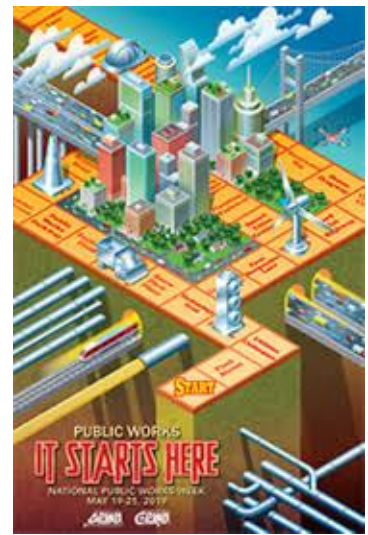




# Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence

## Iowa Chapter Submittal for 2019





## *Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence Iowa Chapter Submittal for 2019*

### Chapter Summary

The Iowa Chapter had another successful year in 2019. We continue to offer great educational and networking opportunities to our members, while striving to improve the experience and opportunities for everyone. Further implementing our online event software for sending out emails, processing registrations, and integrating mobile technology was a great step towards sustainability, taking our chapter to the next level.

The Iowa Chapter implemented and further developed many innovative programs and efforts in 2019. The Executive Committee expanded on the 2018 effort to evaluate active committees to be more effective and efficient. This allows the group to see active efforts and re-evaluate goals, if necessary. In April, members visited the governor's office to witness Kim Reynolds signing the Proclamation for Public Works Week. In May, National Public Works Week was celebrated, including recognizing John Klostermann as a 2019 Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year. The Iowa Chapter was well represented at the 2019 North American Snow Conference in Salt Lake City and APWA PWX in Seattle. In the fall, the chapter hosted our Annual Snow Plow Operator Training and Snow Rodeo, which had a record high number of competitors in every event, and the fall conference in Des Moines, which included vendors for the first time in many years.

The Iowa Chapter continues efforts to connect with smaller communities. In 2019, the Small Communities Committee hosted two roundtable events in eastern Iowa, geared specifically to smaller communities with populations generally less than 7,500. This innovative effort has been well received and appears to be gaining momentum, with the fall roundtable including 14 attendees from 12 different agencies who are not always able to attend our larger events.

Iowa Chapter members continue to play an important role in collaborating with Iowa DOT as the funding swap of federal-aid is implemented, reducing the burden of federal aid projects on local agencies. They also saw the reward of working together with Iowa DOT and Iowa County Engineers Association on a joint application for the Competitive Highway Bridge Program when the state was awarded \$33.4 million for bundling bridge reconstruction projects. A similar partnership also existed on a Technical Advisory Committee for the feasibility of a public works service bureau in Iowa. These are all great examples of how APWA members, counties, and the Iowa DOT within Iowa work together towards common goals.

The Iowa Chapter's membership saw a record 10% growth in 2019! This was due in part to several innovative efforts by the Membership Committee. The chapter was also the recipient of the Chapter Membership Achievement Award at PWX for the 501 to 850 member division. Ultimately, as the year ended, we had 577 members, up from 525 members in 2018.

Providing donations or sponsorships was another goal accomplished by the Iowa Chapter this year. The chapter approved financial sponsorships to the Iowa State University Engineers without Borders student group. At our annual golf outing, non-perishable food items were collected and donated to a food pantry in Des Moines. And the Executive Committee conducted their 5th annual Toys for Tots donation drive at the December meeting.

The Iowa Chapter continues to strive to the next level in achieving excellence, both locally and nationally. For the sixth year in a row, an Iowa Chapter member received the APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year award. The Iowa Chapter has had eight members graduate from the Emerging Leaders Academy, and one of those graduates is now an ELA mentor.

## I. Membership

### A. Net Membership Gain/Loss and Retention

The Iowa Chapter's membership increased dramatically in 2019. The chapter won the Chapter Membership Achievement Award at PWX for the division of chapters with 501 to 850 members. As the year came to a close, we had **577 members**, up from 525 members at the end of 2018. This was an increase of almost 10% and record growth for the Iowa Chapter!



*Sara Kappos and Beth Richards accepting the Chapter Membership Achievement Award at PWX on behalf of the Iowa Chapter.*

### B. Membership Recruitment and Retention Efforts and Programs

As the end of the 2019 fiscal year approached and it was clear that the chapter was zeroing in on a membership achievement award, increased efforts were made to add to public agency rosters and introduce new members to APWA. The membership chair initiated an outreach effort to educate public agencies on the benefits of group membership rosters. This allowed several public agencies to add new members to their rosters with little to no increase in cost.

An increased effort was also made to cross reference conference registrations with the chapter's membership roster. A reduced conference registration is available for chapter members. This has always been an honor system in the past. For the spring and fall 2019 conferences, the membership chair and treasurer teamed up to verify that those registering for conferences as members were actually on the chapter roster. This resulted in several local public works professionals joining the chapter and ensured a fair registration system for all.

For retention efforts, the membership chair follows up with delinquent individual memberships and vacant agency positions to ensure they are aware of their membership options and the benefits provided by APWA National and the Iowa Chapter.

### C. Innovative Membership Development and Retention Efforts

In the fall of 2018, Iowa Chapter leadership learned that a group of 26 lifetime members were eliminated from our roster after not responding to contact requests from National. The membership team used their network of personal contacts to reach out to members that were still known to be active in the public works community. They were then able to update contact information at National for those members that responded. This effort began in 2018 but continued well in to 2019. Many of these dropped individuals simply had outdated contact information and were eager to be reinstated and receive continued updates from APWA.

Student chapter members are invited to attend our state conferences free of charge. Offering free registration is not only a way to entice students to participate in our conferences, it is also a way to encourage membership in the organization. By introducing the individuals to APWA when they are students, we are enticing them to become full members in their professional career. The Iowa Chapter is also going to explore the option of hosting booths at upcoming career fairs as another method of outreach to students.

## II. Service to Chapter Members

### A. Number of Members Attending Meetings and Events

Service to our chapter members is a primary goal for the Iowa Chapter. The Iowa Chapter held various meetings and conferences throughout the year and once again broke records in the process. See the following pages for a summary of those meetings and conferences.

#### Spring Conference

Our annual Iowa Chapter Spring Conference was held on April 4-5, 2019 in West Des Moines with a total of **492 registrants** including **301 conference attendees** and **191 vendor reps** occupying 64 different vendor booths.

In 2019, we again offered three separate educational tracks the first day and two tracks the second day. While participants were asked to register for a main track for planning reasons, they were able to choose which individual educational sessions were of most interest to them. Participants were also given time to visit the exhibitor companies ranging from consulting engineers to equipment manufacturers.

