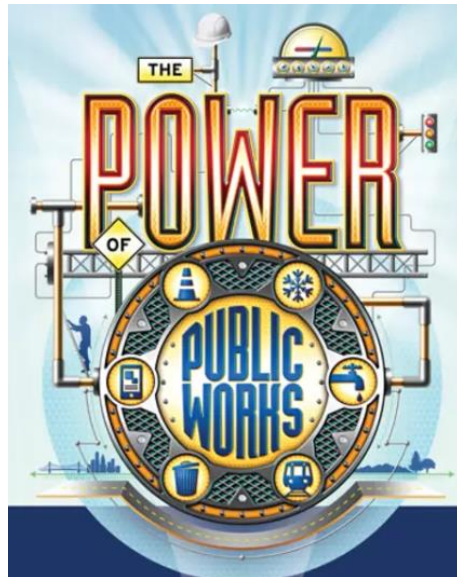




Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence

Iowa Chapter Submittal for 2018





Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence Iowa Chapter Submittal for 2018

Chapter Summary

The Iowa Chapter had another great year in 2018, celebrating our 65th Anniversary! We continue to offer great educational and networking opportunities to our members, while striving to improve the experience and opportunities for everyone. Updating our online event software for pushing out emails and process registrations was a great step towards sustainability taking our chapter to the next level.

The Iowa Chapter implemented many other innovative programs and efforts in 2018. The Executive Committee “breathed new life” into active committees, cut obsolete committees, and restructured active committees to be more efficient. This allowed the group to take a closer look at active efforts and re-evaluate goals. To accomplish one of those goals, volunteer interest cards were developed and handed out at the Spring Conference. 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 Rick Fosse as a 2018 Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year. The Iowa Chapter was well represented at the 2018 North American Snow Conference in Indianapolis and APWA PWX in Kansas City. In the fall, the chapter hosted our annual Snow Plow Roadeo and fall conference to a near capacity crowd in Iowa City. Both events were a success, including a night-time Iowa APWA version of the “Kinnick Wave” at the Welcome Reception.

The Iowa Chapter continues to make efforts to connect with smaller communities. In March, we offered our first event focused on smaller communities. This innovative effort was overwhelmingly positive, with 59 attendees from 20 different agencies who are not always able to attend our larger events.

Iowa Chapter representatives played an important role in collaborating with Iowa DOT to implement the funding swap of federal-aid, reducing the burden of federal aid projects on local agencies. They also worked together with Iowa DOT and Iowa County Engineers Association on a joint application for the Competitive Highway Bridge Program. This program focuses on project bundling and had an extremely tight application timeline. A similar partnership is currently represented 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 did decline slightly in 2018, in part due to the loss of 26 lifetime members in the Fall of 2018. After discussion at an Executive Committee meeting, some lifetime members were renewed after Iowa Chapter members reached out through personal networks. Ultimately, as the year ended, we had 525 members, down from 529 members in 2017.

Providing donations or sponsorships was another goal accomplished by the Iowa Chapter this year. The chapter approved financial sponsorships to Continental Crossings, a University of Iowa student group that works with Bridges to Prosperity, and 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 Iowa City. At the annual fall conference, toys and supplies were collected and donated to the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital. And the Executive Committee conducted their 4th 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 fifth 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 declined slightly in 2018. As the year came to a close, we had **525 members**, down from 529 members at the end of 2017. This is largely attributed to the 26 lifetime members that were dropped from the chapter's roster in the fall of 2018. Had those members not been dropped from the roster, the Iowa Chapter would have seen a 4.2% membership growth. This follows two years of over 5% growth in 2016 and 2017.

B. Membership Recruitment and Retention Efforts and Programs

Our chapter's Membership Chair summarizes the monthly information sent from National and presents this summary at our quarterly Executive Committee meetings. The Membership Committee identifies new members and sends them welcome information. For retention efforts, the Membership Committee also follows up with delinquent individual memberships and vacant agency positions to try and fill the gaps.

Several members of the Iowa Chapter spoke at Iowa State University (ISU) APWA Student Chapter meetings in 2018. The Iowa Chapter hopes to increase our presence at other campuses across Iowa during the next school year. The Emerging Leaders Committee continues to work towards official student chapters at the University of Iowa and Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC). Members of the APWA ISU Student Chapter were invited to attend our Spring Conference free of charge. This was a successful effort to boost student registrations at ISU as well as introduce the students to the organization at the state level. Several students reported connecting with internship opportunities at this event.

