

International Right of Way Association
“Spirit of the Heartland” – Iowa Chapter 41
Friday, April 4, 2008
Snyder and Associates, Ankeny, IA

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 P.M.

Secretary’s Report: The minutes from the January 19, 2008, business meeting held at Prairie Meadows Event Center, Altoona, IA, which had been previously sent to the Association Membership via electronic mail were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes as published. The motion was seconded and approved by all members present.

Treasurer’s Report: Nancy Halvorson presented the Treasurer’s Report to the members which indicated a total net balance of \$12,137.32. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. The Motion was seconded and approved by all members present.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee: Nancy reported that Course 802, Legal Aspects of Easements and Course 803 Eminent Domain will be offered September 8, 9 and 10th, 2008 the classes will be held at Iowa State University, Memorial Union, Ames, IA.. Bill Rottschaefer will be the instructor for the classes. Please watch the website for further information regarding the final details.

Rita Rasmussen reported Course 203, Alternative Dispute Resolution held in Cedar Rapids, IA, on March 11 and 12, 2008 was successful, informative and well attended with people from other states.

Relocation Committee: Nancy related that Lisa Harrison, IRWA Instructor has offered to present a Relocation Course at no instructor charges only personal expenses associated with the presentation of a course. Discussion resulted and it was determined that we have recently had the Relocation Courses in the Region and it might be difficult to get a good attendance in the near future. We all agreed it was very generous of Lisa Harrison to offer this opportunity to us.

Program Committee: Jim Diemer and Michael Moore are on the Program Committee. Rita suggested we might want to explore Legislative Review as a topic for a meeting in the future. Jim Diemer mentioned we might look at wind energy as an interesting subject for our meeting in June 2008. Michael Moore with Florida Light and Power will arrange an on site visit to the wind energy farm that is located near the intersection of County Road E-29 and Highway 65 in Story County, IA. The meeting will be held on Friday, June 6, 2008. The business meeting will be held at 9:00 A.M. at the Iowa Department of Transportation Conference Center located at the NW corner of Lincoln Way and North Elm Avenue, Ames, IA 50010. The Wind Energy Farm sounds like an interesting field trip as part of the meeting.

Rita Rasmussen will work on the fall meeting to be held in Cedar Rapids, IA on October 24, 2008. The meeting will be an overview of the benefits of membership in IRWA and understanding Governance. Thank you to those willing to help with programs for future meetings your effort is truly appreciated.

Nancy announced that the 2008 Fall Forum will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on October 9th and 10th, hosted by Chapter 20, please add to your calendar schedule it will be a great event. It was also noted that the Spring Forum in 2009 will also be the 75th Anniversary of IRWA, there are celebrations being planned so please watch the website for further information and announcements.

Professional Development: Shelly Whiteing announced that Joe Anderson is a candidate for SRWA Designation as well as Right of way Appraisal Designation, congratulations Joe!

Legislative Review: Nothing new regarding Legislative Review.

Old Business: No discussion at this time.

New Business:

Realignment of Region Boundaries: Rita Rasmussen addressed the issue on Realignment of Region Boundaries. An option might be to join some smaller regions with other regions, which could be economically efficient for the organization. This issue will be further discussed at our June meeting pending further information.

New Pricing for Classes: All pending classes must be scheduled and approved by May 1st, 2008 in order to remain at current pricing. Any classes scheduled after May 1st, 2008 will be at the new pricing level. The new pricing structure is explained in detail on the IRWA website. It was also noted that Courses 103 and 215 are available on the IRWA website for your educational convenience.

Spring Forum Report: Bernie Banker handed out his report regarding issues and items discussed at the Region 3 Spring Forum held on February 29, 2008 in Deadwood, South Dakota. The event also helped to celebrate the Thirtieth Anniversary of Chapter 72. All Chapters in Region 3 were represented. Bernie Banker represented Chapter 41 and provided highlights/activities regarding Chapter 41 since the Fall Forum held in Riverside, IA. Bernie's Report is now posted on the IRWA website for your perusal.

Purchase of Box to hold Chapter 41 Gavel: Jim Diemer suggested the Gavel might deserve a nice wooden box instead the original cardboard box it came in back in 1963. There was discussion regarding the cost of a new wooden box which Jim reported would probably be in the price range of \$200.00. The budget was discussed and it was decided to table the issue at present. Jim also offered that if time allows he could probably build a wooden box for the gavel.

Confirmation of International Directors: Jim Diemer and Bernie Banker will represent Chapter 41 at the International Educational Conference starting June 22, 2008 in Austin, Texas, it will be the 54 Annual Conference. Chapter 41 usually contributes to help defray costs associated with attending the Conference; a short discussion regarding the issue resulted in a motion to offer Jim and Bernie \$1,000.00 each to help with conference expenses, the motion was seconded and approved by all in attendance. Directors should attend their Region Caucus and must be at the International Delegate Assembly before 1 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25, 2008.

Sponsorship in the Conference Golf Outing to benefit Right of Way International Education Foundation was discussed a contribution of \$300.00 will be given on behalf of Chapter 41. A motion was made, seconded and approved by all present. A check in the amount of \$300.00 will be given on behalf of Chapter 41 to sponsor a golf hole at the International Education Conference in Austin, Texas, June 2008.

Discussion regarding an item for the auction to benefit the International Education Foundation resulted with a decision that Chapter 41 member Michael Moore will obtain a GPS as the auction item, not to exceed the cost of \$200.00. A motion to approve the decision was made seconded and approved by all present.

Other Business: Collection of Donations for **Toys for Tots**, we collected \$82.00 at the January meeting. The donation for the year will be presented in December of 2008, so remember to send or give your donations to Nancy Halvorson, Treasurer, make your donations payable to Toys for Tots, Chapter 41. Thank you for your generosity to this worthy cause.

Newsletter changes: Newsletter for Chapter 41, we will no longer be publishing a newsletter all information will appear on the chapter website, members will need to view the website on a regular basis in order to be up to date on meetings, functions and any other issues. You may want to add the website to your favorites list if you have not already done that.

Door Prize Drawing: Steve Chapman is the winner of the drawing for the \$50 door prize.

At 2.10 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved by all present.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda R. Martens, R/W-RAC
Vice President/Secretary
Spirit of the Heartland-Chapter 41