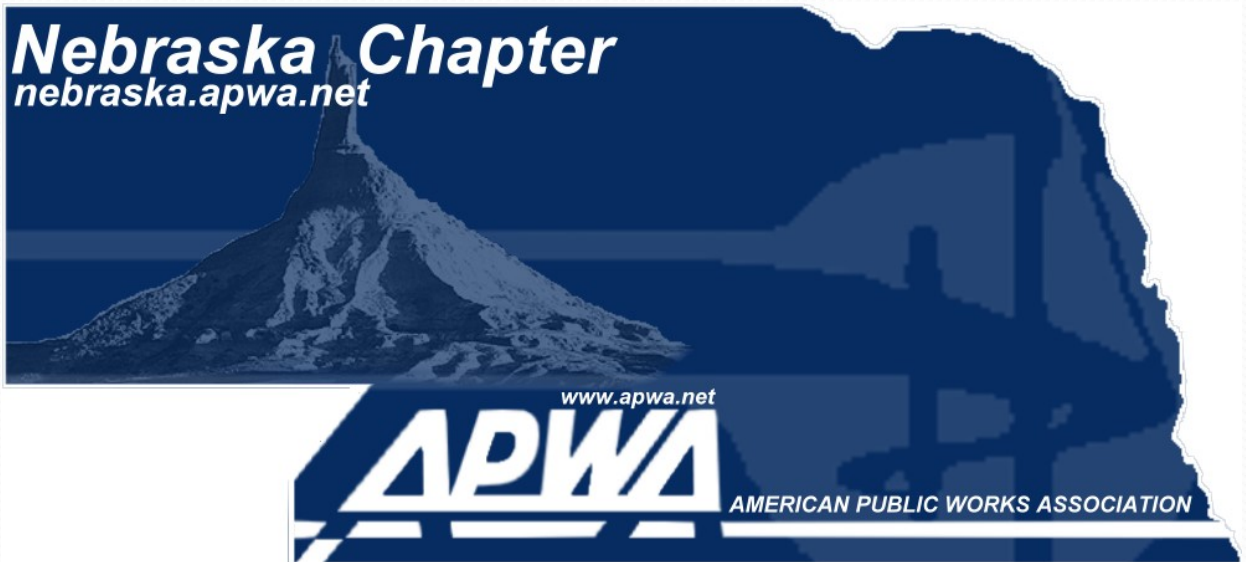


NEBRASKANews

OUR 49th YEAR

Winter 2012-2013

**AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION
NEBRASKA CHAPTER**
“Your Comprehensive Public Works Resource”



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President's Column
By Dennis Smith

Welcome to all APWA members and potential members. This is my first letter as your APWA President. My name is Dennis J. Smith. I am the Public Works Director for the City on Norfolk. A position I have held since December 1980. I was born and raised on a farm in Iowa. I graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering in 1975. I am married and have 3 three daughters, 4 grand daughters and last December the mold was broken when a grand son was born. I currently have a passion for road biking. It is a great opportunity to get outside, keep the cardiovascular system in shape, keep the my waist line under control while not necessarily having to watch what I eat too closely and finally gives me time to contemplate about various topics. Since the weather is not conducive to road biking now I am suffering from writers block.

One thing that does come to mind is the current drought conditions that most of Nebraska is experiencing. What a change from the floods that Shawn Ovenden commented on in one of his letters a couple of years ago. Both of these are natural disasters that have to be managed primarily by folks that are members of the Public Works family. The Norfolk has had to deal with a larger number of water main breaks than normal mostly attributed to changing ground conditions due to the extremely dry conditions. This week's snow fall was a welcome relief to the moisture deficient. It will take many more snows and timely rains to get some semblance of normal. In the Norfolk area, the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District is dealing with well interference issues between irrigators and domestic wells. Fortunately the City of Norfolk's well field has not been impacted. We continue to monitor static water levels on a monthly basis and will be encouraging our citizens to use water judiciously.

I want to thank all the board and committee members who make this organization what it is. Without your support and efforts this organization would wilt on the vine. I would encourage all of the members to become more active. If there is an area of interest please contact the committee chairmen and volunteer to participate on their committee. I would also encourage each member to recruit a new member to the organization.

President's Letter Continued:

An opportunity to participate is coming up on April 18, 2013 at the 57th Annual Great Plains Waste Management Conference being held in La Vista. This conference is a joint effort of Nebraska Water Environment Association, Nebraska Cornhusker Chapter, SWANA and Nebraska Chapter of the American Public Works Association. There will be an APWA board meeting on the afternoon of April 18, 2013. All are welcome to attend and participate.