The main track was the APWA General Session. This track was opened by a few words from the Iowa Chapter President, Adam Smith and then APWA National Board of Director Member and our honored guest, Chuck Williams. An Iowa Chapter member and a Past-President Jon Dienst highlighted new conference technology including the Bizzabo App with a digital agenda and referencing the Iowa Chapter’s recent social media presence. A couple highlights of the general session were utilizing GIS in the aftermath of a natural disaster, presented by the City of Marshalltown and their Consultant, following the aftermath of an EF-3 Tornado that went directly through their business district in July 2018 and the Keynote Speaker, Bob Schlichte, who presented on the art of building friendships, relationships, partnerships, and sponsorships.



(Top) Spring Conference Vendor Booth Area  
(Bottom) Spring Conference Outdoor Equipment Vendors

#### Thursday, April 4th - Agenda

APWA General Session		OPERATIONS		APWA LEADERSHIP MODULE	
		Dallas Room		Effective Communication	
		Polk Room			
Moderators: AM - Tony Trotter, PM Scott Savers		Moderators: AM Jeremy Noel, PM Sara Thies		Moderators: AM Sarah Overlund, PM David Carney	
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM - Registration - Breakfast Buffet - Visit Exhibitor Booths & Outside Equipment					
8:30	Visit Exhibitor Booths & Outside Equipment	Visit Exhibitor Booths & Outside Equipment		8:30	APWA / LTAP Welcome
		8:45	APWA Welcome 2018 State Roadway Winner Recognition New Conference Technology - Jon Dienst	8:45	New Conference Technology - Jon Dienst 2018 State Roadway Winner Recognition
9:00	APWA Welcome	9:00	Virtual Reality Use For Design	8:45	Business Communication

Spring Conference Agenda - Three Different Tracks

The second track was geared towards operators and field staff, focusing on Public Works – Operations. This track included presentations on routing of snow plows, meeting new silica regulations, site restoration, and concluded on Friday with a tour of the Metro Park East Landfill in Mitchellville.

The third track was a leadership module on effective communication, a course from the APWA-accredited Public Employee Leadership Institute. This was developed in partnership with Iowa Local Technical Assistance Program (Iowa LTAP) who maintains the Institute. The topics included business communication, interpersonal communication, conducting effective meetings, presentation skills, interaction with the public, and use of modern technology in communication with the public. These presentations were recorded and used to update the effective communication module currently available online.



*Spring Conference General Session*

And as is an Iowa Chapter tradition, Thursday night after the first day of the conference is networking within the exhibit area, followed by Rubes Steakhouse. At Rubes, Iowa Chapter members grill their own steaks, catch up with other Chapter members they know, and make new connections.

### Fall Conference

Following in the Iowa Chapter tradition, this year's fall conference was hosted in Des Moines, home of the current chapter president. Rotating the conference location each fall allows for regional participation for people who might not be able to travel across the state. This also brings the opportunity for new, local speakers to give educational presentations and is another way to promote public works in various communities. The 2019 Iowa Chapter President, Adam Smith, hosted the conference in Des Moines on October 10-11, with **172 registered attendees**. For the first time in several years, the fall conference location was able to accommodate 26 exhibitor booths in addition to the general session, which brought in an additional **52 exhibitor attendees**. The event was kicked off with a golf outing on October 9 at the A.H. Blank Golf Course, followed by a welcome reception for all registered participants at the Iowa Taproom. The **77 registered golfers** also brought non-perishable foods to the golf outing which were then delivered to a local food pantry at the completion of the conference.



*Lining up for the Fall Conference Golf Outing  
A.H. Blank Golf Course.*



*Fall Conference General Session*

The next day was filled with numerous educational sessions, election of chapter officers, and an awards banquet. Our chapter was honored to have Joe Johnson, our new APWA Region VI Director, give a National APWA update at the beginning of the conference. Presentations at the conference included leadership insight via "Right Side Ride Along", various agency and partner updates, and lessons learned via several project overviews that involved a market redevelopment, accelerated

stormwater projects as a result of recent flooding, a phased arterial roadway project, a wastewater interceptor project, and a public services facility.

## 2019 Public Works Expo

The 2019 Public Works Expo (PWX) was held in Seattle, Washington September 8-11, 2019, and many of our Iowa Chapter members took the opportunity to visit some of the area sights before and after PWX. During the conference, various Iowa Chapter members were busy not only attending the educational and general sessions, but also meeting with their National Committees, giving presentations of their own, volunteering their time at booths and service projects, serving as International



*Iowa APWA Chapter Members volunteered to fill Homeless Care Kits at PWX in Seattle.*

Ambassadors, and so much more. Our annual Chapter dinner was held at Ivar's Acres of Clams where **47 Iowa Chapter members** caught up and shared their PWX experiences. As will be noted later in this document, the Iowa Chapter was also honored to receive awards at the PWX awards ceremony.

## 2019 North American Snow Conference

Several Iowa Chapter members traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah to attend the 2019 North American Snow Conference May 19-22, 2019. As with PWX, our chapter members kept themselves busy not only attending educational and general sessions, but giving presentations of their own as well.

## PCC Street Repair Lunch and Learn

On April 15, the Iowa Chapter, in conjunction with the National Concrete Pavement Technology Center and the American Concrete Paving Association, hosted a two-hour lunch and learn titled "Factors for Municipal Workers to Consider when Performing PCC Street Repairs". There were roughly **60 attendees** from Iowa City, Cedar Rapids, and the surrounding communities. Spring is a great time to hold these types of events in Iowa, refreshing experienced workers and teaching new workers, just before roadway patching begins for the season.



*Full house for the PCC Street Repair Lunch and Learn.*

## Local Resiliency Focused Lunch and Learn

The Iowa Chapter of APWA's Sustainability Committee partnered with the City of Coralville and other local agencies to host a resiliency focused lunch and learn for local municipal staff and consultants within the Iowa City regional area. For many cities, the sustainability person is not within public works, therefore partnering with other groups can greatly extend their reach. The lunch and learn occurred on October 28, 2019, and



*Another full house for Resiliency Focused Lunch and Learn.*

covered topics related to sustainable options for stabilizing stream corridors while reducing erosion and localized flooding. There were **55 attendees**, representing both municipal staff and consultants. The Iowa Chapter, City of Coralville, and Emmons and Olivier Resources' contributions allowed attendees to enjoy a free lunch during the presentation.

