

Minnesota Chapter hosts another successful and informative Spring Conference

The Minnesota Chapter of APWA delivered another successful Spring Conference at Grand View Lodge, Nisswa, on May 12-14, 2010.

Following the get-acquainted reception in the new Gull Lake Center, the program kicked-off with APWA President Larry Koehle presenting APWA-MN Chapter Past President Jim Grube with the APWA Top Ten Award. Larry Koehle then shared an update of current Association initiatives and financial status.

The Wednesday evening program concluded with former Saint Paul Mayor George Latimer sharing his colorful insights on how our profession needs to continue in our care and stewardship of public infrastructure, regardless of the current political and financial environment.

Thursday morning began with a presentation from Professor Roberto Ballarini, director of the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Minnesota. His presentation, "Raising Awareness to the State of Our Infrastructure," offered examples of infrastructure management from a broader historical and global context.

The program continued with a joint presentation from former city managers Bill Joynes and Jim Brimeyer. Billing themselves as "The Old Dogs," they shared their experiences and management philosophies to help our members assess where the public works profession fits into public service and local government. Bill Joynes moderated a young expert panel of Rick Moskwa (Red Wing), Chris Petree (Lakeville), Scott Jensen (Lake City), and Marc Culver (Maple Grove), who discussed their perspectives on public service.

The Thursday morning session concluded with the Business Meeting, and included updates on the Chapter's Public Works Certificate and Underground

Utilities Inspector School initiatives, and the Hamline University graduation ceremony for the Chapter's Leadership Academy.

Following lunch, the Membership Committee hosted networking activities and technical tours of the Cross Lake Dam and Recreational Area and the Multi-Use Trail System serving the Gull Lake Resort Area.

On Friday morning, the program continued with a Legislative Update from Anne Finn, Assistant Intergovernmental Relations Director, League of Minnesota Cities, and Margaret Donahoe, Executive Director, Transportation Alliance, as well as an update from Khani Sahebjam, Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Transportation.

APWA-MN Past President Dan Gage moderated a session concerning other aspects of Minnesota infrastructure with airport, port authority and transit presentations reflecting the part-

nered approach of the Chapter's Minnesota 2050 initiative.

Former Minnesota District 26 Sen. Dick Day closed out the 2010 Spring Conference program with a spirited update of the Racino efforts and its potential to help with current state budget and infrastructure funding issues.

A big thank-you to Bob Cockriel, Chair, Conference Planning Committee; Kathy Warren; and the University of Minnesota Continuing Education staff for working hard and making the 2010 APWA-MN Spring Conference a success!



Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Jim Grube (R) with APWA President Larry Koehle

Submitted by Mark Maloney
APWA-MN Vice President

Calendar of Events

- June 8-10** **APWA Sustainability in Public Works Conference**
(Minneapolis)
- June 25** **Public Works Night at the Saint Paul Saints baseball game**
- July 19** **Summer Golf Outing**
(Indian Hills Golf Course, Stillwater)
- Aug. 15-18** **APWA Congress** (Boston, MA)
- Oct. 6-7** **Minnesota Fall Maintenance Expo** (St. Cloud)
- Nov. 17-19** **APWA-MN Fall Conference**
(Brooklyn Center)

For the latest information or to register for training opportunities, visit the APWA-MN Chapter website at minnesota.apwa.net.

Mark your calendars!

The **APWA-MN Summer Membership Drive and Golf Outing** will be held Monday, July 19 at Indian Hills Golf Course in Stillwater. Keep an eye on your inbox in mid-June for the registration notice, as this event typically fills up quickly. Please call *Jason Sprague* at (612) 217-4420 if you have questions.

Welcome, new members

The APWA-MN Chapter welcomes our newest members:

- **Michelle Chavez**, City of Minneapolis
- **Eric Eckman**, City of Golden Valley
- **Mary Clare Fraish**, City of Mankato
- **Amy Gurski**, Three Rivers Park District
- **Edward Heikkila**, JDI Contracts, Inc.
- **Mitchell Hoeft**, City of Golden Valley
- **John Paulson**, City of Hutchinson
- **Don Peterson**, City of Mounds View
- **Fred Rozumalski**, Barr Engineering
- **Alan Ryg**, Olmsted County

Growing the garden

I made an interesting discovery the other day while cleaning out the basement. I was deciding which old textbooks to save, sell on eBay, or toss (the old Fortran book went first!).