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.

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 saw record-breaking attendances. See the following pages for a summary of those meetings and conferences.

Spring Conference

Our annual Iowa Chapter Spring Conference was held on April 5-6, 2018 in West Des Moines with a total of **516 participants**. This number was a record high, and a 13% increase over 2017 participation. It included 340 paid registrants and 176 vendor representatives within 64 vendor booths.

In previous years, our chapter had partnered with the Iowa Society of Solid Waste Operations (ISOSWO) to host the conference together. While this was a great partnership, growing attendance from both groups was pushing functional capacity of the venue. It was mutually agreed to separate the events, which allowed the Iowa APWA Chapter to offer additional APWA focused educational track opportunities.



In 2018, we 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.



*(Top) Spring Conference Operations Safety Track
(Bottom) Spring Conference Outdoor Equipment Vendors*

The main track was the APWA General Session. This track was opened by a few words from the Iowa Chapter Past President, Jon Dienst, and Iowa Chapter President, Jason Havel, as well as then APWA President-Elect, Jill Marilley and KC Metro Delegate, Joe Johnson. A highlight of the general session was a group presentation by Emerging Leaders Academy participants from Iowa and students from the ISU Student Chapter of APWA.



Spring Conference: Wilf Nixon and Mark DeVries, recognized for their support and dedication to the Iowa Chapter

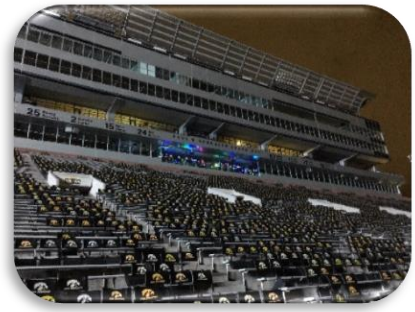
The second track was geared more towards operators and field staff, focusing on Public Works – Operations Safety. This track included workzone safety and hazards when working around traffic, as well as general safety of urban mowing, working with street lights, and other specific instances like disaster recovery.

The third track was a leadership module on team development, 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 why do we need a team, selecting and training new employees, labor relations, city hiring and problem employees, managing conflict, effective delegation and employee empowerment, and leading and motivating teams. These presentations were recorded and used to update the team development module currently available online.

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 Iowa City, 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 2018 Iowa Chapter President, Jason Havel, hosted the conference in Iowa City on October 11-12, with **180 registered attendees**. The event was kicked off with a golf outing on October 10 that had to be relocated last minute due to flooding, and was followed by a Welcome Reception for all registered participants at Kinnick Stadium. As part of the reception, those in attendance used finger lights after dark to participate in their own version of the "Kinnick wave" to University of Iowa Children's Hospital. It was great to see the smiling faces of the kids waving back, and something both University of Iowa and Iowa State fans could agree on! In addition, registrants were asked to bring supply and toy donations for the Iowa Children's Hospital, which were delivered at the completion of the conference.



Iowa Chapter members doing a lighted "Kinnick wave" at the Welcome Reception



Jen Winter presents on Flood Recovery 2008 - 2018

The next day was filled with numerous educational sessions, election of chapter officers, and an awards banquet. Our chapter was honored to have David Lawry, APWA President, give a National APWA update at the beginning of the conference. Presentations at the conference ranged from hearing about lessons learned after the flood of 2008 as significant flooding has become a more frequent occurrence, automated driving in Iowa, drones, project highlights, women in leadership, and core competencies of resilience.

2018 Public Works Expo

Since the 2018 Public Works Expo (PWX) was close to home, many Iowa Chapter members traveled to Kansas City, MO, including numerous first-time attendees. In fact, there were so many Iowa Chapter Member RSVPs to our Chapter dinner held at the Yard House, we had to start a waiting list after it hit 80! Various Iowa Chapter members were busy during the conference 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 so much more. As will be noted later in this document, the Iowa Chapter was also honored to receive awards at the PWX awards ceremony.



Rachel Conrad being recognized at PWX as an ELA graduate

2018 North American Snow Conference

Several Iowa Chapter members traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana to attend the 2018 North American Snow Conference. As with PWX, our chapter members kept themselves busy not only attending educational and general sessions, but giving presentations of their own as well.