### Roundtable Meetings for Small Communities

The Iowa Chapter Small Communities Committee has made great strides in 2019. After kicking off in 2018, they have established a roundtable format for two annual meetings to be held in the spring and fall of each year in Eastern Iowa. At the end of each meeting they ask for a volunteer to host the next meeting in an effort to visit different locations and potentially tour another agency's shop or facility. The host community sets the date, prepares an agenda that is more of a guide than strict timeline, and sends out an email invitation from a list of possible attendees that is ever evolving. The spring roundtable was held on April 25 in Maquoketa and had **almost 10 in attendance**. The fall roundtable was held on November 21 in Dyersville and was even better attended with **14 attendees from 12 different agencies**. Some of the topics discussed were sidewalk programs, leaf pickup, mowing policies, work order systems, trees in the right-of-way and on public property, asset and operations management systems, CIP programs, bulk water sales, use of brine, replacement and management of fleet and equipment, and APWA membership and participation. The committee feels the increasing attendance could be attributed to the focus on smaller communities (generally less than 7,500) and the needs they have, which are sometimes different than the larger metro communities. The Iowa Chapter will continue to encourage these roundtables and look at the potential for establishing similar events in other sections of the state.



*Fall 2019 Roundtable held in Dyersville.*

### Snow Plow Operator Training / Snow Roadeo

On October 1-3, the Iowa Chapter hosted the 2019 Snow Plow Operator Training (SPOT) and Snow Roadeo in Cedar Rapids at the Kirkwood Continuing Education Training Center. There were two different events geared toward operators. The first two days were dedicated to the SPOT, which consisted of classroom and behind-the-wheel training and testing, geared towards newer snow plow operators. The event wrapped up with Iowa's Annual Snow Plow Roadeo. There were competitions and courses for a single axle truck, skid steer, and a mini excavator course. A total of **208 registered attendees participated** in these events – 188 participants from 18 different agencies across the state for SPOT, 70 single axle truck teams with 2 people per team, 104 skid steer competitors, and 99 mini excavator competitors. This event was well attended and resulted in record high numbers of competitors for every event!



*Mini Excavator Competition Action*

### Winter Maintenance Training Events

Iowa has historically held annual winter maintenance training events. In November 2018, we hosted three such events across the state. After much discussion, and several years of hitting this subject hard, it was decided to take a break from this topic in 2019. Since these are often great ways to reach smaller communities and agencies from adjacent states, we look forward to continuing this tradition in 2020.

## Executive Committee

During 2019, five Iowa Chapter Executive Committee meetings were held with **an average attendance of 22 participants**. Various business was discussed at these meetings such as officer reports, funding requests, upcoming conferences, delegate reports, committee reports, partner reports, etc. In addition, chapter members who served on National APWA committees were invited to give national committee reports.

In 2019, the Iowa Chapter Executive Committee continued improvements to the functionality and overall outreach of the group, as well as the Chapter as a whole. To become more sustainable, it was voted unanimously as a group to accept electronic submittals of meeting minutes and financial statements ahead of executive committee meetings, rather than hard copies during the meetings. Other initiatives were streamlined meetings by sticking to the agenda and inviting those who are active, further developing committees, increasing outreach efforts to small communities, and adding social media to our toolbox, which will be described more later. We also began developing a more formal budget that will be further implemented in 2020.

President: Adam Smith  
President-Elect: Jeremy Noel  
Past President: Jason Havel  
Secretary/Treasurer: Beth Richards  
Delegate: Ron Knoche  
Alternate Delegate: Jeff May

Director, Reg 1: David Carney  
Director, Reg 2: Tony Trotter  
Director, Reg 3: Jennifer Winter  
Director, Reg 4: Matt Cox  
Director, Reg 5: Sarah Okerlund  
Director, Reg 6: Scott Sovers



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
HR Green, Johnston, Iowa  
June 21, 2019

## B. Member-to-Member Outreach

### Shop Talk

The Iowa Chapter utilizes a unique form of communication to its members called Shop Talk. Shop Talk is an email group distribution list managed through a contract with the Iowa League of Cities. Utilizing a group distribution list is a quick and efficient way to get an email out to a large group, without having each sender create their own list of recipients. Members use this discussion forum as a way to inform their colleagues about various topics such as job openings, upcoming activities, new legislation, etc. The most common use of this group distribution list is posing questions to others about how their community might handle a certain situation. Shop Talk has proven to be a crucial form of member-to-member outreach within our chapter.

### Newsletter

Our chapter produces an annual newsletter, which is distributed electronically to our members and is posted on our website. The newsletter includes a message from our chapter president, announces upcoming activities, highlights past activities, awards and achievements of chapter members and organizations, and various articles about public works activities or projects happening around the state. Articles are submitted by the membership and provide valuable insight to our colleagues. This year's newsletter focused on patriotism and veteran impact in Public Works. "All Public Works employees are hero's in my book, doing essential jobs with very little fanfare and not asking for any recognition for their effort, but those of you who are veterans deserve a special THANKS." - Adam Smith, Iowa APWA Chapter President.



Iowa Chapter Newsletter





## Website

The Iowa Chapter website ([iowa.apwa.net](http://iowa.apwa.net)) includes information about upcoming local and national events, contact information for chapter leadership and committees, a chapter regions map, chapter newsletters, chapter award categories and criteria, chapter historical information, links to the chapter Facebook and Twitter feeds, advertisements for open city employment opportunities, and other announcements that need to be made

to the members. Our chapter also has a system to register and pay conference registration fees online.

## Meeting Notices

Notices for upcoming conferences, committee meetings, chapter-sponsored events, and any other meetings the chapter may hold are distributed via email. Information about various chapter events are also posted on the Iowa Chapter website.

When planning our meetings, the Iowa Chapter has switched over to Bizzabo, a new online event planning software that can send automated emails and process registrations. In addition, Bizzabo also offers a mobile option that we are attempting to further incorporate into our spring and fall conferences. Having the mobile app minimizes printing of schedules and provides a method of connecting and communicating with our members and conference participants. Event organizers have reported the new software is a huge improvement, saving time when building and maintaining events while giving it a more modern feel.

## PW TECH MANAGEMENT: LEADERSHIP IN NEW TECHNOLOGY



### Turning toys into tools

Jonathan A. Gano, PE, Director of Public Works, City of Des Moines, Iowa, and member, APWA Leadership & Management Committee

*December 2019 Reporter article from Iowa Chapter member Jonathan Gano*

## APWA Reporter

Members of the Iowa Chapter frequently submit articles that are included in the *APWA Reporter*. In 2019, there were **19 APWA Reporter articles** submitted by our members, and many more highlighting our members on a variety of topics including leadership, technology, social media, winter maintenance, drones, international idea exchange, and diversity. This not only provides local member-to-member outreach, but national member-to-member outreach as well.

## Remembering Together

On April 14, 2019 the Iowa Chapter lost Bill Stowe, a beloved Iowa native and leader within the Public Works community. Iowa



*Bill Stowe passed away April 14, 2019. Past Iowa Chapter President (2006) & Leader of the Year (2006)*

Chapter members gathered to remember and pay respects to a true public servant and the face of Public Works to many. In 2012, Bill started as the CEO and General Manager of Des Moines Water Works and for 13 years before that he served as the Public Works Director for the City of Des Moines. Bill reflected an unwavering commitment to winter maintenance, reducing Iowa's flooding, and improving water quality. He was commonly part of central Iowa news interviews, and a local business, RAYGUN, often created products such as t-shirts about Bill.

