

## 2015 Congress now known as the APWA Public Works Expo (PWX)

The 2015 Congress was held in Phoenix AZ August 30 – Sept 2. The committee met and there were about 7 attendees. The meeting was also hosted as a conference call. Two major items were the sessions at the upcoming conference in Hartford and Minneapolis, also a big discussion around new FEMA reimbursement drafts and the committee offered opinions and comments. Chris Walsh of Beloit is leading the discussions on behalf of APWA.

The guaranteed session at PWX was on “long term thinking to winter maintenance”. This was presented by, Rick Nelson, Wilf Nixon and Mark DeVries. There was standing room only in the room. Likely over 100 attendees.

Minutes from the meeting



### **APWA Subcommittee on Winter Maintenance PWX Meeting Minutes Phoenix AZ Date: Sunday, August 30, 2015**

Meeting Called to Order by Mark DeVries, Subcommittee Chair

- Attendees:
  - Dan Schacher, Vice Chair – Alaska DOT & Public Facilities
  - Dave Bergner – Monte Vista Associates
  - Benjamin Jordan – University of Wisconsin
  - John Klostermann – City of Dubuque, IA
  - Bret Hodne – City of West Des Moines, IA
  - Mike Kennedy – City of Minneapolis
  - Wilf Nixon – Salt Institute
  - John Scharffbillig – City of Minneapolis
  
- On the meeting via Phone
  - Jon Tarleton - Vaisala
  - Diana Clonch – DW Clonch, LLC
  
- APWA Staff

- Phyllis Muder
  
- Guests
  - Rick Nelson – AASHTO
  - Christine Walsh – City of Beloit, APWA Emergency Management
  - Brian Usher – APWA President
  - Justin Clausen – City of Ames Ia.
  - JD Bunnell – Lehi City Utah
  - Gary Strack – APWA Transportation Committee
  
- Others
  - Paul Johnson – County of Wellington, Ontario, Canada (was at PWX but could not attend the meeting)
  
- Opening and Welcome:
  - Mark called the meeting to order – 5 pm Mountain time (6 pm cst)
    - Due to attendees via phone Mark wanted to keep the action items to 1 hour. John Scharffbillig reminded Mark this was impossible with Mark leading the meeting. Thanks John!
    - Introductions
  
- Agenda approved with no changes.
  
- Summary of 2015 NASC Conference Meeting submitted by Ben Dow was approved with no changes.
  
- Business Plan – no changes but action items were addressed. Possible changes to the plan are being considered for the next meeting which would mirror what the Transportation committee does.
  
- Roster Review and Level of commitment and roles and responsibilities within division champion was reviewed. These were documents provided by Ben Dow and were reviewed by committee members prior to the meeting. No one had changes however Phyllis mentioned one was missing. Wilf will head the policy and advocacy task force with Matt and Eric. They will work on the fact sheet.
  
- Action items:
  - Guaranteed session at PWX
    - Mike Kennedy – lead (world cycling conference)
  - Sessions for NASC in Hartford
    - Mark went around the room asking for commitments

- John S – no, John K – yes, Mike- yes, Dave - no, Bret- yes (4) with Kevin, Ben J, maybe, Diana, maybe, Jon yes (2), Mark –(2), Dan 2, Wilf, yes (3), Rick yes. Everyone has 2-weeks to get them in.
- Brian Usher joined the meeting and addressed the committee on his snow and ice background. He gave some words of encouragement as well.
- More Action Items
  - Media fact sheet for Salt- Salt Brine/Liquid use in winter maintenance.
    - Wilf will follow up on this and work with Jon on the website. Wilf wanted to get this done prior to the winter but for certain by Hartford.
    - Jon made the point that it is formatted for a google search.
    - Wilf asked everyone to send him one question they have had.
    - Phyllis mentioned APWA is replacing the info now program.
- Chris Walsh addressed the committee on the FEMA revisions and what is needed
  - Looking for APWA and NEMA to submit a joint recommendation.
  - Chris was not happy with the NEMA position because they do not understand snow and ice.
  - What they are proposing did not support best practices.
  - Mark informed Chris that the committee had been asked to comment on the draft from FEMA but not to offer a new or different solutions, just comment on what was proposed. Those comments went to AASHTO (Rick). Mark will get them to Chris.
  - The committee discussed all the variables. Many good ideas were discussed.
  - Chris is going to suggest that NEMA from a committee and that some of our members be appointed to that committee.
  - The group concluded that the main thing to consider would be impacts. How to go about that will be challenging. It will need to be multi-faceted approach. It will need to be measured.
  - Mark asked for volunteers and several members said they would help as this moves forward. No names at this time.
- Mark offered to end the meeting at this point. No one needed to leave but the remainder of the meeting was slated for updates.
  - CLL - John K – right on track Oct 22. Liquid working in winter a proven technology. (Start thinking about next year)
  - Awards – should be the same committee.
  - Future snow conferences (Bret, John K) – a discussion of what can be done to get multiyear decisions made earlier so agencies can plan to attend and get it in their budgets.
  - Jon T. had to leave the meeting but the call remained open.
  - No website update.
  - Certificate program (Mark) – program was revamped. Mark highlighted what was changed and thanked Phyllis and Bret for their work.

- Salt institute (Wilf) – sponsored coffee at the certificate program and presented the safe and sustainable award winners. Perhaps a booth in the future. Working on monthly reporter article on tools in the toolbox. Coming soon “Road salt for dummies”.
  - Leadership and management (Phyllis and Bret) – need an article from our group regarding leadership and snow and ice. Name by Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. John S. volunteered with a push from Mark. **We will also need an article for the transportation committee due by May. Same subject, no volunteer at this time.**
  - Clear Roads – (John S) – next meeting at the Peer exchange. Finalizing the project AVL standardization. John also updated the committee on some of the issues coming out of the Fleet committee on Brakes and corrosion.
  - SICOP – Rick – Peer exchange in September, week of the 21<sup>st</sup>. 35 to 40 State Reps. State updates are a big part of the meetings. SICOP is working with the State of Connecticut on a vehicle corrosion study. The final report is out. It should be a great report. Peer exchange is now open to anyone to attend.
  - LTAP – Ben J – summer meeting, no snow and ice discussion. Will be in Madison next summer in July 18-21.
  - TRB – Wilf – Annual meeting in January, International snow and Ice meeting – papers presented via web in February and the workshop in April. SIRWEC will follow. Meeting is in Fort Collins. Wilf feels TRB would really benefit from APWA participation on the practical side of research.
  - LMS – Bret – what is the status? Phyllis stated he board is focusing on DCS first.
- Mark updated the committee on the status on Ben Dow and his wishes for the committee and the changes in leadership. Dan has accepted the position of vice Chair. Mark will hold the position of Chair and mentor Dan
  - The meeting adjourned at 7 pm. John S noted that it lasted 2 hours despite Mark completing the action items in the first hour – Thanks again John!