



**Minnesota
Chapter**

American Public Works Association Minnesota Chapter

2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JOHN RODEBERG

President
SEH, Inc.
(651) 470-2448
jrodeberg@sehinc.com

ROBERT COCKRIEL

Vice President
City of Bloomington
(952) 563-8774
rcockriel@ci.bloomington.mn.us

SUE MASON

Secretary/Treasurer
SEH, Inc.
(952) 939-8239
smason@sehinc.com

LEE GUSTAFSON

Past President/Deputy Treasurer
City of Minnetonka
(952) 939-8239
lgustafson@eminnetonka.com

ANGELA POPENHAGEN

Delegate
Stevens Engineers Inc.
(651) 436-2075
apopenhagen@stevensengineers.com

MATT SAAM

Director - Engineer/Manager
City of West St. Paul
misaam@cityofwsp.org

TROY NEMMERS

Director - Out State
City of Fairmont
tnemmers@fairmont.org

BETH ENGUM

Director - State/County Agency
Ramsey County Public Works
beth.engum@co.ramsey.mn.us

MELISSA GIRTZ

Director - Vendor/Contractor
Rt Vision
melissag@rtvision.com

MARCUS THOMAS

Director - Consultant
Bolton & Menk, Inc
marcusth@bolton-menk.com

RUSS MATTHYS

Director - DPW/City Engineer
City of Eagan
rmatthys@cityofeagan.com

DALE REED

Director - Superintendent
White Bear Township
Dale.reed@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us

PAT SCHUTROP

Chapter Assistant
P. O. Box 27965
Golden Valley, MN 55427
1-888-407-2650 (toll free)
admin@apwa-mn.org

May 19, 2014

APWA Awards Committee
American Public Works Association
2345 Grand Boulevard, Suite 700
Kansas City, MO 64108-2625

SUBJECT: PACE AWARD – MINNESOTA CHAPTER

Dear APWA Awards Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Chapter, I am very proud to submit for your consideration our application for the Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE). Our application clearly demonstrates how extremely energized and active our Chapter is in its rigorous support of the Public Works profession and our dedicated members through numerous educational, training, and outreach programs and activities.

The Minnesota Chapter is very proud of our record breaking ten national APWA awards this year! This adds to the many national awards our Chapter members have received, as well as a strong local awards program, all of which are discussed in our submittal.

In 2013, the Minnesota Chapter focused on new member on-boarding, support of our outstate members and outstate initiatives, and our work with the Minnesota 2050 initiative. All of these will help in better serving our members. We continued to build upon the momentum gained last year in our efforts to engage young members and have continued our strong educational efforts with the Underground Utility Inspectors School and the Leadership Academy.

Please accept our application for the Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence. Our Chapter would once again be much honored to be recognized with this prestigious award.

Sincerely,


John Rodeberg
APWA-MN Chapter President

Enclosure

The Minnesota Chapter of the American Public Works Association is pleased to submit this application for the Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE). On behalf of APWA, the Minnesota Chapter is very proud of the service we continue to provide to our members. The Chapter is actively involved in communities throughout the state providing exemplary service and proactively looking forward to the advancement of Public Works through numerous progressive initiatives. The following submittal provides a summary of the Chapter's activities in the four identified categories.

I. Membership

A. Current Membership

Minnesota is one of twelve chapters with a membership total over 850. As of December 2013, membership for the chapter was 938 members.

B. Membership Recruitment Efforts

The Minnesota Chapter's membership recruitment efforts have proven effective and fruitful both for recruiting new members and also for service to our existing members. In 2012, members of the Minnesota Chapter helped establish a Student Chapter at the University of Minnesota. The goals of the Student Chapter are to stimulate an interest in and understanding of the dimensions of civil engineering and public works, guide students in the steps required to become a successful professional in our field, promote a spirit of unity, and to serve as a gateway to connect civil engineering students with working professionals. Currently, the Student Chapter has 21 active members.

The Chapter Membership committee continues to host a variety of both technical and social events throughout the year for our members. Past tours have included visits to the Lowry Bridge project, the Hiawatha Maintenance Facility, a Saint Paul Saints baseball game, and a visit to the 35W Bridge Construction Project.



Members volunteering at Feed My Starving Children



Chapter Members enjoying a Saint Paul Saints baseball game

The Minnesota Chapter of APWA has incorporated both a community outreach and an environmental service event into our membership recruitment efforts. Chapter members once again joined together in March to volunteer with Feed My Starving Children, assembling meals to be sent to poverty stricken children in third world countries of the Caribbean and Africa. This event was held at three different locations to meet member interest.

On May 10, 2013 members gathered to cleanup a City of Lakeville Watershed Area. More than 20 bags of debris were collected along a one-mile segment of Dakota County Road 46 in Lakeville. It was a successful event and a beautiful evening shared with fellow members.