Full house for the Winter Training for Smaller Agencies

Winter Training for Smaller Agencies

On March 29, the Iowa Chapter and the City of Mount Vernon Public Works Department offered a half-day Winter Training short course focusing on smaller agencies. The purpose of the training was to provide information and ideas that may be useful for Public Works staff as they manage winter weather conditions in their communities. Speakers included Bret Hodne, City of West Des Moines, and Mark DeVries, Vasaila. Topics discussed were Snow & Ice Policy – Do You Even Need One, and Why?, Utilization of Liquid and Granular Deicers/Sand for Winter Maintenance, Calibrating and Troubleshooting Winter Equipment, Purchasing Options and Maintenance of Winter Equipment, and Technology

Advancements – What’s In Your Winter Toolbox?. This event was well received with **59 attendees from 20 different agencies** who are not always able to attend our Chapter’s larger events.

Snow Plow Operator Training / Snow Rodeo

On October 2-4, the Iowa Chapter hosted the 2018 Snow Plow Operator Training (SPOT) and Snow Rodeo at the Des Moines Public Works Supply Yard. There were three different events geared toward operators. The first event was the SPOT, which consisted of classroom and behind-the-wheel training and testing, geared towards newer snow plow operators. The second event was a heavy equipment training track for skid steer and mini excavator training and testing. The event wrapped up with Iowa’s Annual Snow Plow Rodeo. There were competitions and courses for a single axel truck, skid steer, and new this year – a mini excavator course. A total of **178 registered attendees participated** in these events – 9 for heavy equipment training, 80 for SPOT, and 109 rodeo participants from 15 different agencies across the state of Iowa.



Winter Maintenance Training Events

On November 6-8, the Iowa Chapter held three Winter Maintenance Training events in different parts of the state to encourage local attendance and invited adjoining state Chapters. This year’s training events were held in Sioux City, Fort Dodge, and Dubuque. They were geared towards snow plow operators and others associated with winter maintenance operations. The presentations consisted of the following: “winter maintenance” from the eyes of an operator, leadership and operational skills for the winter maintenance professional, Dr. Salt - how deicers really work, calibrating and troubleshooting winter equipment, new technologies in winter maintenance, Mr. and Mrs. Smith - engineering vs. operations in Alaska, and open discussions. There were **48 registrants from 8 agencies** at the Sioux City event, **38 registrants from 12 agencies** at the Fort Dodge event, and **86 registrants from 15 agencies** at the Dubuque event. Included with these registrants, were agencies not only from Iowa, but also Wisconsin, Nebraska and North Dakota.



Wayne Barrett presenting at the winter maintenance training

Executive Committee

During 2018, six 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 committee reports.

The Iowa Chapter Executive Committee worked to improve the functionality of the group as well as the chapter as a whole. For example, there were a number of committees that were no longer active. The Chapter worked in 2018 to “breathe new life” into active committees, remove obsolete committees that were perhaps formed to address a specific task, and restructured some of the active committees to be more efficient. This also provided an opportunity for additional volunteer involvement.



June 8, 2018 Iowa Chapter Executive Committee meeting

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.



Iowa Chapter Newsletter



Iowa Chapter Website

Website

The Iowa Chapter website (iowa.apwa.net) includes information about upcoming local and national events, contact information for chapter leaders, chapter newsletters, chapter award categories and criteria, and any other announcements that need to be made to the members. Our chapter also has a system to register and pay conference registration fees online.

New this year is additional information on the Iowa Chapter regions, leadership and committee contact information, Chapter historical information, and a link to the Student Resource flyer.

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 is also posted on the Iowa Chapter website.

When planning our meetings, the Iowa Chapter had been using an online event software called Cvent to push out emails and process registrations. Our contract with Cvent was set to expire in April 2018. After looking into various options, the executive committee voted to enter into a 3-year contract with Bizzabo. Bizzabo offers more options than Cvent including a mobile option with comparable costs to Cvent. We are looking forward to further incorporating the mobile abilities in 2019.

APWA Reporter

Members of the Iowa Chapter frequently submit articles that are included in the *APWA Reporter*. In 2018, there were 11 *APWA Reporter* articles either highlighting our members or submitted by our members. This not only provides local member-to-member outreach, but national member-to-member outreach as well.



August 2018 APWA Reporter article from Iowa Chapter member Jonathan Gano

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 have been conducting 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 it to every city within the state. Responses to this questionnaire will be summarized and shared with a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprised of public works staff and interested parties from around the state.

