

International Right of Way Association
“Spirit of the Heartland” – Iowa Chapter 41
Friday, May 15, 2009
DOT Maintenance Training Center, Ames, IA

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M.

Introduction of Guests: John S. Alexander, SR/WA, Schneider Corporation, Indianapolis, IN 46216 and Julie Rasmussen, Senior Vice President, CLS, Contract Land Staff, Stafford, TX 77477. Welcome!

Secretary’s Report: The minutes from the January 9, 2009, business meeting held at DOT Maintenance Training Center, Ames, IA, which have been posted on the IRWA, Chapter 41 website for review. A motion was made to approve the minutes as published. The motion was seconded and approved by all members present.

Treasurer’s Report: The Treasurer’s Report indicated a total net balance of \$15,855.42. Nancy reported that Course 209 did very well considering expenses and resulted in a positive net income for the chapter. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. The motion was seconded and approved by all members present.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee: Amy Walter, Chair of Membership Committee reported that we now have a total of 76 members for Chapter 41, which is good news.

Education Committee: Nancy Halvorson, Chair of Education Committee reported that we had canceled a class on Computing Replacement Housing Payments for the first time in many years. Nancy has a request for Course 100 to be presented in the near future; the Instructor will be David Lane. There is also a request for Courses 901 and 902. Jim Diemer mentioned that we might be able to encourage some of the Wind Farm Industry to become interested in the IRWA Organization and attend the classes.

Program Committee: Jim Diemer is trying to plan a Wind Farm Tour for our Chapter and could possibly be on the agenda for the September 18, 2009 meeting. Also, Jim is working on a Utility Program for a future meeting. There was some discussion regarding future meetings based on a series of Best Practices regarding Relocation, Acquisition, Appraisal and Flood Recovery Experiences. It was noted that every meeting needs to have a program for all members and their development interests. Chapter 41 will be hosting the Region 3 Spring Forum in April or May 2010 and we need to work on a program for that also.

Professional Development Committee: Shelly Whiting, Chair, reported that Joe Anderson has received his Appraisal Certification. Congratulations Joe! Shelly also stated that the new process for certification is on line as of July 1, 2009 and should make certification much easier. Also, as of July 1, members will have to sit for a testing for certification. Possibly a Management Certification might be in the future.

Legislative Committee: Plotting Legal Descriptions is under discussion.

Old Business: It was announced that Don Corrigan is the Professional of the year. Congratulations Don! Nancy Halvorson, Rita Rasmussen and Don Corrigan attended the Region 3 Spring Forum. Region re-alignment is being looked at for further discussion; no decisions have been made at this point.

New Business:

IRWA Education Conference, Indianapolis, IN, (June 28-July 1, 2009)

Board of Directors Meeting, Nancy Halvorson, no motions to vote on this meeting

Donation to RWEIF Golf Outing, Chapter has donated \$300 to the Golf Outing

Financial Assistance for Conference Attendees, Don Corrigan will be awarded \$1000 assistance

Auction Item Chapter 41 will donate up to \$300.00 for a GPS system for the Conference

2010 Spring Forum: Nancy Halvorson will work on sitting up the 2010 Spring Forum. Please offer any assistance you can to help Nancy.

We were fortunate to have as a guest John Alexander, Indianapolis, IN, home of the INEC for 2009. John presented highlights of the events for the INEC, details of the INEC can be obtained from the IRWA web site, please review the interesting information provided for your interest regarding this event. There is information regarding the INEC and the City of Indianapolis, IN.

INEC- it was reported that Otter Tail Power has been voted the Small Employer award for this year.

INEC, Nancy reported that there will be a new award for the 2010 Conference it will be a Government Category

Next Meeting will be September 18, 2009, at the DOT Maintenance Office, 57073 U.S. Highway 30, Ames, IA 50010

Chapter Drawing: Bernie Banker was the lucky winner of the \$50.00 drawing.

Toys for Tots: Don't forget to make a donation to this organization, it is such a wonderful organization for the Holiday and so needed by so many children. Give your donations to Nancy Halvorson via check or cash, you can give at every meeting or just send directly to Nancy Halvorson, Treasurer.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:42 A.M. A motion was made and seconded and approved by all attendees.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda R. Martens, R/W-RAC
Vice President/Secretary