Annually, the Membership Committee provides:

- ✓ One new member summer golf outing annually.
- ✓ Membership networking activities at the annual Spring Conference.
- ✓ Membership bowling tournament and networking activities at the annual Fall Conference.
- ✓ A membership booth at events highlighting current Chapter initiatives and the various Chapter committees.
- ✓ A new member breakfast with the Chapter's Past Presidents at the annual Fall Conference.
- ✓ Brochures at conferences/gatherings highlighting Chapter membership benefits.
- ✓ Attendance Discounts – Chapter activities are offered at two cost levels for members and non-members.
- ✓ The Executive Committee monitors agency memberships working to maximize the use of available memberships for respective member agencies.
- ✓ The Membership Committee follows up with dropped members, and encourages future relationships with the Chapter.



2013 Executive Committee Members

C. Membership Development and Retention Efforts

The Minnesota Chapter has placed an extraordinary emphasis on member development and retention. Multiple networking and educational functions have been offered, with the intent of providing exceptional incentive for members to stay connected to the Chapter. These include:

- ✓ Hosting the 2005 APWA National Congress – Multiple National Congresses: 1997, 1972, 1961, 1944
- ✓ Hosting the 2007 APWA Snow Conference (St. Paul, Minnesota)
 - (Record Attendance – 547 Registrations, 289 (1-day), 807 Exhibits Only, 135 Vendors)

- ✓ Development of a Chapter Leadership Academy following the National APWA Initiative – First Implemented during the fall of 2006. The seventh class graduated in the spring of 2012.
- ✓ Development of a new Student Membership Pilot Program following the National APWA Initiative – Implemented 2006.
- ✓ Annual Spring and Fall Conferences/Banquets
- ✓ Annual “Day Before” Fall Conference Training
 - Specialized daylong curriculum focusing on specific public works issues/subjects.
- ✓ Regular Workshop offerings
 - Municipal Underground Utility Inspectors School.
- ✓ Chapter sponsorship/direction of North Hennepin Community College Public Works Certificate Program.
- ✓ Chapter member cities host all “Click, Listen, and Learn” webinar sessions.
- ✓ Sponsorship and Chapter participation (curriculum development) in the Spring and Fall Maintenance Expos/Fall Snow Rodeo & Skid Steer Competition.
- ✓ Participation in annual Job Fair Engineering Outreach at the University of Minnesota.
- ✓ Frequent content changes to the Chapter website.
- ✓ Active Scholarship Program via the Education Committee.
- ✓ Active Awards Program.
- ✓ Diversity Committee with a current focus on a lack of Latino representation in engineering and public works as an area we can improve upon.
- ✓ Active Public Awareness Committee.
- ✓ Active partnerships/collaborations with public professionals (City Engineers Association of Minnesota, Local Road Research Board, University of Minnesota Center for Transportation, Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers, and the American Water Works Association).
- ✓ Active liaison with League of Minnesota Cities Local Governmental Legislation Lobby representation.
- ✓ Two golf outings held each year.
- ✓ Annual bowling tournament at the Fall Conference.
- ✓ Annual Publication of Membership and Ad Directory.



2013 Leadership Academy Graduates



Minnesota Chapter Past Presidents Breakfast

II. Service to Chapter Members

A. Number of Members Attending Meetings

The Minnesota Chapter of APWA continues to experience excellent participation for Chapter events. In addition, attendees for all events and educational offerings are actively encouraged to complete evaluation sheets provided to each attendee. The Chapter’s activities provider carefully monitors this feedback and attendance and works diligently to improve and/or continuously modify offerings in order to provide the best service delivery possible to Chapter members.

Attendance	2013
Fall Conference and “Day Before” Workshop	556
Spring Conference	155

B. Member-to-Member Outreach

The Minnesota Chapter serves its membership with many member-to-member outreach activities. Among the highlights previously identified, a more in-depth examination of service delivery/outreach to the Chapter is as follows:

- ✓ **Meeting/Event Notices** – Notices of events and meetings are sent to the membership via e-mail blasts, and are posted on the Chapter’s website.

- ✓ **Chapter Website** – <http://www.apwa-mn.org>. The Minnesota Chapter offers members an effective new website linked through the national APWA website. The Chapter website includes news and information about events, mission statement, historical information, and contact information to keep the Chapter’s membership communicating.



Chapter Website

- ✓ **Annual Spring Conference** – The Minnesota Chapter celebrated spring in 2013 with the 67th APWA Minnesota Chapter Spring Conference in a relaxed northern Minnesota resort setting. Each year, participants enjoy concentrated educational sessions featuring local and nationally recognized keynote speakers. The typical Spring Conference program includes approximately 16 hours of training/education and an afternoon of networking activities sponsored by the Membership Committee, including applicable technical tours.
- ✓ **Annual Fall Conference** – An effective membership outreach activity for over 30 years, the annual Chapter Fall Conference is offered in the metropolitan Minneapolis/St. Paul area. The 2013 Fall Conference was facilitated by the University of Minnesota, College of Continuing Education, and was again a tremendous success.