Another opportunity is the Governor's proclamation signing on May 15, 2013 of National Public Works Week recognized during the week of May 19-25, 2013. I would encourage all public entities to get their respective boards to proclaim National Public Works Week in their community.

If anyone has a topic that they would like to see presented at a future conference whether it be spring or fall please let me know. Comments, questions, praise or constructive criticism is always welcome at dsmith@ci.norfolk.ne.us.

Sincerely

Dennis J. Smith



Sad News of the Passing of Fred Thole

Fred Thole passed away on Monday, February 11, 2013, at the age of 60, after a long fight against cancer. He was a dedicated father, grandfather and husband. His wife Roxanne preceded him in death in February of 2011.

Fred worked for the City of Omaha for over 30 years; the last eight years as the City Street Maintenance Superintendent. Fred was a model Public Works professional. He was truly dedicated to Omaha's citizens, Omaha's streets and the people who used them. During snow storms, Fred appeared regularly on the local TV news broadcasts telling drivers of road conditions and how Public Works was responding.

Fred served in a variety of positions while with Public Works and tackled each one with his typical enthusiasm. He freely shared his experience and knowledge. He truly enjoyed working with new and experienced employees alike.

Fred was active in the Nebraska Chapter of APWA, serving as president in 2009. He helped bring APWA's national snow conference to Omaha in 2010. Fred had many friends and associates in APWA. His positive spirit and good humor will be missed.

57th Annual Great Plains Conference

Thursday April 18, 2013

Track 3: APWA Nebraska Chapter Spring Conference
The Windsor III-IV

Morning Session

7:15 a.m. ~ Registration

8:00 a.m. ~ Omaha CSO Project Update, Nicholas Street

Mike McIntosh / Dave McIvor, Lamp Rynearson & Associates

8:30 a.m. ~ Omaha CSO Project Update, Lauritzen Gardens

Chris Koenig, HDR

9:00 a.m. ~ Pinnacle Bank Arena, Lincoln, NE

Paula Yancey, PC Sports

9:30 a.m. ~ US-34 Missouri River Bridge and US-75 Freeway

Tim Weander, NDOR

10:00 a.m. ~ Break – Review University Poster Displays

10:15 a.m. ~ Traffic Sign Retro-Reflectivity in the MUTCD

Don Neary, NE LTAP

11:00 a.m. ~ NDOR Bridge Division Update

Steve Anderson, NDOR Bridge Division

11:45 a.m. ~ Lunch (Provided) The Windsor V: Keystone Pipeline

Andrea Jalbert, TransCanada

Afternoon Session

1:00 p.m. ~ Uganda Water Harvesting Project by Engineers Without Borders

Kris Winter, Engineers Without Borders

1:30 p.m. ~ Design Build / Construction Management at Risk

Merlin Lindahl, Lindahl Engineering

2:00 p.m. ~ Platteview Road Project Update

Mike Piernicky, Olsson Associates

2:30 p.m. ~ Break – Review University Poster Displays

2:45 p.m. ~ City of Omaha Downtown Parking Study

Todd Pfitzer, City of Omaha

3:15 p.m. ~ City of Lincoln Multi-Functional Snow Removal Trucks

Jim Chiles, City of Lincoln

3:45 p.m. ~ Digger's Hotline, One-Call Process and Nebraska Law

Jill Geyer, Digger's Hotline of Nebraska

4:15 p.m. ~ APWA Board Meeting

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. ~ Ice Breaker Social, Windsor V

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Payment/Checks

Make all Checks Payable to: Nebraska Water Environment Association.
Refunds will not be given for those who pre-register and do not attend.

Sponsor Contribution

If you or your company wishes to help defray the cost of the Icebreaker send \$50 (payable to NWEA) to:
Kathleen Alexander
HDR Engineering, Inc.
8404 Indian Hills Dr., Omaha, NE 68114
Sponsor's names will be listed on a poster at the Icebreaker and Conference Registration Table.