## Service Bureau

The Iowa Chapter is currently exploring the option of creating a public works service bureau that would focus on city-related needs. The Iowa County Engineers Association (ICEA) has an existing service bureau with various tools to address county-related needs.

Through a research grant from the Iowa Highway Research Board (IHRB), staff from the Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) program conducted a study to determine if it is feasible to create a public works service bureau in the State of Iowa. It is envisioned that this public works service bureau would provide public works staff from cities of all sizes across Iowa with a direct way to communicate among themselves and other agencies such as the Iowa DOT. It could also provide a location to input information for a central clearinghouse on any number of topics, which could then be used to provide statewide data to improve decision making and efficiency of operations.

As part of this study, a short questionnaire was developed and sent to every city within the state. When the “somewhat” and “highly” likely responses to each survey question were combined, it was apparent that a public works service bureau providing the services identified would be used and provide value across the state.

The final report of the feasibility study was submitted and approved at the IHRB meeting in December. The next step is to request a second phase of the project to include two years of funding. Phase 2 would allow the research team to establish the service bureau website, market the program across the state to cities and various stakeholders, and begin the development of key service bureau applications.



## Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)

One of the goals for 2019 was to increase the Iowa Chapter’s social media presence. There has been increased use of the Chapter’s Twitter account, and an Iowa Chapter Facebook page was created in March 2019. This has allowed us another avenue to get the word out and the potential to connect with the younger generation. We promoted these social media accounts at our Conferences, and shared our Chapter’s events, awards, and activities on the social media accounts. Follower numbers on

Facebook are still double digits, but we hope to continue promotion and use to increase hits. We will also continue to discuss adding LinkedIn and Instagram accounts to our toolbox in 2020.

## Membership Engagement/Volunteer Plan and Efforts

Iowa Chapter members are some of the most active, “go-getters” in the association. Our chapter never shies away from a task! Many members are representatives on various national committees and subcommittees, some even holding chair positions over the years. As previously mentioned, executive committee meetings often include 20 or more people, all of whom frequently volunteer to help plan an event or develop new activities or programs for our chapter. In 2019, members of our chapter continued to volunteer for planning of the next Mid-America Conference and Exhibit show, and assisted with the 2019 PWX in Seattle.

However, as with all volunteer organizations, we are always looking for additional hands to help carry the load. We continue to promote the Iowa Chapter at our events and look for ways for people who are

interested to get involved. Last year's refinement of the committees has helped identify gaps and needs throughout the executive committee. These committees and contact information for the committee chairs are available on our website.

### Local Public Agency Stakeholder Partnering Team

Cities, counties, and other local public agencies (LPAs) build and maintain a significant portion of our country's, and the State of Iowa's, roads and bridges. When they use Federal funds for these projects, LPAs must follow a series of often complex procedures that may be unfamiliar to LPA staff and could impact the cost-effective use of the Federal-aid dollars. The mission of the LPA Stakeholder Partnering Team is to identify state and LPA program-level compliance and oversight issues, and to review and formulate improvements to processes and procedures within the confines of applicable Federal law, rules, orders, and policies, and to ultimately streamline the delivery of Federal-aid projects within the state. The members of the LPA Stakeholder Partnering Team include the FHWA Iowa Division, Iowa DOT, Iowa LTAP, and LPA representatives from the Iowa County Engineers Association and the Iowa Chapter of APWA.

A common topic of discussion within the LPA Stakeholder Partnering Team is a recently implemented Swap program to identify successes and improvement opportunities. The Swap program allows some Federal-aid dollars, previously administered by LPAs on our transportation system, to be Swapped with State Road Use Tax Funds (RUTF). The Iowa DOT will then target the Federal-aid dollars on larger projects where they would have used RUTF within their program. The advantage for LPAs is a condensed planning and review timeline, as well as some construction cost savings. This significantly reduces oversight requirements for not only Iowa DOT but also FHWA and reduces the burden of Federal-aid projects on local agencies.

### Leadership Training

Five of our chapter directors attended the Chapter Leadership Training, "It Starts Here," in Kansas City on January 31 - February 1, 2019, during record breaking low temperatures for the Midwest. The training brought together individuals from all over the country, and there was a real spirit of cooperation and sharing. According to APWA, there were 149 attendees representing 56 different chapters. Members discussed stories and examples of strategies that are working and some that have not been as successful. In addition, the training provided a great opportunity to interact individually with members of APWA staff and discuss specific topics facing the Iowa Chapter, from member retention to incorporating new technologies into the chapter.



Since five of our members were able to participate, the group participated in a variety of breakout sessions to get the most out of the training. According to one of the Iowa Chapter attendees, there was a particularly enlightening session entitled "Member Retention: Creating the Member Experience." The session was very interactive and thought-provoking. The Iowa Chapter has a great group of core members, but we are always looking for ways to attract new members and keep them. This session was the perfect opportunity to hear various ideas from people outside of the Iowa Chapter.

Another Iowa Chapter attendee particularly enjoyed the "Outreach Ideas for Schools" session. This is an area the Iowa Chapter has not tackled in the past. This session also expanded beyond schools and

discussed ways to reach out to the community as well. The Iowa Chapter attendees commented that they were very surprised by how many resources APWA has online.

### Chapter Delegate and Alternate Delegate

The Chapter Delegate, Ron Knoche, and the Alternate Delegate, Jeff May, attended the 2019 Winter Council of Chapters meeting in Kansas City and the 2019 Summer Council of Chapters meeting at PWX in Seattle. Ron served on the K-12 Student Outreach Focus Group during the 2019 Winter Meeting. Since the K-12 Student Outreach Focus Group successfully finished their work, he served on the Membership Task Force during the 2019 Summer Meeting. Jeff serves on both the Leadership Forum Task Force and the Advocacy Task Force.



### Leadership Institute

We developed an APWA Nationally Accredited Public Works Institute in Iowa, which we call the Public Employees Leadership Institute. Our institute is a series of 15 online professional courses that help employees enhance their leadership skills and knowledge. Starting in 2017, one module has been presented during a track of the Iowa Chapter's Spring Conference in an effort to update the courses; supervisory skills in 2017, team development in 2018, and effective communication in 2019.

In 2019, 9 participants completed all 15 courses and received official APWA leadership certificates. There were also an additional 105 active registrants who attended one of the two live sessions and 25 open registrations from 2017 to 2019 for people still completing courses. Iowa's Leadership Institute is one of the few APWA institutes completely available online. The Iowa Chapter will continue reviewing the current modules to see what enhancements and improvements need to be made, with the hopes of updating one to two modules per year.