The 2013 Fall Conference program offered some very interesting and thought-provoking sessions. Our conference keynote speaker, Roberto Ballarini, opened the conference Thursday morning with a discussion titled “The Effects of our Decaying Infrastructure on National Security and Culture”. Roberto’s session discussed the condition of our infrastructure and what we do about replacing it. Additional sessions included “It Takes a Village to Implement a Computerized Maintenance Management System”, “Pavement Preservation using Hot-in-Place Asphalt Recycling”, “Funding Crumbling Infrastructure”, as well as numerous other educational sessions. The Minnesota Chapter also hosted its annual awards ceremony which recognized professional associates and projects for outstanding service locally, statewide, and nationally.


- ✓ **Day-long Workshop Fall Conference Offering** – An additional valuable member outreach commitment is traditionally offered by the Chapter’s Education and Training Committee at the annual Fall Conference in the form of a more concentrated “Day Before” session. The November 20, 2013 “Day Before” Fall Conference Workshop focused on the APWA Winter Maintenance Supervisor Certificate Workshop and a workshop entitled “Writing to Get Things Done”.
- ✓ **Municipal Underground Utilities Inspectors School (UUIS)** – Over the years, the Education and Training Committee of the Minnesota Chapter has hosted this educational outreach program. In 2013 the Chapter’s Education and Training Committee renewed its efforts to provide this training, and developed and implemented a revised and sustainable workshop curriculum that was offered for the first time in 2009. This revised curriculum was patterned after the APWA underground inspector training course. Instructors from the private industry volunteered to cover various topics offered as part of the training course. The first class of 25 public works employees to take this course graduated during the spring of 2010. In addition, the Chapter has offered to pay the \$600 fee for one individual that graduated from this class to take the online APWA test, and become APWA certified. In 2013, the fourth graduating class was awarded their certificates. The Chapter is looking forward to many more years of successful implementation of this training.
- ✓ **North Hennepin Community College Public Works Certificate Program** – This Chapter outreach has been in existence for over 30 years and has seen hundreds of public works professionals complete the program during that time. For many front line maintenance workers, the program has helped them to advance into public works supervisory roles.

Students each year are provided an opportunity to attend specifically oriented public sector class offerings in a college setting. Moreover, students are given the opportunity to better understand why public agencies function as they do, and how they might be better prepared to be tomorrow’s public works leaders. Through this program, students take away new skills and insight enabling them to be more productive members of any work environment. Students are also encouraged to more readily embrace and recognize their full professional potential. Courses are designed to familiarize students with general management principles, technical and operational aspects of public works, human resource issues including screening, interviewing, and hiring in the public sector, and public relations issues among hundreds of other areas of management/oversight.

The program consists of 23 credits, 16 of which are considered the core public works courses with the remaining seven credits coming from an elective communications course and a writing course. The four public works courses that make up the core 16 credits of the program are:

- Public Works Management and Communication
- Public Works Operations and Maintenance
- Public Works Organization and Administration
- Technical Aspects of Public Works

Virtually all new Public Works managers hired in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area over the past ten years are graduates of this very successful program. Instructors have historically come from within the Chapter, and are practicing public works managers/professionals in the area.

- ✓ **Fall Maintenance Expo and Spring Maintenance Training and Demo Day** – The Minnesota Chapter has actively supported these extremely successful educational activities primarily designed to target frontline public works employees for more than 15 years. Working in cooperation with the Minnesota Street Superintendents Association, the Minnesota Local Technical Assistance Program, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation; Chapter members help provide training to almost 3,000 maintenance employees and managers annually. Seminar sessions include topics such as safety, vegetation management, gravel road maintenance, asphalt preservation and snow & ice technology ice operations. The Fall Maintenance Expo includes a major equipment showcases providing opportunities for member vendors to share both new technology and methodology benefiting members and member communities. The Fall Expo also includes a major league “Snow Rodeo” as well as a skid steer operation competition. The spring event focuses on class room training and outdoor demonstrations.
- ✓ **Annual Membership Golf Outings** – As previously mentioned, the Chapter’s spring golf outing is a member outreach function providing networking opportunities for members. The annual Chapter summer golf outing is also a member outreach function with an additional emphasis on recruiting new members. Current Chapter members are encouraged to bring new potential members and introduce them to the Minnesota Chapter in a social setting. Free golf is offered the following year for 10 new memberships. The typical summer golf outing consists of 36 foursomes (144 golfers) and the majority of the golf holes are sponsored by Allied Chapter members. Everyone leaves with one of the many prizes, and the events are always very successful.
 