The end goal of this study will be a final report on the feasibility of this idea, potential interest and benefits of a Public Works Service Bureau, as well as options for how it might be organized and funded.

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 2018, members of our chapter served as advisors and mentors for the APWA ISU Student Chapter, continued to volunteer for planning of the next Mid-America Conference and Exhibit show, and assisted with the 2018 PWX in Kansas City.

However, as with all volunteer organizations, we are always looking for additional hands to help carry the load. Postcards were handed out at the 2018 Spring Conference asking for volunteers and indicating where their interests are. The simple card listed the newly reorganized committees and their main responsibilities. We received 15 responses showing interest in volunteering and many of those were members who had not previously volunteered. That would be about a 40% increase in board/committee participation! We will continue to follow up with this effort in 2019, bringing them to future conferences.

 Volunteers Wanted	
Interested in being more involved in Iowa Chapter APWA activities? Please check your area(s) of interest below.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Awards <i>Chapter or National awards</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Communities <i>New, yet to be defined</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications <i>History, newsletter, PACE, website</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability <i>New, yet to be defined</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Education/Training <i>Spring/fall conferences, winter training, LTAP</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <i>Project delivery, road safety, winter maint.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Government Affairs <i>Advocates, public policy</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Young Professionals <i>Emerging leaders, student outreach</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership <i>Growth, retain membership</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure, but I want to get involved <i>We'll contact you with some opportunities</i>
Name: _____	Email: _____
<small>Please write legibly! If you forgot to turn in at the conference, indicate your interest via email to Adam Smith (arsmith@dmgov.org).</small>	

The Iowa Chapter has also been discussing the potential for increasing social media activity. The Chapter does have a Twitter account (@apwaiowa) that is occasionally used but not heavily promoted or advertised. A goal for 2019 is to increase social media presence including adding Facebook and LinkedIn profiles for the Iowa Chapter. This will hopefully allow us to get the word out more effectively with a younger generation.



Flood Fight Volunteer Effort

As unfortunately is becoming second nature to APWA members and staff across Iowa, they once again aided communities in their time of need. On June 30, 2018, some areas of central Iowa including the Des Moines metro area, received up to 9 inches of rain in under 4 hours. This led to some devastating flash flooding. Adam Smith with the City of Des Moines thanked Waukee, Clive, and West Des Moines for offering help when they needed it at the August Executive Committee Meeting.



(Top) Flood Debris cleanup – sometimes it takes super heroes. (Bottom) Both the City of Des Moines & City of West Des Moines staff helping with debris. removal.

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, and LPA representatives from the Iowa County Engineers Association and the Iowa Chapter of APWA.

A result, in part due to the success of the LPA Stakeholder Partnering Team, the Iowa Transportation Commission approved the Swap policy at their February 2018 meeting. This allows some Federal-aid

dollars, previously administered by LPAs on our transportation system, to be Swapped with State-aid dollars. The Iowa DOT will then target the Federal-aid dollars on larger projects where they would have used State-aid 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

The Chapter Leadership Training is held every-other year; therefore, there was no training in 2018. However, at the October 11, 2018 Iowa Chapter Executive Committee meeting, the Board voted to send three of our board members to the Chapter Leadership Training in Kansas City on January 31 – February 1, 2019.

Chapter Delegate and Alternate Delegate

The Chapter Delegate, Ron Knoche, and the Alternate Delegate, Jeff May, attended the 2018 Winter Council of Chapters meeting in Kansas City and the 2018 Summer Council of Chapters meeting at the PWX in Kansas City. The Delegate serves on the K-12 Student Outreach Focus Group and the Alternate Delegate 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, and team development in 2018.

In 2018, 10 participants completed all 15 courses and received official APWA leadership certificates. There were also an additional 149 active registrants who attended one of the two live sessions and 39 registrants who attended online sessions. 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 2019, the Iowa Chapter plans to revisit the Chapter's strategic plan, continue Chapter Committee refinement, 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. Three people volunteered to be Mid-American Representatives at the April 2018 Iowa Chapter Executive Committee meeting. The next MidAmerica Conference will be held in 2020.