### C. Chapter Best Practices

Overall, the Iowa Chapter is successfully meeting all of the Chapter Best Practices. Evidence can be seen on the attached completed form, as well as throughout this nomination. In 2020, the Iowa Chapter plans to revisit the Chapter's strategic plan, continue reaching out to the smaller communities, and challenge the Iowa Regional Directors to host a short educational opportunity in each of the six regions.

### D. Chapter-to-Chapter Outreach

Every three years, the Iowa Chapter co-sponsors and participates in a Mid-America Conference and Exhibit show with four other APWA chapters. Prior to the actual event, Iowa Chapter members are part of the planning committee, which involves a great deal of chapter-to-chapter outreach. The Iowa Chapter had two members who volunteered to work with Mid-American Representatives for the 2020 Conference. While planning did occur in 2019, sadly the Conference did not happen in 2020 due to the current pandemic.



Our Chapter Delegate and Alternate Delegate provided and shared semi-annual National activity reports and participated in the 2019 Winter Council of Chapters meeting, as well as the 2019 Summer Council of Chapters meeting. Our two annual conferences and some Iowa Chapter Executive Committee Meetings are often attended by the Delegate from the KC Metro Chapter and our Region VI Director.

Many of the Iowa Chapter members are very active at the national level with various committee appointments and participation at APWA’s PWX and North American Snow Conference. We also have several members who serve as national liaisons or have been appointed to national committees as shown below. In 2019 we had an active Chapter Delegate and Alternate Chapter Delegate, and Steve Johnson, Iowa Chapter member, serves as an ELA Mentor. While participating in all these activities, our members were able to share their particular expertise in an area and in turn, able to bring back valuable lessons and information to the Iowa Chapter.

<b>National Liaisons</b>	<b>National Committee Appointments</b>
Diversity & Inclusion	Diversity & Inclusion
Facilities & Grounds	Facilities & Grounds
Fleet Services	Government Affairs
Leadership & Management	International Affairs
Professional Development	Leadership Management
Sustainability	Transportation
Transportation	Connected Vehicles Subcommittee
Young Professionals	Project Delivery Subcommittee
Credentialing Council	Road Safety Subcommittee
	Winter Maintenance Subcommittee
	Utilities & Public Rights-of-Way
	Water Resources Management

*Current Iowa Chapter Membership – National Liaisons and Committee Appointments.*

### E. Chapter Diversity/Inclusiveness Programs or Activities

Through our chapter’s Young Professionals Committee, which includes both Student Outreach and Emerging Leaders subcommittees, members have reached out to try and recruit more student members and young professionals. This committee is also charged with helping to grow members of all ages as they aspire to grow in the public works professions.

The Iowa Chapter also continues to gain and retain more female members. Throughout chapter history, the chapter demographics have been predominantly men. However, the past several years have brought more women into the organization. Many of the female members have taken on leadership positions within the chapter. Some 2019 examples include, a female secretary/treasurer of the Iowa Chapter APWA Board, two female directors on the Iowa Chapter APWA Board, three committee chairs (Membership, Communications, Sustainability), three National Liaisons (Diversity & Inclusion, Sustainability, and Credentialing Council), and three National Committee Appointments (Diversity & Inclusion, International Affairs, Water Resources Management).

At this year’s PWX in Seattle, two Iowa Chapter members shared their welcoming personalities with international guests as international ambassadors. As an international ambassador, they were paired up



*Sara Kappos and Tracy Warner, International Ambassadors at PWX.*

with international attendees. Prior to PWX, they reached out to the attendees to introduce themselves, exchanged contact information, and asked if they needed anything in preparation for their trip to the US. Some attendees have been coming to PWX for years; while for others, this may be a once-in-a-lifetime trip or possibly their first time in the US. The international ambassadors met their guests for the first time outside the PWX opening general session and were invited to attend the international reception following the awards ceremony.

## F. Young/Emerging Professionals

Since its inception in 2008, the Iowa Chapter has had eight members graduate from the APWA Emerging Leaders Academy (ELA). The chapter has invited the graduates to actively participate at the chapter level. As a way to further support our members, the Iowa Chapter sponsors members who are participating in the Emerging Leaders Academy to help offset the costs of attending PWX. In exchange for sponsorship, academy graduates are then asked to serve on one of the chapter committees for a minimum of one year. The Iowa Chapter did not have any participants in the 2019 Academy.

The Iowa Chapter Young Professionals Committee went through a bit of transition in 2019 after losing a committee chair due to a job change. We were able to pass the baton late in 2019 to a new Iowa Chapter member when he expressed interest in becoming more involved in the Iowa Chapter. We are looking forward to getting to know him better and working with him to expand this committee and initiative within our Chapter in 2020.

Unfortunately, the APWA ISU Student Chapter has suspended activities due to low membership participation. One of the student chapter goals was to invite industry professionals to their meetings to speak with students and promote APWA awareness at the collegiate level. As mentioned previously, the Iowa chapter plans to reach out to the chapter advisor in 2020 to determine if there are any steps we can make as a Chapter to help revive this student organization. While the group may no longer be active, there were still student members on Iowa's roster early in 2019. And we did have 5 students register to attend the spring conference where they were able to network and make connections that will hopefully help them in the future.

## III. Advancement of Public Works and Sustainability

### A. Awards/Recognition Programs

#### Chapter Awards

Not only are the Iowa Chapter annual awards an honored tradition within the chapter, but they have become an entertaining celebration. Chapter awards are presented as part of our annual fall conference. The Awards Committee Chair, Eric Cowles, blends his wit and bad jokes with an entertaining program celebrating Iowa's best projects and outstanding individuals within the chapter. And now, after years of planning the "program" on his own, he has a full committee who help him pull it off. A summary of the 2019 awards are shown on the next pages.