- ✓ **New Member Breakfast** – Each year the Chapter hosts a new member breakfast outreach as part of the Fall Conference. The event is hosted by the Membership Committee. A message board located in a well-traveled area is prepared welcoming and identifying all new member names. During the breakfast, new members and representatives from the Executive Committee and the Chapter President get to know one another. Typical attendance is 8 to 12 new members. After breakfast, new members enjoy a short presentation on Chapter opportunities, publications and newsletters, committees, and other benefits of membership.
- ✓ **Leadership Academy** – Following the national initiative brought forward during 2004, Minnesota Chapter members participated in national APWA meetings where many Chapters brought the best of their training efforts to the table in order to develop a “prototype” for a Leadership Academy format. The Minnesota Chapter subsequently entered into an agreement with the Hamline University Graduate School of Public Administration and Management in St. Paul, Minnesota to

develop the new training program that began with a class of 24 in the fall of 2006. The training occurs annually over an eight-month period with 90 hours of graduate school level education required for the certificate. In 2013, students from the seventh graduating class of the Leadership Academy were awarded their certificates. The Leadership Academy is a mini-masters program that provides practical knowledge, tools and skills public works professionals need to manage effectively.

C. Chapter Best Practices Compliance

The Minnesota Chapter was extremely pleased to be provided the “template for success” created by national APWA in the form of a listing of Chapter Best Practices. This document has helped focus energy and resources at our local level during semi-annual goal setting Executive Committee retreats. Attached to this submittal is the Best Practices for APWA Chapter Capacity Building. The Minnesota Chapter is pleased to check “yes” to nearly all of the items included in the list. Items that garner further comment are noted below.

- **Number 3 – *The chapter maintains a college student outreach/mentoring program.***
In the late fall of 2011, the Minnesota Chapter of APWA set out to extend its reach to the college ranks. The Chapter chose the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus to re-start a student chapter, as it had the largest contingent of civil engineering students among Minnesota’s universities, and it was also the closest in proximity to the professional members who would be working to set up the group. The student chapter was formed by the tail end of Spring Semester of 2012, with 11 original undergraduate student members. By the time Fall Semester was in full swing, the number of student members had more than doubled to 24, making the APWA-UMN Student Chapter the largest student chapter in the country. The Student Chapter held its first official election on November 1, 2012, and the new student officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Co-Chair) took the oath of office from APWA President Elizabeth Treadway at the Minnesota Chapter’s Annual Fall Conference on November 16, 2012.
- **Number 14 - *The chapter treasurer serves a minimum of two years and has a transition plan for a successor.*** The Minnesota Chapter Treasurer serves a term of one year. However, the person elected to Treasurer continues to serve as the Chapter’s Vice President, President, and Past-President. Altogether it’s a four-year commitment. The four-year leadership track provides continuity at the Executive Committee level, and serves as a transition plan for incoming officers. Newly elected Treasurers are able to rely on the Vice-President, President, and Past-President’s in order to get up to speed quickly on the Chapter finances. In 2013, a deputy treasurer position was created to ensure consistency in financial reporting. The deputy position will likely be held by one individual for a 4-5 year period in which time he or she will work closely with the treasurer in performing the daily functions of depositing revenue, making payments and reimbursements, and reconciling the budget.
- **Number 35 - *Annually the chapter organizes and/or participates in a minimum of two community/environmental service events, one focused on an environmental project and one on a community-based project.*** As noted in Section IV, the Minnesota Chapter volunteers with the Feed My Starving Children organization, assembling meal packages to poverty stricken children in third world countries. This has been a widely attended annual event. In May, the



Minnesota
Chapter

Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence Submittal

Chapter held its second annual environmental service project by assisting the City of Lakeville with the cleanup of a Watershed Area.

- Number 48 - *The chapter has a regular newsletter it distributes to members.* In an effort to go "green", the Minnesota Chapter ended the distribution of a quarterly newsletter. Today, members receive a **Latest News** email blast that is sent approximately once a month. The email highlights various news items that can be found on the Chapter website. By clicking on a provided link to **Read More**, members feel more engaged and are provided with more timely communication than was previously occurring with the newsletter.



Latest News Email Blast

D. Chapter to Chapter Outreach

The Minnesota Chapter extends a warm and gracious welcome to neighboring Chapters for virtually all events and offerings. We share Chapter newsletters, the House of Delegates, and the members of the APWA Wisconsin and Dakota Chapters that are regionally close by taking advantage of our educational outreach. In the past, the Minnesota Chapter has shared Chapter dinner facilities with the Dakota Chapters; in addition, members of our board have attended the joint Mid-America conference.

E. Chapter Diversity

Through the efforts of individual chapter members, the Minnesota Chapter Diversity Committee was revitalized in 2012. The Minnesota Chapter was very supportive of individual efforts on behalf of minorities, and in the past has provided scholarships to encourage students to pursue college engineering degrees. In 2012, the Chapter decided it wanted to do more, throughout the State, in promoting outreach to minorities and underprivileged populations. Because of this, the Diversity Committee was re-formed in 2012 at the Chapter level.

The Diversity Committee now consists of 8 active members. Their established mission is summarized as follows:

- To advance the Diversity Issue throughout the Minnesota Chapter of the American Public Works Association, placing value on all individuals and the different perspectives of those individuals, and promoting the process for all to feel included as part of the whole.

The Diversity Committee's goals are as follows:

- Short-Term – Increase Chapter membership with existing public works employees of minority descent.
- Mid-Term – To reach out to existing workforce and college students and inform them of the opportunities in careers with Public Works agencies.
- Long-Term – Focus on outreach to high school students from minority groups.