Our Chapter Delegate and Alternate Delegate provided and shared semi-annual chapter activity reports and participated in the 2018 Winter Council of Chapters meeting, as well as the 2018 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. This year, one of our members co-chaired the *Futures Program* at PWX and another member was on the National Nominating Committee. We also have several members who serve as national liaisons or have been appointed to national committees as shown below. In 2018 we had two Emerging Leader Academy Participants, an active Chapter Delegate and Chapter Alternate Delegate, and Steve Johnson, Iowa Chapter member, is now an ELA Mentor. While participating in all of these activities, our members were able to share their particular expertise in an area, and were in turn able to bring back valuable lessons and information to our chapter.

National Liaisons	National Committee Appointments
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
	Road Safety Subcommittee
	Winter Maintenance Subcommittee
	Utilities & Public Rights-of-Way
	Water Resources Management

Current Iowa Chapter Membership – National Liaisons and Committee Appointments

Iowa Chapter members also participated in the Underground Utilities Construction Inspector School. The course was hosted by the Minnesota Chapter of the APWA but was also offered remotely via webinar in Ames and Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It was developed to provide supplemental training to individuals with underground utility inspection responsibilities to expertly and confidently do their jobs. Each session focused on a topic unique to underground utility inspections. Attendees learned firsthand about construction-related practices and technologies related to underground utilities throughout the duration of the course. They also learned about real-world issues that are encountered in the field and how these can be addressed. The course also offered attendees the opportunity to meet colleagues from the local area and discuss experiences, issues, and successes they have encountered during their work.

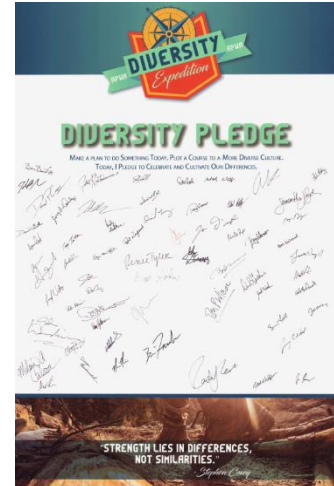


Underground Utilities Construction Inspector School participants, Ames Location

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 been reaching 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. You will read more about their efforts below.

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 few years have brought more women into the organization. Many of the female members have taken on leadership positions within the chapter. Some 2018 examples include, a female elected as secretary/treasurer of the Iowa Chapter APWA Board, a female director on the Iowa Chapter APWA Board with an additional elected for 2019, two female Emerging Leaders Academy participants, and four committee chairs (Membership, Communications, Young Professionals, Sustainability).



1 of 2 Diversity Posters with a total of 72 signatures

F. Young/Emerging Professionals

Since its inception in 2008, the Iowa Chapter has had eight members graduate from the APWA Emerging Leaders Academy (ELA). This includes two graduates who were recognized at PWX in Kansas City, Rachael Conrad with the City of Clive, and Renee Tyler with the City of Dubuque. 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.

On December 12, 2018, the Iowa Chapter Young Professionals Committee organized a networking event at Smash Park. Smash Park is a new venue located in West Des Moines where patrons can eat, drink, and play games. There were opportunities for guests to play bags, ping pong, Jenga, and Connect Four while mingling with their peers within the Public Works field. Approximately 40 to 50 people attended the event throughout the night, and there were both new and familiar faces in the crowd. We got to meet some of the young engineers at various consulting firms, visit with new hires to some of our central Iowa communities, and even got Jason Havel, Chapter President, to attend all the way from Iowa City. The conversations were engaging and the support for our chapter members and volunteers was overwhelmingly positive. We're looking forward to hosting another similar event in 2019.



Networking Event at Smash Park in West Des Moines, organized by the Young Professionals Committee

DMACC NOW OFFERS A PUBLIC WORKS ACADEMY COURSE

CLASSES START
JANUARY 23, 2019

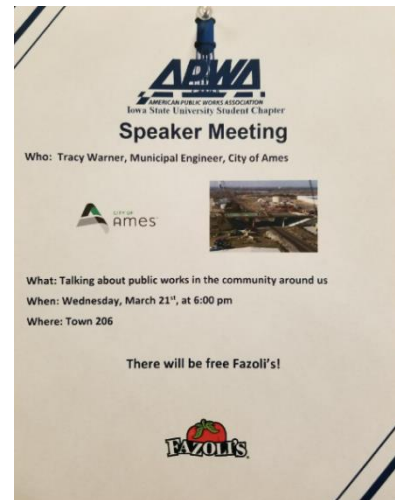
January 23-February 22 — Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8am-12pm at DMACC Southridge, Rm 21
February 25-March 1 — Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm at DMACC Ankeny Campus, Bldg 20 Rm 6