Hotel Accommodations

Embassy Suites – Conference Hotel (includes breakfast)

12520 Westport Pkwy
La Vista, NE 68128
402-331-7400
1-800-EMBASSY – Group Code “NW2” – Reserve by 3/25/13
Conference Group Rate: \$129

Hampton Inn & Suites (includes breakfast)

12331 Southport Pkwy
La Vista, NE 68128
402-895-2900 – Group Code “GPJ” – Reserve by 3/22/13
Conference Group Rate: \$119

La Vista Courtyard (Marriott)

12560 Westport Pkwy
La Vista, NE 68128
866-634-7155 – Group Code “NEW” – Reserve by 3/25/13
Conference Group Rate: \$119

Continuing Education*

Wastewater:

*NE Municipal Wastewater Operators: Thurs. – 7 hrs.

*Wed. Conference – 3 hrs.

Solid Waste: SWANA Credits

*Thursday Conference – 6 CEUs

*Facility Tours – 4 CEUs

*CEU Credits identified are preliminary estimates

Questions

Contact Conference Chair Lucas Billesbach at 402-934-3680 or lbillesbach@jeo.com

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

RETURN BY APRIL 12, 2013 TO:

Kathleen Alexander
HDR Engineering, Inc.
8404 Indian Hills Drive
Omaha, NE 68114

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Check One Affiliation Box:

- Affiliation: Water Environment Industry
 Solid Waste Industry
 APWA

Check All Boxes that Apply

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Water Environment, Solid Waste Management Conference, or APWA Spring Conference
(Onsite \$90.00) \$75.00

Friday, April 19, 2013

SWANA Solid Waste Facility Tours \$60.00
(Onsite \$65.00)

Industrial and Hazardous Waste Conference \$35.00
(Onsite \$40.00)

NWEA Scholarship Fund \$

Total Enclosed: \$

Checks Payable to NWEA

**Nebraska Chapter APWA
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2012**

The Nebraska Chapter APWA held an Executive Board Meeting on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, NE in conjunction with the APWA/AWWA/NWEA joint Fall Conference. The meeting was called to order by President Mark Christiansen at 4:06 PM.

Roll Call:

Mark Christiansen, Dennis Smith, Brock Beran, Joe Soucie, Greg Oliverius, Tara Vasicek, and Shawn Ovenden.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Discussed meeting minutes of the January 26th, 2012 and April 11th, 2012. Dennis Smith made a motion to accept minutes as presented. Joe Soucie seconded motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Denny was not present, but he submitted a treasurer's report to discuss. Report included transactions from July through October 2012, outstanding checks, and audited statements. The numbers didn't seem to match, so Dennis Smith said he would review them. Report held over to discuss at the next meeting. It was brought up to possibly have the chapter hire a person to be the permanent treasurer, rather than have it a board position. It will be discussed in the future.

Delegate Report:

There is a membership webinar coming up. The APWA library will be available 24/7 to click and learn.

General Committee Reports:

Membership – 192 current members and holding steady.

Education/Scholarships – Bret Hodne is discussing putting together a certification program. The snow plow certification program is moving forward. We need to look at educational courses to see if we can get new people involved with APWA because of a strong educational program.

NPWW/Publicity/Newsletter – No report

Awards – Presented later in the evening at the banquet.

Snow Plow Rodeo – No interest. Might look into adding it to educational.

Golf Outing – No Report

-Continued from previous page

Technical Committee Reports

- **Emergency Management** (Shawn Ovenden) – No Report
- **Engineering and Technology** (Dave Goedeken) – No Report
- **Facilities and Grounds** (Chris Koenig)– No Report
- **Fleet Services** (Jim Chiles) – No Report
- **Leadership and Management** (Joe Soucie) – A good series called “Changing Time” is going to be re-released. It is a good video to train your entire staff.
- **Solid Waste Management** (Gary Kuhn) – No Report
- **Transportation** (Karl Fredrickson) – In Washington DC, they discussed Bridges at the transportation summit. Many seminars will be coming up.
- **Winter Maintenance** (Greg Goldman)– No Report
- **Utility and Public Right-of-Way** (Mike McIntosh) – 1 call joining diggers hotline.
- **Water Resources Management** (Marc Rosso) – No Report

Old Business

Dan Cady made a motion to pay Bret Hodne’s expenses for his trip from Des Moines. Tara Vasicek Seconded. Motion passed.

Dennis Smith thanked all of the technical committees for providing speakers and topics.

