested for the Board to review the CPWA Business Plan and be prepared to discuss during the October conference call. Clarke Cross recommended modifying the plan to include 2-3 clearly measurable objectives.

Ian suggested that Clarke develop a detailed database of ministries and contacts in Ottawa on which to focus CPWA's government affairs outreach efforts.

Ian indicated the Board needs to determine if CPWA will continue to participate in NRTSI and reassign Wally's projects to successors. Clarke will set up a teleconference with Wally Wells to discuss Wally's current projects and will report back to the Board. Ian and Peter will call Clarke to further discuss Clarke's interaction with staff and how APWA's D.C. advocacy staff operates and sets priorities.

Michel Frenette thanked Ian and Peter King for drafting the Letter of Agreement in French.

The Board expressed best wishes to Terry Ream.

The meeting was adjourned until the next conference call, on Tuesday, October 9, at 1 p.m. EST.