Iowa Chapter members joined efforts with the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) in 2018 to create a Public Works Academy Course. The goal was to provide a short course to teach workplace readiness skills, safety, use of tools, and equipment operation to interested students. Filling entry-level operator positions can be a difficult task here

in Iowa, with few qualified candidates applying for the positions. It was hoped a course like this might increase interest and provide Public Works agencies a more experienced pool of applicants. However, in early 2019, it was determined there was not enough interest to support it.

The APWA ISU Student Chapter has continued to evolve and held several meetings/events in 2018. The student chapter invited industry professionals to these meetings to speak with students and promote APWA awareness at the collegiate level. Several of these speakers were members of the Iowa APWA Chapter. They are a young, small group at this time but have ambitious student leaders who are looking for more opportunities to promote membership growth and put students in contact with potential employers and mentors. The student chapter continues to partner with various complimentary student organizations to increase membership and outreach. They have also offered free food during meetings as shown in the meeting notice to the right. In 2018, the students volunteered at the Iowa Concrete Paving Association Conference and attended the Better Concrete Conference. Additionally, several members of the student chapter attended and presented at the Iowa Chapter's Spring Conference. Several students were able to obtain internships as a result of connections made at the conference.



*Student Meeting Flyer, March 21,
with speaker, Tracy Warner, Iowa
Chapter member*

III. Advancement of Public Works and Sustainability

A. Awards/Recognition Programs

Chapter Awards

2018 marked the 65th Anniversary of the Iowa Chapter of APWA. In celebration of this event, Paul Wiegand, a past Top 10 Public Works Leader of the Year recipient, put together a presentation for the Annual Fall Conference. The presentation included a lot of photos, articles, stories, and perhaps a few legends from the past. During his research, he assembled a comprehensive list of past Iowa Chapter award winners and past executive board members that now resides on our website for all to view.

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 2018 awards are shown on the next page.

- Members are recognized with a plaque for longevity as APWA members. This year, we recognized one **life membership** and five **25-year memberships**.
- 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 13 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 5 recipients.
- The **Leader of the Year Award** recognizes outstanding service to the Iowa Chapter. This year's recipient was Jon Dienst (City of Dubuque).
- The **President's Award** is given at the current chapter president's discretion for supporting the



*John Klostermann (City of Dubuque)
25-Year Service Award*

Iowa Chapter President and being instrumental in their success resulting in success to the chapter. This year's recipient was Ron Knoche (City of Iowa City).



*Samantha Hayden (City of Ankeny)
Young Leader Award*

- 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 Samantha Hayden (City of Ankeny).

- 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 LL Pelling.
- 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 Pat Miller (City of Council Bluffs).
- The most prestigious Iowa Chapter award is the **Stan Ring Distinguished Service Award**. This award recognizes Iowa Chapter members who have demonstrated exemplary, long-term service and commitment to the Iowa Chapter and to the public works



*Pat Miller (City of Council Bluffs)
Al Olson Excellence in Public Works
Operations Award*

profession. This year's recipient was Dr. Jim Cable (ISU). Since Jim passed away earlier in 2018, his family was in attendance to accept the award in his honor.

- The Iowa Chapter also recognized five projects of the year.
 - **Transportation (\$1M-\$2.5M):** Kirkwood Boulevard Roundabout/Hoosier Creek Culvert Replacement (City of Cedar Rapids, Ricklefs Excavating, Bolton & Menk)
 - **Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair (>\$2.5M):** Upper Bee Branch Creek Reconstruction (City of Dubuque, Portzen Construction, Strand Associates, IIW)
 - **Transportation (>\$2.5M):** Nevada 6th & 8th Street Improvements (City of Nevada, Con-Struct, HR Green)
 - **Environment (\$1M-\$2.5M):** South Skunk River Basin Watershed Improvements (City of Ames, Manatts, Bolton & Menk)
 - **Transportation (\$500,000<\$1M):** Davenport Brick Street Reconstruction (City of Iowa City, All American Concrete, McClure Engineering)



Dr. Jim Cable's Family (Iowa State University) Stan Ring Distinguished Service Award



