



Meeting Summary October 11, 2006

Welcome/Roll Call/Call to Order

The following CPWA Board members participated in the meeting: Ian Vaughan, Michel Frenette, Stan Siu and Gary Losier. Also on the call were Dale Houdeshell, APWA Region VI Director and Jean-Guy Courtemanche, APWA Region I Director. Peter King and Megan Zadecky provided staff support. The following CPWA Board members were not in attendance: Ian Neville, Terry Ream, Tim Haynes and Gary Regular. In addition, Larry Koehle, APWA Region V Director and Doug Drever, APWA Region Director IX were not available to participate.

Review and Approval of September meeting summary

One error was noted in the meeting summary. Gary Losier did attend the September meeting, but Gary Regular did not. This error will be corrected. The minutes were approved with this correction.

Follow-up infrastructure consultation meeting in Ottawa

Ian Vaughan reported that he and Wally Wells attended a meeting in Ottawa at the end of September hosted by the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities. Several associations representing infrastructure and related interests were present at the meeting. Common themes discussed included aging infrastructure and the need for more work on asset management. CPWA submitted a three page brief to the minister outlining the Association's position on infrastructure issues.

The status of InfraGuide was discussed at the meeting. Currently the project is on hold with no staffing support. According to Infrastructure Canada, the renewal of the contract with FCM is pending. CPWA made its support of InfraGuide known at the meeting.

NPWW Awards Ceremony Update

Megan Zadecky provided an update on the planning and scheduling of the three award ceremonies. The ceremony in Dieppe is scheduled for November 14. Gary Losier will present the award to City Council during a televised session. Staff is working to design a bilingual plaque for the city. The Ceremony in Oshawa is scheduled for December 4. Ian Neville will make the presentation. There are no details for the Hamilton presentation. Staff will work with each municipality to issue a press release on the award and presentation.

Letter of Agreement /Resolution follow-up

Peter King reported that neither the Letter of Agreement nor the resolution discussed at the September Board meeting has been submitted to the APWA Board of Directors as there has been no conclusion that either document is final. He also reported that staff is working on a report on the pros and cons of CPWA incorporation, which is one section of the resolution, and will present these findings to the CPWA Board at its next meeting. . Given that there were only four CPWA Directors present on the call, Ian Vaughan asked that discussion on these issues be tabled until November. With discussion resuming in November, it is possible to include this issue on the APWA Board of Directors agenda for February if all issues are resolved.

Travel of CPWA President to Chapters

Peter King reported that the APWA Executive Committee and the Regional Directors with chapters in Canada agreed that it would be reasonable to fund the CPWA President to visit four chapters per year, thereby allowing him to present on CPWA initiatives and advocacy activities at every chapter during his two-year term.

Retaining Ottawa-based representative

Ian Vaughan reported that while in Ottawa he met with Mr. Paul Murray, a possible candidate to represent CPWA who was recommended by Wally Wells. Mr. Vaughan said that he was impressed with his credentials, but noted that he is not completely bi-lingual. The original RFP outlining the scope of services and qualifications for representing CPWA in Ottawa stated that the representative should be bi-lingual. Peter King suggested that in addition to considering Mr. Murray, CPWA should re-issue a modified, scaled back version of the RFP designed to get resumes from individuals that may be interested in representing CPWA on a part-time basis. Mr. King said that staff will take the existing RFP rework it into a reasonable scope of services to be advertised in Ottawa, and emphasized CPWA will target an individual, not a firm. January 1 is the target date for securing these services and staff will coordinate efforts with Ian Vaughn.

OPWA Resolution

Peter King reported that he is reworking the current resolution to incorporate the ideas discussed by the taskforce and Board at the September meeting. Additionally, it was decided that the survey issued to APWA Congress exhibitors in Kansas City would include questions polling the exhibiter's interest and willingness to travel to Canada for an APWA Congress. Responses to the survey questions are expected in the next couple of weeks. Mr. King will report these to the Board once they become available.

CPWA Board Meeting in Ottawa

The Board discussed potential dates for the winter Board meeting. The Board members participating on the call decided that the best weekend is January 26- 27. Megan Zadecky emailed all of the Board members and regional directors not present on the call to determine if these dates work for them. It is hoped to have everyone agree within the next week, so that staff can begin to secure the necessary space. The meeting will be structured similar to previous beginning on Friday afternoon and ending on Saturday around 4:00 p.m. Once we finalize the dates, staff will begin working with the Board on agenda items, as well as a list of people to invite to meetings.

CPWA Public Response to Laval Collapse

The Board discussed the pros and cons of CPWA using the recent Laval Collapse as an opportunity to make a political statement about infrastructure funding. It was decided that in this case it is too late to make a statement. Also, there was consensus that this is a sensitive issue given the tragedies involved and that it would not be appropriate for a statement to be released under these circumstances, especially since CPWA does not know all of the specific circumstances surrounding the collapse. Peter King reminded the Board that when issuing a press release, the Association must be prepared to answer specific and often technical questions that are posed by reporters. In this situation, CPWA would not be able to answer these inquiries. Given this, it was decided that there will be no statement issued at this time. This issue will continue to be followed. If a report is issued on the collapse, CPWA will consider issuing a formal statement at that time.

Review Conference Call schedule for upcoming year

All of the Board members participating on the call agreed to keep the current schedule where the Board meets via conference call on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. EST. Megan Zadecky will consult with those not present on the call to determine if this time still works for them. If necessary, the Board can discuss rescheduling the calls during the next meeting to be held on November 8, 2006.

The call was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.