I found some old school records, including a letter dated May 20, 1982, from the Minnesota Chapter of the American Public Works Association announcing their award of a scholarship to me. It was signed by Joseph Klemenhagen, chairman of the education committee, and copied to our dear and distinguished past president, Llyod Pauly, Richard Koppy, vice president, and Lowell Odlund, secretary/treasurer.

It reminded me how public works people touch so many lives and how actions taken years ago have led either intentionally or by journey of fate to people's involvement in our chapter. I especially appreciate how some of the people who helped me years ago are now friends and colleagues. It speaks volumes to the benefit of joining such a welcoming and thriving community of public works folks.



It would be interesting to know how many other members received scholarships years ago and are actively involved in APWA. My journey was probably shaped by events such as the scholarship letter, but it was more of a journey of fate (and luck!). As much as I believe in fate and luck, the fact is, we really need to make our own.

One of the strategic goals of the Executive Committee is to encourage more young members to become involved. I believe that goal should belong to everyone, each committee and all members. You can count on the Membership Committee to have some great activities this year for members.

The challenge to each and everyone one of us, is to seek out some of the younger members of our organizations and bring them along. We have a lot to share and a need to keep the garden growing.

Submitted by Sue Mason
APWA-MN Director

Chalkline is a quarterly publication of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA-Minnesota Chapter). Publication dates are March, June, September, and December. Articles for the Fall 2010 issue may be submitted for consideration by August 27 to *Kathy Warren* at kwarren@usinternet.com. Past issues of the *Chalkline* are available in PDF format on the APWA-MN website at minnesota.apwa.net.



APWA-MN President
Dave Hutton

Message from the President

Play ball!

Spring is quickly turning into summer and the Twins have played their first game in the new outdoor stadium.

Even with the many diversions summer has to offer, your chapter's numerous committees have been very active this season:

The **Membership Committee** has really hit one out of the park with their scoring of a public works-sponsored day at the Saint Paul Saints game on June 25 (see page 7). The event came about as a follow up to Mr. Mike Veeck speaking at our fall conference; it should be a great event. If you have ever been to a Saints game, you know active fan participation is required.

The committee is also planning the summer and fall golf outings and other technical tours for the membership. The Summer Membership Drive and Golf Outing has been scheduled for July 19 at Indian Hills Golf Course in Stillwater; mark your calendar and watch your inbox for registration details in mid-June.

Speaking of membership, one of my main platforms during my year as president is to draft more rookies into our organization. I'm talking about getting more of our younger members (I'll let you define what qualifies as "younger," but the absence of grey hair is a good start) involved in our committees and leadership positions — especially our younger public sector representatives. If you know somebody that might fit that bill, encourage them to join a committee and become active in the APWA-MN Chapter.

And, of course, our **Conference Planning Committee** has closed out the game on another informative and successful APWA-MN Spring Conference (see page 1).

And, batting cleanup, our **Awards Committee** successfully submitted 20-plus applications for national APWA awards (see page 4). Our chapter was recognized with eight awards and is eligible once again to receive APWA's Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE Award) due June 1.

It truly has been a great start to the 2010 season as your committees have piled up the wins early in the season.

So get off the bench and be active, be involved, be engaged!

APWA-MN is what you make of it.

Dave Hutton, APWA-MN President

APWA-MN Chapter members receive eight APWA awards

The Minnesota Chapter Awards Committee is proud to announce another successful year of participation in the national APWA awards program. The following agencies, members, and projects were nominated by the APWA-MN Awards Committee to receive APWA awards (winners are noted in bold):

Agencies and Projects:

- Anoka County CSAH 14 Reconstruction – POY, Transportation \$5-\$25 million
- Burnsville Surface Water Treatment Plant – POY, Environment \$5-\$25 million
- City of Minneapolis MARQ2 Project – POY, Transportation \$25-\$75 million
- **City of Moorhead, Response to the 2009 Red River Spring Floods – Exceptional Performance in the Category of Adversity**
- **City of Prior Lake – Excellence in Snow & Ice Control Award**
- City of St. Anthony Water Reuse Facility – POY, Environment < \$5 million
- City of St. Louis Park, Public Works Customer Service Database – Technical Innovation Award
- East Ridge High School/Bielenberg Sports Center – POY, Structures \$5-\$25 million
- Hastings North Vermillion Street Improvements – POY, Transportation < \$5 million
- **Mn/DOT and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Toward Zero Deaths Program – Exceptional Performance in the Category of Safety**