*Five of the Iowa Chapter's Top 10 Public Works Leaders of the Year recipients together at the fall conference.*

- Members are recognized with a plaque for longevity as APWA members. This year, we recognized one **life membership**, four **25-year memberships**, and new this year, ten **40-year memberships**. We've found attendance to receive a 50-year award can be challenging so wanted to recognize the 40-year members, many of which are still active.
- The **LO Steward Service Award** recognizes Iowa Chapter members who have served the same governmental agency for 15 years in continuous employment and have been a member of APWA for a minimum of five years. This year there were 11 recipients.
- The **Samuel A. Greeley Service Award** recognizes Iowa Chapter members who have served the same governmental agency for 30 years of continuous employment and have been a member of APWA for a minimum of 15 years. This year there were 6 recipients.
- The **Leader of the Year Award** recognizes outstanding service to the Iowa Chapter. This year's recipient was Jason Havel (City of Iowa City).
- The **President's Award** is given at the current chapter president's discretion for supporting the Iowa Chapter President and being instrumental in their success resulting in success to the chapter. This year there were two recipients, Peggy Englehart (City of West Des Moines) and Beth Richards (Iowa State University).
- The **Young Leader Award** recognizes and encourages young APWA members who have demonstrated an initial commitment to the profession and the chapter and show potential for future growth within the chapter. The award promotes the concept that length of career of the nominee does not necessarily indicate his/her leadership abilities or potential for service. This year's recipient was Rob Kline [George Butler Associates (GBA)].
- The **Chapter Service Award** recognizes chapter members for work in specific activity areas that bring recognition to the Iowa Chapter. This year's recipient was Peggy Englehart (City of West Des Moines).
- The **Contractor of the Year Award** honors a public works contractor for outstanding achievement as reflected in the construction of a completed public works project. This year's recipient was Central Iowa Televising.
- The **Al Olson Excellence in Public Works Operations Award** recognizes an individual exemplifying leadership, dedication and mentoring of public works employees and tireless behind the scene efforts as embodied by Al's commitment to the public works profession. This year's recipient was Adam Smith (City of Des Moines).



*Paul Wiegand, Larry Stevens, and James Dresesen, 40-Year Membership Award*



*Central Iowa Televising, Contractor of the Year Award*

- The Iowa Chapter also recognized three projects of the year.
  - **Transportation (\$1M-\$2.5M):** 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE (City of Cedar Rapids, Boomerang Corporation, Anderson-Bogert)
  - **Environment (>\$2.5M):** Sinclair Levee (City of Cedar Rapids, Legacy Corporation, Stanley Consultants)
  - **Transportation (>\$2.5M):** University Avenue Reconstruction (City of Cedar Falls, Peterson Contractors, Inc., Foth)



*John Klostermann receiving the APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Award at PWX*

### National Awards/Recognition

John Klostermann was named a **2019 Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year**. John is currently the Public Works Director for the City of Dubuque, a role he has held since 2016. John joined the City of Dubuque Public Works Department in 1975 and has since held a series of positions, while continuing to take on more responsibilities. He has been instrumental in the evolution and

expansion of Dubuque’s Public Works department throughout his career. Some specific examples include his involvement with the creation of a paid public works apprenticeship program, the development of the City’s annual asphalt overlay program, initial purchases of compressed natural gas (CNG) powered vehicles, the construction of a salt storage facility, the construction of a new landfill cell, the maintenance of “green” alleys with permeable pavers, and the expansion of the City’s electronics recycling program.

Over the course of his career, John has taken on statewide leadership roles in the field of public works. He is an active member of the Iowa Chapter, having held various offices within the chapter’s executive committee from 1999-2004, serving as president in 2003. In recognition of his accomplishments, John has received numerous Iowa Chapter awards, including Leader of the Year and the Stan Ring Award, the highest award bestowed upon an Iowa chapter member. His Top Ten award was presented at a City Council meeting during National Public Works week by Larry Stevens, a fellow Iowa Chapter member and Past-President of APWA National. Several Iowa Chapter members, coworkers both past and present, and family attended the City Council meeting and following reception to honor John, his dedication, and the impact he has made within the City of Dubuque and the public works community. John is the 13<sup>th</sup> Iowa Chapter member to receive this award and the 6<sup>th</sup> in the past 6 years!

The Iowa Chapter proudly received two additional National awards - the **Membership Achievement Award**, and the **PACE Award**. The Membership Achievement Award was presented to the six chapters that had the highest percentage of increase in membership in their respective divisions from July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019. Winning chapters received recognition in the *In the Works* e-newsletter, in the *APWA Reporter* and during the Awards Ceremony at PWX, along with a chapter banner patch and a \$500 check to be used for providing educational content for their chapter members. The Iowa Chapter is in the **501-850 members** division and finished with a **5.83% increase**, increasing the number of members from **532 to 563**.

Chapter Size Division (based upon qty of members as of June 30, 2019)	Award-Winning Chapter	Net Membership Increase from July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019
100 members or less	Arkansas	0.0%
101-200 members	California Central Coast	12.08%
201-300 members	Quebec	49.54%
301-500 members	Utah	10.41%
<b>501-850 members</b>	<b>Iowa</b>	<b>5.83%</b>
More than 850 members	North Carolina	14.13%





*National Public Works Week event in West Des Moines, with APWA Mascot P.W. Paws featured on the left, as included in June APWA Reporter.*

## B. Public Works Promotion

Many of our cities hold events promoting their public works activities, generally during National Public Works Week (NPWW), which include participation from various Iowa Chapter members. The City of West Des Moines, for example, holds an annual event during their farmers market each year during National Public Works Week. The public works staff brings P.W. Paws, various equipment, and games for kids of all ages. They also partner with Iowa DNR who bring their mobile educational unit with hands-on interactive fun for children, and their partners in solid waste bring staff and trucks which are always a hit with the kids. Other cities around Iowa host similar events to specifically teach kids about public works.

The City of Ames hosts an annual Eco Fair in their community. The Eco Fair is for Ames residents interested in learning more about water conservation, reducing electric consumption, Energy Star appliances, clean water in their rivers and streams, low impact landscaping, shrinking their carbon footprint, getting involved in environmental issues, multi-modal transportation, smart solid waste choices, and more. Participants were able to talk with City of Ames staff, interact with vendors, learn about making smart, sustainable choices, and learn about city services. The City of Ames' Public Works Department, which includes many Iowa Chapter members, is an integral part of this event and does an excellent job of promoting and showcasing the public works profession. The City also gets the community involved by participating in events at five local elementary schools where the children paint rain barrels that are given away as door prizes at the Eco Fair.



*Ames Eco Fair where Public Works staff promote resiliency.*



*Iowa Chapter member, Chadd Kahlsdorf, accepting Bolton & Menk's award at PWX.*

Another Public Works promotion and outreach effort is also underway in Iowa. One of our local engineering consultant groups has developed a children's book series that was awarded the **2019 APWA's Exceptional Performance in Non-Chapter Journalism award**. This award recognizes the exceptional performance in presenting the story of a public works issue or event that projects a positive image of individuals or agencies in the course of their performance in either broadcast or print mediums. The series consists of **7 books on STEAM and A/E/C topics** including the water cycle, planning, civil engineering, landscape architecture, GIS, wastewater, and even a Christmas story. This book series was written by the professional staff at Bolton & Menk with the goal of getting young children introduced to STEAM fields at an early age with the hopes of increasing the future hiring pool. Children are taught the information in an easy to understand story that they can relate to, broadening their perspective of the world. The Iowa Chapter has purchased copies of these books with the intention of reading and presenting them to local



elementary schools in 2020. We are also exploring the opportunity to work together and create a public works specific book.