The Chapter's Diversity Committee meets on a monthly basis, one month they meet as goal sub-groups, and the next month they meet as a full committee.

III. Advancement of Public Works

A. Chapter Awards/Recognition Programs for Members/Non-members

The Minnesota Chapter has had an annual awards program for more than 30 years. Presentations for the awards take place at the annual Chapter Fall Conference. Feeling that we weren't fully acknowledging the wonderful talents of all our members, in 2005 the Chapter Awards Committee put a new emphasis on individual awards.

The Chapter developed personnel awards to recognize the outstanding achievements of individuals at all levels within public works agencies. Besides presenting the award to the individual at the annual Fall Conference, committee members have initiated a new policy of public recognition at local City Council and/or governing board meetings, as well as through press releases sent to the local newspapers. This process not only provides greater recognition to outstanding public works employees, but also provides greater recognition to the public works profession as a whole.

The 2013 Minnesota Chapter Awards were presented for the following public works employee classifications:

- ✓ Director or Manager of the Year
- ✓ Superintendent of the Year
- ✓ Supervisor of the Year

The Awards Committee has established the following criteria for selection of these individuals:

- ✓ Innovative applications of new or existing technologies and equipment.
- ✓ Innovative applications of new or existing project management and service delivery systems.
- ✓ Outstanding service to citizens that enhances the public perception of public works services.
- ✓ Outstanding efforts in career and personal growth and development.
- ✓ Outstanding efforts in development of teamwork and cooperative working relationships.

Each year the Minnesota Chapter also presents the Hugo G. Erickson Award for Chapter Service. This award is presented to an individual who has provided years of superior service to the Chapter, as well as assisted in furthering the Chapter's successful operation and goals.

Mr. Jim Grube, County Engineer for Hennepin County, received the **Hugo G. Erickson Award for Chapter Service** in 2013. Jim has served as a chapter Director, Secretary/Treasurer, Vice President, President and Past-President, and has served on various committees.

In 2009, the Awards Committee, along with the Environmental Committee, jointly developed the Chapter's first-ever award for **Environmental Stewardship**. The award recognizes those in the field of Public Works who are working hard to protect the environment. Criteria for the award include:



Jim Grube, Hennepin County, 2013 Hugo G. Erickson Award Recipient

- ✓ A sustained effort that demonstrates a commitment by a group, individual or organization to environmental conservation or protection,
- ✓ Benefits to the community and to the environment, and
- ✓ Consideration of Public Works values, including cost effectiveness and long-term operation and maintenance.

Also deserving recognition are the numerous individuals who spend many volunteer hours every year working to ensure the continued successful operation of the Chapter. These people serve on committees ranging from the Executive Committee to committees working on issues such as Education & Training, Conference Planning, Membership, Awards, Communications, etc. Chapter Committee members are also recognized at the annual Fall Conference.

In addition to recognizing high quality public works personnel, the completion of successful projects is also essential to providing outstanding public works services. The Chapter Awards Program recognizes this fact by offering an annual award for a state/local Public Works Project of the Year.

The **Project of the Year Award** is intended to recognize outstanding projects, both large and small, that highlight the many diverse facets of public works projects, while incorporating innovative applications of new or existing technologies. These projects typically involve innovative project management, financing, and multi-agency participation and provide future value to the public works profession and perception by the public. They also take social, economic, and sustainable design considerations into account.

The Chapter was pleased to award two Project of the Year awards in 2013. Recipients included the Lowry Bridge Construction Project led by Hennepin County with a team consisting of SRF Consulting Group, Inc. and Lunda Construction.



**2013 Project of the Year Award Recipients –
Lowry Bridge Reconstruction Project**



**2013 Project of the Year Award Recipients – Cascade Avenue
Reconstruction Project**

The second award recipient was the City of River Falls, Wisconsin for the Cascade Avenue Reconstruction Project. Included on the team were SEH, Inc. and Haas Sons, Inc. On much different scales, both projects demonstrated effective teamwork and innovative solutions.

All project members from both teams were recognized at the Chapter's awards ceremony, as well as on the award plaques. The Project of the Year Award is presented each year at the Chapter's annual Fall Conference, and also at a local city council or governing board meeting.

The local recipients of APWA National Awards are also recognized at the Fall Conference as we realize that not all of the chapter members are able to attend the APWA National Conference every year. Additionally, Chapter members who attain the status of APWA Life Member are recognized.