New Business

Joe Soucie presented the slate of officers for the 2013 Board. It was discussed to move Steve Riehle off of the board, since he has not attended any meetings or events in 2012. That leaves 2 Director positions open. Shawn Ovenden nominated Mike McIntosh as one of the director positions and move Tara Vasicek to Secretary. Dave Goedeken nominated Matt Rief for the other director position. The officers for 2013 are:

President: Dennis Smith

Vice President: Brock Beran

Treasurer: Dennis Wilson

Secretary: Tara Vasicek

Director 4: Greg Oliverius

Director 3: Karl Frederickson

Director 2: Mike McIntosh

Director 1: Matt Rief

Delegate: Joe Soucie Alternate Delegate: Al Schoemaker

Past President: Mark Christiansen

Schoemaker made a motion to accept officers as presented. Oliverius seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Next Board meeting date – January of 2013.

Schoemaker made a motion to adjourn. Soucie seconded. Motion carried. 4:40 PM.

2012 APWA Fall Joint Conference, Awards and Banquet Pictures



Larry Stevens, APWA Region VI Director and Ed Gottko, APWA President Elect show their Big Red pride. The hats were a gift from current Nebraska Chapter President Mark Christiansen, he presented the hats during the 2012 Fall Conference Banquet in Kearney.



Chris Cain – 10-year Membership Award



Dan Cady – 15-year Membership Award



2012 Banquet



2012 Seminar



Joe Soucie and Dan Cady



Darin Konda – speaker



Dennis J. Smith – Outstanding Member Award



Kirk Stoker – Life Membership Award



Steve Masters – Life Membership Award



Mark Christiansen – Past President Award

Members' Library continues to add content

The APWA Members' Library continues to add educational and training content almost every week.

The Members' Library offers an enormous amount of educational and training materials on almost any topic of interest in the public works profession. And, most importantly, all of this training is free of charge to APWA members.

"Since education is our mission, we consider the Members' Library to be one of the most significant benefits we can offer our members," said David Dancy, Director of Marketing for APWA.

Included in the offerings from the library are Click, Listen & Learn programs, which are presentations made by an individual or by a panel on a topic of interest from the broad field of public works. Members can earn credit (either Continuing Education Units or Professional Development Hours) by watching these programs. What used to cost a firm, an agency or an individual \$175, is now free to members, and there is also no registration fee for them.

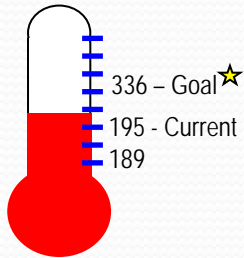
The Members' Library began offering this material free on July 1. In the few months that have followed, more and more members are taking advantage of the Library and APWA/CPWA members have realized a significant increase in the value of their membership.

Since July 1, APWA/CPWA members have been able to participate in live Click, Listen & Learn presentations, access previously recorded Click, Listen & Learn programs, access content from past International Public Works Congress and Exposition sessions, read downloadable versions of select books from the APWA Store and view select podcasts - all without charge. They can track Continuing Education Units and Professional Development Hour credits without an administrative recording fee. Additionally, members are able to access this content at any time, making scheduling and the approval process no longer necessary.

Currently, 375 programs, representing hundreds of hours of education, as well as some publications, are on the website. Usually, at least one new item is added per week, so interested members need to check the website on a regular basis. Taking advantage of just one of the resources in the 24/7 online library more than pays for a one-year individual membership.

For more information, contact your Chapter leaders or call APWA at 1-800-848-APWA (2792).

Membership Drive



New members welcome! If you know of someone that would like to join our Chapter, please refer them to Joe Soucie or to the Chapter website (<http://nebraska/apwa.net>) for more information.

Calendar of Events

<i>April 18-19, 2013</i>	<i>APWA Joint Spring Conference</i>	<i>Embassy Suites Convention Center – La Vista, NE</i>
<i>May 19-25, 2013</i>	<i>APWA National Public Works Week</i>	
<i>August 25-28, 2013</i>	<i>APWA International Public Works & Congress Exposition</i>	<i>Chicago, IL</i>
<i>November 6, 2013</i>	<i>APWA Chapter and Executive Meeting</i>	<i>Younes Conference Center – Kearney, NE</i>

Upcoming International Public Works Congress & Exposition

2013	North American Snow Conference	Charlotte, NC
2013	August 25-28	Chicago, IL
2014	August 17-20	Toronto, ON
2015	August 30-Sept. 2	Phoenix, AZ

Thank you to all who had sent articles for this issue of the newsletter. It is greatly appreciated!

ANNOUNCEMENTS | If you have something newsworthy to share for our next issue, e-mail Kathleen Alexander: kathleen.alexander@hdrinc.com.