*John Joiner and Tracy Warner in front of their NPWW Display and City of Ames Proclamation.*

As will be mentioned below under “Advocacy Outreach,” the Iowa Chapter also promoted public works by meeting with the governor to witness the signing of a National Public Works Week Proclamation. Many cities within Iowa also have their mayor sign a National Public Works Week Proclamation. Some cities have turned to social media as another outlet for promoting public works and informing the public on current projects or events within their city.

### C. Professional Development

The Iowa Chapter strives to provide diverse agendas at our conferences to address a variety of public works topics. Our spring and fall conferences provide professional development hours for all attendees.

The Iowa Public Employees Leadership Institute, which is APWA-accredited, provides a series of online courses that can help employees enhance leadership skills and knowledge. The content is especially targeted to people who work for cities, counties, and state agencies. Upon completion of all of the courses, any employee of an agency that is a member of APWA can earn a national certificate. As mentioned previously, we are in the process of updating these online courses by presenting live series at our Annual Spring Conference.

Two cities in Iowa are APWA Public Works Accredited Agencies - the City of Bettendorf (since 2005) and the City of Davenport (since 2007). The City of Davenport was re-accredited in 2016. The City of Bettendorf was re-accredited in 2017. Achieving accreditation and maintaining certification as an accredited agency is quite an undertaking and accomplishment. Being accredited means the agency understands best management practices, is knowledgeable, examines its operations regularly, documents its policies and procedures, and engages in continuous process improvement. The result of this process helps the city to not only demonstrate, but to ensure the services provided meet or exceed industry standards for the benefit of the city and its citizenry. Other cities in Iowa have expressed an interest in becoming accredited, so an accreditation workshop was held in Des Moines on April 9, 2019. There were **25 people** in attendance from **5 different communities**. Additional Iowa Chapter members also attended the accreditation workshop at PWX in Seattle.



Several Iowa Chapter members have participated in APWA’s certification programs. Iowa has 5 Certified Public Infrastructure Inspectors, 1 Certified Stormwater Manager, and 2 Certified Public Works Professionals-Management. Participating in APWA’s certifications programs is an excellent way for our members to demonstrate their expertise within a given subject matter in their field of knowledge.

Members of the Iowa Chapter are also appointed to represent APWA for various groups, such as the Iowa League of Cities, Iowa's Local Technical Assistance Program, Iowa's Statewide Urban Design and Specifications Program, Iowa Urban Tree Council, various committees for the Iowa Department of Transportation, LPA Stakeholder Partnering Team, and the Iowa Highway Research Board. Participation in these forums provides professional development, public works advocacy, and exchange of

information. The Iowa Chapter is recognized by the Iowa DOT as the group that represents the urban sector of Iowa Local Systems. The Iowa DOT relies on our expertise to help develop funding criteria and recommendations for funding splits as well as provide input as mentioned previously regarding implementation of new legislation for Swap funding.

#### D. Promoting Sustainability in Public Works Management

The Iowa Chapter's Sustainability Committee is investigating which issues should be addressed by the chapter. Potential activities include having a legislative advocacy presence, creating a volunteer bank,



selecting a sponsored project, and dedicating speaker slot(s) within our semi-annual conferences. They want to include all aspects of sustainability, not just stormwater. Iowa Chapter member Amy Foster serves as the chair for this committee and is a current member of the National APWA Water Resources Management Committee. There are also 16 Envision Sustainability Professionals in the State of Iowa, and 2 Envision Supported Agencies demonstrating sustainability expertise and support statewide.

The Growing Sustainable Communities Annual Conference is held in Dubuque, Iowa. In October 2019, over 500 people attended the 12th annual event, making it the largest and longest standing sustainability conference in the Midwest. Attendees included elected officials, municipal senior management and staff, as well as private-sector business leaders, university administrators, faculty, and students. Individuals participated in more than 30 workshops, mobile tours, two keynote luncheons, and a networking reception. The Iowa Chapter initiated an exchange with the Growing Sustainable Communities Committee in 2016 - if we could have a booth to promote APWA at their conference, they could have a booth at our spring conference to promote their event. Iowa Chapter APWA members are also involved with the conference as both attendees and presenters.



Richard "Rick" Fosse, Professor of Practice in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Iowa, teaches a class called Resilient Infrastructure and Emergency Response. The class is for juniors, seniors, and graduate students studying civil engineering as well as urban and regional planning. Rick invites various Iowa Chapter APWA members to participate as guest speakers throughout the year, but especially when he covers the unit on sustainability. During his sustainability unit, Rick also discusses and utilizes the Envision rating system from the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure, which was founded by APWA, ACEC, and ASCE.



The Iowa Chapter is continuing to implement more sustainability concepts during our chapter conferences. We reduce the amount of paper that is distributed at our conferences by using electronic means whenever possible. As mentioned previously, the mobile app available with the Bizzabo event software has provided the Chapter an opportunity to reduce the number of printed programs. We also encourage recycling throughout the conferences, from recycling beverage containers to name badge holders and lanyards. The Iowa Chapter Sustainability Committee plans to continue promoting these programs at our conferences in the hopes of even less waste in the future.

## E. Advocacy Outreach

As is tradition during our Annual Spring Conference, representatives from the Iowa Chapter met with Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds on April 4, 2019 to witness the signing of a National Public Works Week Proclamation. Governor Reynolds expressed her appreciation for all that public works personnel do for our communities.

As mentioned previously under member-to-member outreach, the members of the Iowa Chapter continue to play a key role in helping guide the implementation of new legislation in Iowa allowing Iowa DOT and LPAs to participate in federal-aid exchange (Swap). Chapter members also worked with Iowa DOT and counties in Iowa to put together a Federal Competitive Highway Bridge Program Grant application that was a collaboration between the Iowa DOT, cities and counties, proposing to bundle various bridges together. Iowa was awarded \$33.4 Million for 77 bridges across the state in 2019, which was the most funding awarded to any individual state. Iowa leads the nation with the most structurally deficient bridges, not a statistic we are overly proud of, so we are looking forward to the improvements this grant will make possible.

Also mentioned previously, the IHRB funded and completed the public works service bureau feasibility study in 2019. One of the goals for a potential public works service bureau would be a single source of state-wide communication and information in order to help present a unified and complete picture when state elected officials asks questions. When working through the successful gas tax increase in 2016, it was apparent that ICEA, who has an established county service bureau, was able to pull together information much more effectively and efficiently. The next step is to request funding for a second phases to provide 2 years' worth of funding to establish a website, market the program, and begin development of key applications.