Awards presented by the Minnesota Chapter in 2013 included:

Director of the Year – Bev Farraher, MnDOT

- ✓ Served the Minnesota Department of Transportation for 25 years.
- ✓ Developed a performance management system to track vehicular hits, repair response time, and resources used in repair for guardrail and cable median barrier.
- ✓ Manages an annual maintenance and operating budget that exceeds \$55 million, and a staff of over 600 maintenance field personnel, engineers, inspection crews and support staff.
- ✓ Continuously supports the department's efforts to diversify its workforce through support of various programs with the Department of Human Services.
- ✓ Developed and implemented the Respectful Workplace training program for MnDOT. Worked with staff from the department with psychology and social work backgrounds, as well as field staff, to develop and deliver to all 500+ maintenance employees an interactive training event called Respectful Workplace. This training has become a standard for the department.
- ✓ Works to continuously improve and implement snow and ice treatment technologies, processes, training and applications including stationary anti-icing systems, the tow plow and Snow Plow Operator Training (SPOT).
- ✓ Longtime member of the Chapter's Conference Planning Committee, and a Chapter Director from 2007 to 2009.



*Director of the Year
Bev Farraher*

Supervisor of the Year – Jeff Streeter, MnDOT

- ✓ 21 years at MnDOT, managing signs and pavement markings for MnDOT's Golden Valley District Shop
- ✓ A True Leader – Supervisor, Trainer, Coach and Friend. Jeff manages between 20 and 33 employees year-round, with many others wanting to work for him.
- ✓ Innovative – Traffic Control, Graffiti Removal Crew. Collaborated with others to obtain grant money for new approaches to graffiti removal.
- ✓ Outstanding Customer Service - New Approach to Road Closures
- ✓ Ode to Streeter saying named after him.



*Supervisor of the Year
Jeff Streeter*

Superintendent of the Year – Scott Newberger, City of Plymouth, Minnesota

- ✓ Started with the City in 1992, progressing from a seasonal park employee to Utilities Manager.
- ✓ A technology savvy guy, utilizing the SCADA communications system and GIS.
- ✓ Manages several capital improvement projects for the City.
- ✓ A creative team player, Scott has helped the City save hundreds of



*Superintendent of the Year
Scott Newberger*

thousands of dollars on projects.

- ✓ Excellent customer service record, consistently going above and beyond.
- ✓ Has ensured the entire Utilities Division is licensed in sewer and water operations.

The Minnesota Chapter of APWA actively supports the APWA awards program with multiple submittals to national annually. Below are listed the 2013 Minnesota Chapter National APWA award submittals. Recipients of APWA National Awards are highlighted in red.

✓ **Exceptional Performance Award in the Category of Adversity – Cith of Duluth, MN**

- ✓ Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award – City of Robbinsdale, MN

✓ **Klayton Eckles, City of Woodbury – Charles Walter Nichols Award**

- ✓ Donald C Stone Award – APWA-MN Chapter

✓ **City of Maplewood, MN – Sustainability Practies Award**

- ✓ Wilkin County, MN – Sustainability Practices Award

- ✓ Dan Gage, MacQueen Equipment – Harry S. Swearingen Award

- ✓ John Scharffbillig, City of Minneapolis – Top Ten Public Works Leader Award

✓ **Tom Montgomery, City of Hastings – Top Ten Public Works Leader Award**

- ✓ Nicholas Egger, City of Hastings – Young Leader Award

✓ **PACE Award – APWA-MN Chapter**

- ✓ Crystal Lake Flocculation Treatment System – Project of the Year Award, Environment <\$5 Million

- ✓ City of Edina Water Treatment Plant #6 – Project of the Year Award, Environment \$5-\$25 Million

✓ **Union Depot – Project of the Year Award, Historical Restoration >\$75 Million**

- ✓ Lowry Avenue Bridge Reconstruction – Project of the Year, Transportation >\$75 Million

- ✓ TH 169/I-494 Interchange Design Build – Project of the Year, Transportation > \$75 Million



Charles Walter Nichols Award – Mr. Klayton Eckles, City of Woodbury, MN



Minnesota Chapter, PACE Award Recipient

Also recognized at the award ceremony are scholarship recipients and graduates of our North Hennepin Community College Certificate program, many of whom are not yet members of APWA. The

Membership and Outreach Committees make a concerted effort to follow up with these recipients, and encourage them to join and/or become active in our Chapter.

B. Public Works Promotion

The Minnesota Chapter has had significant success with the promotional/educational outreach component of National Public Works Week.

Chapter leaders have worked together with the Minnesota governor's office annually to procure a proclamation recognizing APWA and National Public Works Week highlighting the valuable services we bring to our communities. Minnesota Chapter Lee Gustafson was successful in 2013 in getting Minnesota's Governor to sign a 2013 National Public Works Week proclamation.

For several years, the chapter has organized a Public Works Parade consisting of multiple public works vehicles and equipment that run between the two downtowns (Minneapolis and St. Paul) and end at the steps of the State Capital in St. Paul. The Chapter has also rented full-size billboards promoting National Public Works Week, and chapter leaders have worked diligently with local media outlets to provide positive public works related information for dissemination to the public. Many local agency member representatives host public works open houses in conjunction with National Public Works Week.

The Minnesota Chapter has developed several public works promotional initiatives, and has worked with other professional affiliates in Minnesota to develop programs intended to promote the profession of public works. In 2002, our Public Works Promotion Outreach Program Task Force rolled out an Outreach Toolkit and Video at the APWA Minnesota Fall Conference.