- Park Place Blvd. & Streetscape Improvements – POY, Transportation < \$5 million
- St. Michael One-Way Pair Street and Utility Improvement Project – POY, Transportation \$5-\$25 million

Members:

- Mike Eastling – Harry S. Swearingen Award for Chapter Service
- **Walter Eshenaur – International Service Award**
- **Beverly Ann B. Farraher – Professional Manager of the Year in the Category of Transportation**
- **Jim Grube – Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year**
- **Brad Henry – Professional Manager of the Year in the Category of Engineering and Technology**
- Russ A. Matthys – Community Involvement Award
- Kathleen Schaefer – Donald C. Stone Award for Excellence in Education
- **Pete Willenbring – Professional Manager of the Year in the Category of Water Resources**
- Susan A. Young – Professional Manager of the Year in the Category of Solid Waste

APWA PACE Award. Submittal of these nominations has made our chapter eligible once again to receive APWA's Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE) Award, which was due on June 1. The Awards Committee extends a huge "thank you" to all of the above nominees for their hard work and effort developing their respective APWA award submittals, as well as all their contributions to public works.

Congratulations, award winners!



Walter Eshenaur



Beverly Ann B. Farraher



Jim Grube



Brad Henry



Pete Willenbring

Continued on page 5

Delegate's Report (May 2010):

The House of Delegates meeting was held April 17-18 in Omaha, Nebraska. Our region consists of delegates from Iowa, Kansas, KC Metro, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Missouri, Manitoba, and Minnesota. Discussion items at the meeting:

There were several Region VI award winners, including two Top Ten winners from our region (congratulations to Jim Grube and Larry Frevert).

Five out of nine Chapters in Region VI are eligible this year for the PACE award.

Delegates had a lively discussion on why we should be concerned about and involved in sustainability issues. Julia Anastasio, Director of Sustainability, can be reached at (202) 218-6750 for speakers on this topic at Chapter events.

The APWA PWHS documents historical people and projects. Similar to our Chapter History Committee, it's difficult to figure out how to document, what to document, and how to display. Many ideas came out of the brainstorming session with more information to follow.

Laura Bynum, APWA Media Relations Manager, gave a presentation that focused on an overview and opportunities for members using media relations. As a member of APWA, you can use Laura like your own PIO for APWA topics, provide media training at Chapter events, and partake in a CL&L later this summer on media training. Laura is working on National Public Service spots for APWA.

(continued from page 4)

2010 Awards program. As we head into summer, the Awards Committee will focus on promoting the chapter awards program. Nomination forms for chapter awards will be distributed to members by mid-summer, and must be returned to the Awards Committee no later than September 24.

Over the next few months, please think of deserving colleagues, projects or employees, and nominate them for Chapter awards. In addition, don't forget about the Chapter Environmental Stewardship Award, an award that recognizes public works agencies and programs for outstanding efforts made to better the environment.

More information on chapter awards can be found on the APWA-MN website at minnesota.apwa.net. Award recipients will be announced at the APWA-MN Chapter Fall Conference.

Submitted by Mark Hansen
Chair, Awards Committee

Think tank discussions on increasing small and medium size city involvement in APWA, what APWA and chapters can do to support these communities to become more engaged, and what APWA and chapters will look like in 20 years.

Response requested. APWA has asked delegates to "share the greatest challenge/issue facing APWA chapters and consequently the House of Delegates." If you have any thoughts or comments, please contact me to discuss.

2010 APWA International Public Works Congress & Exposition, August 15-18, in Boston. Highlights include:

- More than 120 educational sessions.
- Hundreds of exhibits featuring the latest technologies, services, and equipment.
- Co-located with SWANA WASTECON's cutting-edge technical sessions on landfill gas, waste-to-energy, recycling, planning and management, and climate change.
- Every full-registrant receives free access to downloadable recordings and slides of APWA Congress speakers.
- APWA education sessions are eligible for CEU Credit, including free processing.
- Special events and networking opportunities.