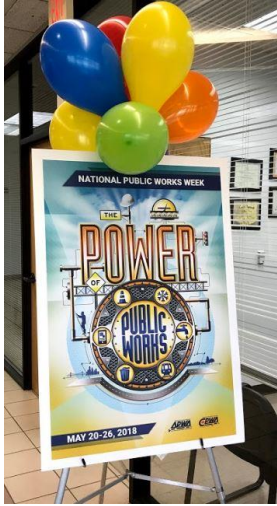
Larry Stevens, Rick Fosse, and Chuck Williams presenting Rick the Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Award

National Awards/Recognition

Richard (Rick) Fosse was named a **2018 Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year**. Rick serves as Professor of Practice at the University of Iowa College of Engineering in Iowa City, IA. His focus areas include leadership, project management, capstone design, Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam preparation, resilient infrastructure, and emergency response. Prior to joining the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in 2015, Fosse served the City of Iowa City as Public Works Director (2003-14), Acting Assistant City Manager (2009-10), City Engineer (1989- 2003), Special Project Engineer (1988-89) and Civil Engineer (1984-88).

Rick has been an active member of the Iowa Chapter, holding various offices within the chapter's executive committee. In recognition of his accomplishments, Rick has received numerous Iowa Chapter awards, including Leader of the Year and the Samuel A. Greeley Award. His Top Ten award was presented at a reception during National Public Works week by Larry Stevens, a fellow Iowa Chapter member and Past-President of APWA National, and Chuck Williams, APWA Region VI Director. Several Iowa Chapter members, coworkers both past and present, and family were in attendance at the reception to honor Rick, his dedication, and the impact he has made within the city of Iowa City and the Public Works community. Rick is the 12th Iowa Chapter member to receive this award and the 5th in the past 5 years!

Rachel Conrad (City of Clive) and Renee Tyler (City of Dubuque) both graduated from the **Emerging Leaders Academy**, and Aaron Putnam (City of Ankeny) received the **Jennings Randolph International Fellows**.



Public Works Week Event in Dubuque.

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 Dubuque, for example, held two events as part of National Public Works Week. One event was at Food Truck Friday where they had a stand showing off a truck for kids climb on and flyers and employment applications for anyone interested. The 2nd event was at Farmers Market on Saturday that week. They had multiple pieces of equipment out for display along with a stand where we handed out Paw Prints to kids. Other cities around Iowa host 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 hosting an event at a local elementary school and invites the children to paint rain barrels that are given away as door prizes at the Eco Fair.



City of Ames Eco Fair

In the City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa APWA Chapter members partner with the Future City Competition. Students participating in the Future City Competition have been challenged to design a resilient power grid that can withstand and quickly recover from the impacts of natural disaster. As part of the "Power our Future" challenge, the students got the chance to learn more about how the City protects from future flood disasters during a tour with City engineers in October.

Approximately 20 students in 6th through 8th grade and some parents toured segments of the city's flood control system and learned firsthand how engineers are designing levees, permanent walls, and pump stations to protect against future flooding. "The Flood Control System is a great way to show kids that communities can plan and protect against natural disasters, and that having a plan can benefit evacuation, clean up, and recovery efforts long after the disaster has passed," says a Civil Engineer and Future City Coach.



Future City members who participated in the Flood Fighting education event



Example of a City Proclamation
(City of Dubuque)

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 also 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.

Rachel Conrad from the City of Clive and Renee Tyler of the City of Dubuque both completed the Emerging Leaders Academy for 2017-2018. The Academy met in Kansas City in Fall of 2017 for a Leadership Retreat. During this weekend, the members spent their time getting to know each other over discussions on leadership as well as engaging in personality testing and other self-discovery activities. The class was tasked with brainstorming ideas for a group project to be completed over the year long program. The class then presented this project at PWX in Kansas City. In addition to the class project, the group also participated in monthly conference calls to continue to discuss challenges facing emerging leaders within the public works arena.

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 the state have expressed an interest in becoming accredited, and the chapter is planning to host an accreditation workshop in 2019.



Several Iowa Chapter members have participated in APWA’s certification programs. Iowa has five Certified Public Infrastructure Inspectors, 2 Certified Stormwater Managers, 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. Jennifer Winter, Iowa Chapter Regional Director, is a past-chair and current National Liaison for the National APWA Center for Sustainability. There are also 30 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 2018, over 500 people attended the 11th 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 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 also trying to institute more sustainability concepts during our chapter conferences. The Iowa Chapter has significantly reduced the amount of paper that is distributed at our conferences by using electronic means whenever possible. The new mobile app available with the new Bizzabo event software was also a hit and 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 is planning to continue to promote these programs at our conferences in the hopes of even less waste in the future.