- ✓ The video is the first of three planned: a generic public works activities video, a field operations video, and an engineering/management/technical video.
- ✓ Over 30 public works departments and others took the Toolkit/video home from the Fall Conference to use at career days and in classrooms, etc., (encouraging young people to become interested in the public works profession) becoming an APWA Minnesota cadre of "public works outreach ambassadors" throughout the State of Minnesota.
- ✓ The 10-minute APWA Minnesota OUTREACH Video was subsequently modified based on feedback and reintroduced at the 2003 Spring Conference, and is now being distributed.
- ✓ In 2003-4, several Chapter members worked as part of a task force group on a Local Road Research Board initiative along the same lines. Materials (brochure, video/CD, power point, FAQ) for this service delivery outreach were professionally produced and distributed to every high school in Minnesota, public and private. It was suggested that the math and/or science teacher recipient either present the information to their classes or contact their local City or County Engineer, and have them come in and make the presentation (specific City/County Engineers identified in letter).

Additionally, the Toolkit was mailed to every City and County Engineer in Minnesota with directions and encouragement to contact their local high schools and make presentations to the high school juniors and seniors. Also in 2004, a copy was sent to each of the consulting firms associated with the American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota (ACEC) encouraging their membership contact their local high schools and volunteer to make a presentation.

- ✓ During 2006, The Minnesota Chapter of APWA, along with the City Engineers Association of Minnesota, the League of Minnesota Cities, and the Minnesota County Engineers Association produced and distributed a forty-four page Transportation “Primer” called The End of the Road – Challenges of Funding Minnesota’s Local Road and Bridge Network. Chapter members are currently using this informational resource to raise awareness at the Legislature about the urgency of infrastructure funding shortfalls.

C. Professional Development

The Minnesota Chapter bi-annually completes a daylong Executive Committee Retreat to evaluate service delivery and examine short term and long-term goals. An Out-State Development Committee was created to serve out-state public agencies and broaden the Minnesota Chapter membership statewide. A History Committee was identified, and Directors identified numerous additional funding initiatives to help meet the established goal of hosting a major conference every 4 years. (Congress every 8 years–Snow Conference every 8 years–alternating 4-year intervals).

The Minnesota Chapter of APWA is continuously reevaluating, examining committees and task forces to reflect on the purpose and mission of each. Primarily in and through our service delivery to Chapter members is the high priority of offering exemplary professional development opportunities.

The Minnesota Chapter provides a host of educational opportunities to its members as identified in this submittal. (Spring and Fall Conferences, “Day Before” Conference, Municipal Underground Utility Inspectors Training, Spring and Fall Maintenance Expos, North Hennepin Community College Public Works Certificate Program, and the Leadership Academy).

The Minnesota Chapter has long operated a very effective scholarship program. Overseen by the Education and Training Committee, the Chapter Scholarship Program typically gives five College Scholarships and four Technical School Scholarships annually. In 2013, two \$1,750 and four \$1,250 scholarships were given to future public works/engineering students. Special consideration is given to the family of Chapter members.

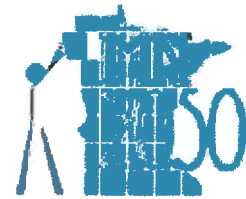
2013 Chapter Scholarships

- **Dewey Kasma Scholarship**
 - Jacqueline Edwards - \$1,750
 - Curtis Cammack - \$1,750
- **College Scholarships**
 - Richard Kakach - \$1,250
 - Gwyneth Perry - \$1,250
 - Alexandra Miller - \$1,250
 - Eric Blomgren - \$1,250

The Minnesota Chapter has been a long-time supporter of professional development offered via the APWA Chapter Leaders Initiative. Chapter members Jim Gates, Joel Schilling, Charlie Honchell, Gerry Butcher, Tom Drake, Mike Eastling, Thomas Eggum, Steve Gatlin, Roger Glanzer, Bruce Jacoby, Sy Knapp, Greg Knutsen, Dick Larson, Russ Langseth, Tom Struve, Chuck Lenthe and Ron Rudrud to date have all benefited from this professional development initiative.

D. Creative Innovation

The Minnesota Chapter is proud to be a group of professionals that's always looking forward. In 2009, Chapter leaders lead the formation of Minnesota 2050, a task force consisting of fourteen statewide agencies that are working together to explore what Minnesota will look like in the year 2050. The group has gained great enthusiasm from various organizations and now has a dedicated website (mn2050.org) and mission statement.



Another great example of Chapter activities that demonstrated this pro-active approach is the Chapter's Public Awareness (formerly Public Policy) Committee. Led by Chapter member Russ Matthys, this group holds periodic meetings of Public Works Directors, City Engineers, and Public Policy makers in the Twin Cities metropolitan area and throughout the State of Minnesota. These public officials meet to discuss shared problems, seek successful solutions, and initiate and respond to legislative actions. They perform projects and take on assignments related to public works and infrastructure management policy in Minnesota. This group also tracks and influences legislative issues in cooperation with the City Engineers Association of Minnesota.