Submitted by Angela Popenhagen
APWA-MN Delegate



APWA President Larry Koehle (left) presents the APWA Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award to the City of Prior Lake. Receiving the award on behalf of the city are Leo Dorn, Joe Witta, and Craig Eldred (left to right)

Members pack meals for Feed My Starving Children

Chapter members again had the opportunity to pack food for the world's hungriest children during the 2010 Feed My Starving Children volunteer event on March 30.

Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit organization committed to feeding starving children. The approach is simple: children and adults hand pack meals formulated specially for starving children, and the organization ships the meals to more than 60 countries around the world.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered this year!



MN Chapter APWA members and family at the Coon Rapids Feed My Starving Children event

Left to right: Christian Thompson, Jim Grube, Jack Kollmer, Lee Mann, Katie Warner, Naeem Qureshi, Mark Hansen, Ron Nims

Members participated at three locations this year. At the Chanhassen location, volunteers packed 7,992 meals; at Coon Rapids, 4,500 meals were packed; and at Eagan, 14,588 meals were packed.



APWA-MN members Jim Grube and Mark Hansen, along with employees from the Safeway Bus Company, pack meals at the Coon Rapids location

Spring Maintenance Expo held at St Cloud Civic Center

APWA-MN President *Dave Hutton* addressed the 400 attendees at the Minnesota Spring Maintenance Expo on April 20.

The two-day event, which focuses on spring and summer roadway maintenance issues, presents general and concurrent sessions on the latest practices, training, and technologies in Minnesota maintenance operations. The expo features extensive equipment displays as well as opportunities for equipment demonstration and operation.



Hutton welcomed maintenance employees from around the state to the event.

He described the purpose of APWA-MN and all of our chapter's education opportunities.

The Spring Maintenance Training Expo is sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Local Road Research Board, Minnesota Street Superintendents Association, American Public Works Association/Minnesota Chapter, and Minnesota LTAP. It is facilitated by the College of Continuing Education at the University of Minnesota.

Join us for APWA-MN night with the Saint Paul Saints

Please join us on Friday, June 25 at 7 p.m. for Public Works Night at the Saint Paul Saints baseball game against the Wichita Wingnuts.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit APWA-MN.

Join us for tailgating before the game in spot #10 on the north end of the parking lot.

Choose from the following four package deals:

- \$15 package (\$23 value) includes general admission ticket; hot dog and soda voucher; and a Saints hat.
- \$16 package (\$25 value) includes general admission ticket; hot dog and soda voucher; and a Darryl Strawberry bobblehead.
- \$18 package (\$26 value) includes outfield reserved ticket; hot dog and soda voucher; and a Saints hat.
- \$19 package (\$28 value) includes an outfield reserved ticket; hot dog and soda voucher; and a Darryl Strawberry bobblehead.



Tickets can be ordered and printed online at **SaintsGroups.com** (password: apwa). Or call (651) 644-6659; tickets ordered by phone will be available at "will call" on the day of the game.

Contact *Lane Christianson* at (612) 673-2522 or lane.christianson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us if you have any questions.

We want to fill the stadium with public works folks and their families! See you at the game!

**Submitted by Lane Christianson
Co-Chair, Membership Activities & Special
Events Committee**

First class graduates from Underground Utilities Inspector School

The first class of the Underground Utilities Inspector School graduated in May.

- Contract administration.
- Right-of-way maintenance.

The new school was developed by APWA-MN to provide trained and knowledgeable inspectors for underground infrastructure construction to ensure the quality and longevity of newly-constructed utilities.

The content was developed by public works professionals with experience in underground utility construction and maintenance

Topics addressed included:

- General overview of the inspector's duties and responsibilities.
- Pre-project/construction preparation.
- Project/construction safety.
- Underground Pipeline construction inspection.
- Scope changes, landscape inspection, and new pipe installation methods.



Graduates of the inaugural 2010 Underground Utilities Inspector School

Participate in multiple staff development opportunities

The Leadership Academy. At the Spring Conference, we caught a glimpse of our future public works leaders. The graduation ceremony showcases our up-and-coming public works leaders — students who have committed themselves to increasing their management and leadership skills.