E. Advocacy Outreach

Representatives from the Iowa Chapter met with Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds on April 5, 2018 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.



Iowa's NPWW Proclamation signing by Governor Reynolds

As mentioned previously under member-to-member outreach, the members of the Iowa Chapter played 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 Grant application. Iowa leads the nation with the most structurally deficient bridges, not a statistic we are overly proud of, so this seemed like a good opportunity for us as a state. Iowa DOT took the lead on the application which proposed to bundle state, county, and city bridges together. We are still waiting to hear award results.

Also mentioned previously is the IHRB funded Public Works Service Bureau feasibility study. 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 legislation asks questions. When working through the successful Gas Tax increase in 2016, it was apparent that the ICEA organization, who has an established Service Bureau, was able to pull together information much more effectively and efficiently. This feasibility study is expected to be complete in 2019.

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 continues to be a great education outreach program. As was previously mentioned, the student chapter is gaining popularity. Iowa Chapter professionals continue to present during student chapter meetings to help educate the students about their jobs and hear first-hand about real world activities in public works. In addition to presentations at the student chapter meetings, Iowa Chapter members also give presentations to various Iowa State University and University of Iowa classes. The Iowa Chapter will also continue to explore the option of creating a University of Iowa and DMACC student chapter.



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.



Iowa Chapter President Jason Havel at the Iowa Streets and Roads Conference

Two Iowa Chapter members were appointed to the Iowa Stormwater Management Manual 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.

B. Community Service Programs

Continental Crossings is a civil engineering student organization at the University of Iowa. Every year, their biggest service project is the design and build of a pedestrian footbridge for a rural isolated community in another country. This year, they are working with community members in an impoverished area on the outskirts of Granada, Nicaragua. A school was built recently in a newly developing area. Unfortunately, most of the students attending this school live across a swampy area that they frequently are unable to cross to attend school. The Continental Crossings group worked to design the bridge to fit the landscape and planned to build the bridge when they arrived in Nicaragua. The Iowa Chapter of APWA provided a



sponsorship for building this bridge. Unfortunately, travel safety concerns arose for the University of Iowa and the hosts were no longer able to accommodate the group. However, the group plans to apply the Iowa Chapter's sponsorship to their next project.

The Iowa State University Chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB) has partnered with Ullo, a rural community in the North West Region of Ghana. In December of 2018, they sent seven ISU student travelers and one ISU faculty member to Ullo to oversee the final phase in the implementation of a water distribution system. This system now pumps water from a previously tested borehole to over 1,000 students at the local boarding school. Prior to implementation, students would walk 4 km round trip to fetch water for drinking, bathing, or cleaning. The efforts by the ISU members has provided a better quality of life to and enhanced the education of these students. The Iowa Chapter provided a financial sponsorship to the Iowa State Chapter of Engineers Without Borders to help with their fundraising efforts.



December 2018 EWB Travel Team



The back of the EWB Team's T-shirts sporting the Iowa Chapter logo

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. Golfers who bring a donation are eligible to receive up to two mulligans during the outing. In 2018, the non-perishable and cash donations were taken to a local food pantry in Iowa City.

Committee members were asked to bring school supply donations to the Iowa Chapter Executive Committee meeting on August 10, 2018. Twenty members were in attendance and were very generous with their donations. Iowa Chapter President Jason Havel took the school supplies back to Iowa City and donated them to the Iowa City Community School District Foundation. This was the second year the Iowa Chapter has contributed school supplies to a school in need and the timing worked perfectly with students going back to school shortly after the meeting.



Iowa City food bank donations



Letter of appreciation for school supply donation



Generous school supply donations from the Iowa Chapter

At the Iowa Chapter Executive Committee meeting on December 7, 2018, 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 Ames Service Center. The Salvation Army to distribute to children ages newborn through 18. Approximately 450 local children received gifts thanks to the generous donations received. The Iowa Chapter was very proud to be a piece of that joy given to children during the holiday season.

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.



Annual Iowa Chapter Toys for Tots donation, December 7, Executive Committee Meeting

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.