APWA Minnesota Public Awareness Committee Mission/Vision: Work to educate others so that they can choose to advocate for public works at all ages and in all places. We accomplish this by leveraging existing resources and being creative in bringing public works issues to people's attention.

In 2000-2003, this group initiated, organized, and completed the original Engineers Transportation Primer. This public information initiative/publication was formally titled "Funding Street Construction and Maintenance in Minnesota's Cities – Providing the Tools to Help Cities Preserve Road and Bridge Capital Assets". The Primer has provided consistent information regarding street and bridge statistics, needs and costs to Chapter members and many of the state's city engineers and public works directors from cities of all sizes to enable them to communicate with their elected officials.

Over the years, the Chapter's Public Awareness Committee has provided a strong presence at the Minnesota State Capital promoting, educating, and influencing lawmakers about the benefits of a Local Street Utility. The group has worked hard with the City Engineers Association of Minnesota and the League of Minnesota Cities to advocate for a Street/Transportation Utility during the last four sessions of the Minnesota State Legislature. During the 2008 Minnesota State Legislative Session, ground breaking transportation funding legislation successfully moved into reality thanks to years of hard work by this group. In 2011, Chapter members Lee Gustafson and Wayne Sandberg testified at the state capital on the effects on local governments and public works construction projects due to the 2011 Minnesota state government shutdown.

Another Chapter leader, Klayton Eckles, was the Minnesota Chapter's representative in 2011 on the recently created Minimal Impact Design Standards Committee (MIDS) created by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). MIDS represents the next generation of stormwater management and contains three main elements that address current challenges: 1) A higher clean water performance goal, 2) New modeling methods and credit calculations, and 3) A credits system and ordinance package. Through the proactive involvement of Chapter members such as Klayton, the Minnesota Chapter has been ensured a place at the table when it comes to discussing new environmental policy issues.

IV. Service to the Community

A. Educational Outreach Programs

The Minnesota Chapter of APWA is very involved in service to our communities. Many Chapter members give back time and resources with public liaison opportunities, instruction and teaching and participation at many levels of local government.

Chapter members work together with members of the City Engineers Association of Minnesota (CEAM) each year to assist with the annual Math Counts activities. Chapter members have also volunteered time to staff a Public Works Informational Booth at the Minnesota State Fair helping to educate thousands of Minnesota residents about the important public works issues/services that affect their lives.

As previously mentioned, Minnesota chapter members have contributed hundreds of hours in service to the community as volunteers working together with the Chapter's Public Awareness Committee. This group develops communication and education to help influence legislative issues that impact all APWA member agencies. In 2013, Chapter members participated in the Toys for Tots campaign, delivering toys to community members in need.



The “Transportation Primer”, a public information initiative/publication filled with information regarding street and bridge statistics/needs, and future potential costs to Chapter members/member agencies is just one of many efforts developed for the good of the Minnesota Chapter and public works.

In recent years, the Minnesota Chapter's Public Awareness Committee has provided a strong presence at the Minnesota State Capital promoting, educating, and influencing lawmakers about the benefits of a Local Street Utility. The group has worked hard with the City Engineers Association of Minnesota and the League of Minnesota Cities to advocate for a Street/Transportation Utility during the last several sessions of the Minnesota State Legislature.

B. Community Service Programs

The Minnesota Chapter incorporates a proactive community service approach into our membership recruitment efforts. Chapter members joined together at three separate locations in 2013 to volunteer at the Feed My Starving Children organization, where



members assembled over 16,000 meal packages to poverty stricken children in third world countries located in the Caribbean and Africa.



Chapter Members Volunteering at Feed My Starving Children

C. Environmental Considerations

The Minnesota Chapter is proud to be a strong proponent of new “green” initiatives at every level. Chapter conferences in 2012 have included a number of educational sessions on environmental sustainability.

The Minnesota Chapter is proud to host a robust Environmental Committee that is participating in numerous ways to help promote energy conservation, green fleets, and environmental causes throughout the Midwest, and within professional settings that are represented by APWA and the Minnesota Chapter.

As noted in the awards section of this submittal, in 2009 the Awards and Environmental Committees joined together to develop the “Environmental Stewardship Award.” The idea behind this award was to recognize public works agencies for their “passion” and stewardship in caring for and maintaining our environment. The first year this award was offered, a number of nominations were received. Judging the numerous nominations proved to be very difficult, and clearly shows that public works agencies in Minnesota are committed to being good stewards of our environment.

Additionally, in an effort to go “green”, the decision was made in 2011 to no longer print the quarterly newsletter, *the Chalkline*, and to provide updates to members via email blasts linked to the Chapter website.

Chapter Environmental Service Project

City of Lakeville – Watershed Area Cleanup On April 30, 2013, a group of Chapter members and their helpful children collected more than 20 bags of debris along a one-mile segment of Dakota County Road 46 in Lakeville. The Minnesota Chapter is proud to submit this PACE Award Summary for consideration.