The Academy, presented in partnership with Hamline University, offers a mini-masters in public works administration. Course-work prepares current and emerging leaders in public works for senior-level management positions. Applications for 2010-11 are now being accepted; classes are set to begin in September.

Students must complete 90 hours of training in seven, 13-hour monthly sessions over an eight-month period. The sessions begin on Thursday afternoon and continue the next day. The program spans two calendar years so the cost may be spread over two budget cycles. For more information and an application, visit www.hamline.edu/gsm/mpwa/index.html. If you have additional questions, contact *Tom Montgomery* at tmontgomery@ci.hastings.mn.us or (651) 480-6188.

Public Works Certificate Program. A new course has been added to the Public Works Certificate Program. The Public Works Administration Skills course will offer instruction on human resources, budgeting, and contracts, as well as a writing course emphasizing public works communications. The new Administration Skills course will replace the existing Freshman English/College Writing course requirement.

The program targets public works supervisors and front line workers who want to take on supervisory roles. The program is a 23-credit program of five semesters of public works courses and one college-level communications course. The Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 classes will be relocated to the Ford/MnSCU/UAW Training Facility at the Ford Plant in Saint Paul.

For more information and an application, visit www.nhcc.mnscu.edu; enter “Public Works Certificate” in the search box. If you have additional questions, contact *Chris Petree* at cpetree@lakeville.mn.gov or (952) 985-2701.

Underground Utilities Inspector School.

The inaugural class of the Underground Utilities Inspector School (UUIS) graduated in May (see page 7). The 25 students attended eight half-day sessions once a month from October through May, meeting at Mn/DOT's Cedar Avenue maintenance facility in Richfield. Class sessions were presented by one or two experienced engineers or inspectors and augmented by guest speakers including attorneys, contractors, state agency regulators, and large project construction managers. The program has been very well received and consistently scored high marks on student evaluations.

The second annual Underground Utilities Inspector School will begin in October; class size will again be limited to 25 students. Look for registration information later this summer.

Public works writing course. Most of our public works supervisors have worked their way up from operator positions. Typically, English and writing classes were not their favorite subjects in school. Yet

today, our community residents and public works customers are communicating more and more through electronic media, email, and social networking sites. Our residents are searching for information on websites or Facebook pages before calling City Hall with questions. Written communication skills have become a necessity.

Recognizing that many of us may not be comfortable with writing skills, the Education and Training Committee has formed a Public Works Writing Skills Task Force and is working with local instructors, with the goal of offering a Public Works Writing Course sometime in the near future. Look for more details and registration information later this year.

Submitted by Tom Montgomery
Chair, Education and Training Committee



Where are they now? Al & Sue Orsen

In this column, we're featuring a couple who have each played a significant role in our chapter's history. 2010 is the 25th anniversary of Al's presidency (1985) and the 23rd anniversary of the Chalkline created by Sue, its first editor and publisher (1987). Sue is the publisher and editor of the Victoria Gazette, a monthly publication serving over 4,600 households. Al and Sue live in Victoria, where they built their first home after marrying in 1970.



Al, remind us about your career in public works. The initiative to get into engineering occurred when a surveyor named Slim English came to our farm in southwestern Minnesota to lay out a tiling system to drain some low

parts of the farm when I was about ten. He took me with him in his survey truck, set up his tripod, and created a topographic map of the farm. When he let me look through the telescope of the transit, I was quite intrigued. That was my introduction to civil engineering.

After high school, I enrolled at the Institute of Technology at the University of Minnesota in mechanical engineering. After my first year of thermodynamics, I knew it wasn't for me and changed to civil engineering.

After graduation, I went to work for Saint Paul because they said they would pursue a draft deferment. This was in the middle of the Vietnam War, which was not very popular at the time. My career in public works was launched.

From Saint Paul, I went to Brauer and Associates and then to Hoffman Brothers Construction Company, building public works projects from the Twin Cities to Duluth to out of state. Toward the end of 1976, Wayzata had an opening for a city engineer. I've been there ever since. While I began as the city engineer/public works director, the mayor asked me to take the position of city manager in 1985, where I continued to wear more than one hat all these years. *(Al refuses to tip any of those hats when asked how long before he's considered "history" at the city or as an active member of APWA-MN!)*

Why and how did you become involved in APWA? It happened almost immediately. We went to the National APWA Congress in Boston in 1977 and have attended almost all of them since then.