The Iowa Chapter's Government Affairs and Public Policy Committee utilizes Shop Talk to distribute vital information from various agencies and organizations, including the Water Environment Federation, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Environmental Protection Agency, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and of course APWA. The Government Affairs and Public Policy Committee has been monitoring and participating in discussions on the national infrastructure bill and APWA National priorities. The chair of the Iowa committee is also a member of the National APWA Government Affairs Committee, which meets at PWX and in Washington, D.C. on an annual basis.

## IV. Service to the Community

### A. Education Outreach Programs

The APWA ISU Student Chapter has suspended club activities due to low membership participation. However, we did still have some student members within the chapter early in 2019. We plan to look into this more in 2020 to see how the Chapter can better collaborate with students at ISU. The Iowa Chapter recently discovered ISU has reduced funding for student organizations and activities this past year, which could have led to lower interest if food was unable to be provided during meetings. The Iowa Chapter will be exploring this more in 2020 to see if we can help ramp up participation. We also plan to examine options of creating University of Iowa and DMACC student chapters.



*Iowa's NPWW Proclamation signing by Governor Reynolds*



Iowa Chapter APWA members are appointed to serve on the Iowa Highway Research Board (IHRB) - two as regular members and two as alternates. The IHRB was established to provide guidance and oversight for the use of the secondary road

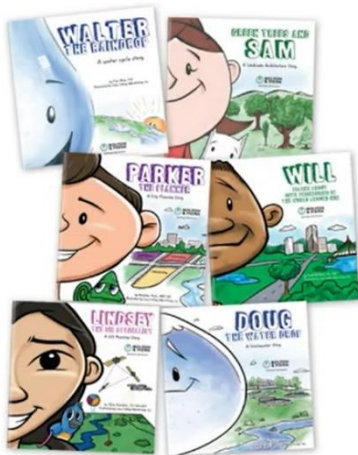
research funds, overseeing about 20 new projects each year involving transportation issues in Iowa. The value earned from this research is continually returned to Iowa taxpayers through cost savings of innovations, improved safety, and implementation of proactive technologies. The IHRB also serves as the Statewide Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) for the State of Iowa. They are able to set the direction not only for projects that would be funded for STIC, but also to foster innovation in the state and have a single source for communication with the Federal Highway Administration.

Iowa has a Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) program that produces statewide design guidelines and standard specifications for urban public improvements. The SUDAS program is governed by a 38-member board of directors; six of those members are appointed by the Iowa Chapter of APWA. Keeping the SUDAS manuals current is an ongoing, cooperative effort involving hundreds of government agency engineers, contractors, suppliers, industry representatives, and consultants who volunteer their time and expertise on various SUDAS committees. Many of these volunteers are also APWA members. SUDAS committee meetings provide a tremendous amount of education and outreach opportunities. In addition, the SUDAS Director also gives regular presentations to civil engineering and landscape architecture classes at Iowa State University.



The Iowa Chapter has always been very supportive of the Iowa Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). Iowa LTAP is dedicated to providing technical and management assistance to Iowa's local governments through a variety of programs and resources. The Iowa Public Employees Leadership Institute (previously mentioned) is one of the many educational outreach programs LTAP manages and includes Iowa Chapter of APWA participation. Another program LTAP manages is the Iowa Streets and Roads Workshop and Annual Conference for the Iowa Streets and Roads Maintenance Supervisors Association. The Iowa Chapter is one of the conference sponsors and appoints a representative to the

conference planning committee. Iowa Chapter members also graciously donate their time to give various presentations at the Streets and Roads event. Over the past three years, the Leadership Track presented at the Spring Conference is repeated live at this Streets and Roads event.



*Locally written Book Series the Iowa Chapter is hoping to read to Elementary Students in 2020.*

As mentioned previously, the Iowa Chapter has begun conversations with Bolton & Menk, to purchase and distribute their collection of children's books to kids in Iowa. Geared towards 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders, these books introduce elements of engineering and the public works industry. One of the books (*Will Learns about Civil Engineering in the World Around Him*) is even authored by Iowa Chapter member Chadd Kahlsdorf. Iowa Chapter members have volunteered to read and present some of these books to our local elementary students in 2020.



Two active Iowa Chapter members have been appointed to the Iowa Stormwater Management Manual (ISWMM) Board of Directors and Technical Committee. The manual was developed with Iowa Department of Natural Resources

funding and is maintained by the technical committee through the Iowa Stormwater Education Partnership. Through the Iowa Stormwater Education Partnership, numerous APWA members are educated on stormwater topics every year. Several Iowa Chapter members serve on the Board of the Iowa Stormwater Education Partnership.

## B. Community Service Programs



The Iowa State University Chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB) has partnered with Ullo, a rural community in the North West Region of Ghana. On their 2018 winter trip, the team completed implementation of a water distribution system for the boarding high school in Ullo. In addition to monitoring the water distribution system, the winter 2019 trip included new projects - cook stoves, a clinic, and an agriculture and irrigation project. The APWA Iowa Chapter provided a financial sponsorship to the Iowa State Chapter of Engineers Without Borders to help with their fundraising efforts to make these service trips possible.

It is an Iowa Chapter tradition to hold a golf outing in conjunction with the chapter's fall conference. It is also tradition to invite participants to bring non-perishable food items as a donation. This year's response from golfers was great. Any golfers who brought a donation were eligible to receive up to two mulligans during the outing. While we do have a few in the group that may chose not to use these mulligans even when they have them, the vast majority appreciate them! In 2019, the non-perishable and cash donations were taken to a local food pantry in Des Moines.



*Food Donations from Fall Golf Outing Food-drive.*

At the Iowa Chapter Executive Committee meeting on December 6, 2019, committee members were invited to bring a Toys for Tots donation. Twenty people were in attendance at that meeting and several people brought multiple toys. The Iowa Chapter's Toys for Tots donations were given to the Salvation Army Des Moines Service Center to distribute to children ages newborn through 18. Approximately 20,124 local children received gifts thanks to the generous donations received throughout the community. The Iowa Chapter was very proud to be a piece of that joy given to children during the holiday season.



*Annual Iowa Chapter Toys for Tots donation, December 6, Executive Committee Meeting*

In addition to community service programs initiated directly by the Iowa Chapter, individual chapter member communities worked to demonstrate the larger role of public works in their communities. Our member communities organized Arbor Day events, environmental cleanup activities, and recycling education events. Often partnering with other community source organizations, such as tree organizations, local waste agencies, and neighborhood cleanup task forces, Iowa Chapter members promoted and assisted with such efforts in their communities.

The Iowa Chapter understands our function is to provide essential services to our communities, in addition to operating and maintaining infrastructure. Equally important is the need to support community service activities that enhance livability in our communities with a special emphasis on providing for those in need. We have experienced our share of disasters in Iowa, and are dedicated to continuing our efforts to provide assistance through established community service organizations.

## **V. Conclusion**

Please accept this submission on behalf of the Iowa Chapter for the Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence. We thank you for your time and efforts!