What keeps you busy? Tennis, fishing, hunting, family (two married children and going on four grandchildren), boating, and traveling with APWA friends.

What changes have you noticed in public works? Today, there is a more sophisticated, greater use of math and science and software programs that provide more analytical tools. I grew up in the slide rule era. Overall,

technology has improved products, materials, methods — all working toward efficiency and longevity of sewer systems, water systems, and street systems.

What benefits has APWA-MN provided you?

Professionally, the benefits have been in continuing education, keeping up with the techniques and the times, attending the conferences, learning about advancements and equipment and new procedures, and cultivating friendships and relationships. Exposure to current public works activities on a national basis was a wonderful benefit. Personally, the growth and exposure to the United States through the convention city tours was a huge benefit. APWA-MN created friendships and relationships that are lasting to this day.

What are some of your best memories? I hardly know where to start. Each city had something special to offer, to see, to learn. APWA-MN and APWA afforded the opportunity to visit almost all of the major cities in the USA — from East Coast to West Coast, from the Canadian to Mexican borders — and see firsthand how public works performs in each of them.

Do you recall some of the big issues or initiatives? It's been a goal of APWA-MN to help train public works employees to become qualified to move up in their organization. I taught at Hennepin County VoTech to assist in getting public works employees better educated and receive a certificate from the APWA-MN program to help them move into leadership positions.

Public works is an essential service, an essential operation of the nation's many levels of infrastructure — all of which are often taken for granted by the average citizen. Public works employees are the unheralded heroes of the nation. It's like a railroad — when it's on time, few people notice; if something goes off the track, it's a big deal.

What challenges do you see facing public works?

The biggest challenge continues to be how to meet the ever-present problems associated with increasing prices and costs; trying to do more with less. Revenues never seem to match the demand of continuing needs.

Any advice or words of wisdom? Continue to stay as educated on new ideas and techniques as possible. Try to present options and innovations for solutions to the issues at hand. Stay involved in APWA-MN.

Collaboration and networking can only help in finding new solutions to ongoing public works problems. It's an enjoyable and rewarding career.



Items of note from the 2010 legislative session

The dominant issue before the Legislature this session was the structural budget deficit, which was exacerbated near the end of the session when the Minnesota Supreme Court ruled that the governor's unallotment of funds for a Human Services program was unconstitutional, bringing into question the validity of the entirety of his unallotments for this biennium and increasing the deficit to \$3.9 billion.

In the end, the Legislature ratified most of the governor's unallotments and balanced the budget for this biennium, although much of it was done with the use of transfers, delayed payments, and one-time money — simply pushing the problem into the next biennium.



The Legislature did pass a bonding bill, HF 2700, from which the governor line-item vetoed approximately \$300,000:

- \$1 million to DNR for ground water monitoring and observation wells in the metro area (additional \$4 million to come from the clean water fund).
- \$2.5 million to BWSR for wetland replacement due to public road projects.
- \$66 million to Mn/DOT for local bridge replacement and rehabilitation.
- \$2.5 million to Mn/DOT for replacement of RR grade crossing warning devices.
- \$3 million to Metropolitan Council for metro cities I & I grants.
- \$30 million to PFA for state match for federal grants for drinking water revolving loan fund (\$10.8 million) and clean water revolving fund (\$19.2 million).
- \$27 million to PFA for waste water infrastructure funding program.

The omnibus transportation policy bill, SF 2540, includes several items of note:

- Requires transit authorities to provide business liaisons to help mitigate damage to businesses from rail transit project construction. Excludes Central Corridor. Effective July 1, 2012.
- Allows Mn/DOT to grant variances from county state-aid highway standards for the purpose of allowing complete streets projects.
- Allows Mn/DOT to grant variances from municipal state-aid street standards for the purpose of allowing complete streets projects.
- Requires TH bridge projects to include bicycle and pedestrian accommodations if the bridge is in a city

or otherwise links walkways, paths, trails, or bikeways. Effective July 1, 2010.

- Exempts from seasonal weight restrictions cargo tank vehicles with two or three permanent axles when delivering propane, for heating or dyed fuel oil if the tank is loaded to a maximum of 50 percent capacity.

- Includes in Mn/DOT's mission the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

- Requires the Commissioner of Transportation to implement a complete streets policy after consultation with stakeholders and LUGs, including integration of context-sensitive design solutions. It also encourages LUGs to adopt complete streets policies whose requirements may exceed those of statute and directs

the Commissioner to consider AASHTO and ITE standards, in addition to state aid standards, when considering a request for variance related to complete streets.

- Eliminates the requirement that a property owner be facing hardship conditions in order to be eligible for the RALF program.
- Directs the Commissioner of Transportation to develop standards or specifications for the design of roundabouts that consider their suitability for commercial motor vehicles.

Additional legislative actions of interest:

- Minn. Stat § 160.21 is amended to allow a Minnesota road authority to provide snow removal services within an uncompleted subdivision containing five or more lots to allow access by school buses, public works vehicles, and emergency vehicles.
- The omnibus pension bill, SF 2918, increases employer contributions by 0.25 percent and limits annual retiree increases to 1 percent annually until the pension plan is 90 percent funded.

The following did not pass out of the Legislature this session:

- Street Improvement District authorization for LUGs.
- Ice arena air quality requirements.
- Ban on coal tar sealants.
- Requirement to use "green" cleaning products in all public facilities.

Submitted by Dave Sonnenberg
City Engineers Association of Minnesota

News Around Town

Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. (AE2S)

AE2S earned a North Dakota Council of Engineering Companies (NDCEC) Engineering Excellence Award for its work on the City of Cavalier's recently renovated sanitary sewer lift stations. Renovations to two of the city's seven sanitary sewer lift stations were necessary due to the inability of the lift stations to keep up with the flow of sewage during periods of wet weather. The award was presented in May at the NDCEC Spring Conference in Bismarck, ND.

Mandy Carling has been hired as an administrative assistant. Carling is currently working out of AE2S' Moorhead office, and will transfer to the new Fargo, ND, AE2S office once it is completed. She is a native of West Fargo, ND, and received training at Northwest Technical College.



Jarrod Vink has been hired as an instrumentation and controls (I&C) engineer in its Moorhead office. Vink is originally from Sioux Falls, SD, and earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.



American Engineering Testing, Inc.

Travis J. Rengstorf has earned his professional engineering license. Rengstorf earned his master of science degree in civil engineering, with a geotechnical emphasis, from Iowa State University in 2007, and his bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from North Dakota State University in 2004.



WSB & Associates, Inc.

The **City of Rogers**, working with WSB, recently held two groundbreaking ceremonies. One on April 9 for the I-94/TH 101 Flyover; the second for the CSAH 81 and Main Street Intersection Improvements project onsite on June 4.

Tom Roushar has been hired as a senior project manager in the firm's water/wastewater group. A well-known expert in the water/wastewater industry, Tom has over 35 years of experience as either project manager or engineering manager for capital improvements covering all facets of water supply, wastewater collection, conveyance, and treatment.

Treasurer's Report (May 1, 2010):

I. ASSETS	4/26/10	5/1/10
a. Cash/Bank Accounts		
HCFU Savings	\$5.07	\$5.07
MPWA Checking	\$27,311.86	\$9,588.72
MPWA Money Market	\$26,546.49	\$26,589.62
Petty Cash (closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Cash/Bank Accounts	\$53,863.42	\$36,183.41
b. Investments		
APWA Merrill Lynch Fund	\$78,444.31	\$98,915.64*
Total Investments	<u>\$78,444.31</u>	<u>\$98,915.64</u>
Total Assets	\$132,307.73	\$135,099.05
II. LIABILITIES		
	0	0
OVERALL TOTAL	\$132,307.73	\$135,099.05

* Information received from APWA on Minnesota Chapter Black Rock Global as of 31 March 2010. Executive Committee authorized transfer of \$20,000 to Merrill Lynch Black Rock Global account on 4/28/2010.

Submitted by Jeannine Clancy
APWA-MN Secretary/Treasurer



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