

**International Right of Way Association**  
**“Spirit of the Heartland” – Iowa Chapter 41**  
**Barrata’s Restaurant, 2320 South Union, Des Moines, IA**  
**January 16, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 P.M.

Introduction of new Members and Guests, Vicki Kitelinger and Husband, Rob Emerson, Jerry Floyd and Wife, it was delightful to have all of you attend our meeting and we welcome you as new members or as guests. Membership in IRWA can offer support to you and your professional educational development.

**Secretary’s Report:** The minutes from the September 18, 2009, business meeting held at the 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 Treasurers report was presented by Nancy Halvorson, representing a current balance of \$14,904.95. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented; the motion was seconded and approved by all.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership Report:** Amy Walter reported we have two new member applications approved which brings our chapter membership to 80 members.

**Education Committee:** Mark Holm expressed concern regarding upcoming classes to be presented during February, 2010 in Coralville, IA. Mark stated there are not enough students registered to make the classes profitable and if there are not enough students registered our Chapter Treasury will have to make up the difference which could be costly. There was further discussion and it was decided to wait until the close of business on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 and see how many have signed up for the four 500 series classes. If there are still not enough students registered by January 19, 2010 some of the classes might have to be delayed until a future date. In the future maybe we can think about offering an incentive to attend classes.

**Program Committee:** Jim Diemer expressed a need for help with Program Committee planning. We want to offer programs that help improve the quality of all meetings and valuable experiences and information that can improve knowledge regarding our different disciplines. We should look at having three to four members to assist Jim with future programs. If you are willing to help the Program Committee please feel free to contact Jim Diemer.

**Professional Development Committee:** We are in need of a new chairperson for the Professional Development Committee. Joe Anderson volunteered to be the new Professional Development Committee Chair person. Thank you Joe!

**Old Business:** Nancy Halvorson reported the latest developments regarding the Spring Forum to be held April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Honey Creek Resort State Park on Rathbun Lake, 12633 Resort Drive, Moravia, IA, 52751. Total cost of the Spring Forum is estimated at \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00. Class 900 will be presented prior to the actual Spring Forum, more information will follow soon. Bernie Banker will work on sitting up the Golf Event. Nancy has secured a Hotel Room rate of \$59.00 for the Spring Forum which is a great value for the resort. We need a good showing of support from our local Chapter. Please plan to attend as you can learn valuable information regarding IRWA from attending the Forum. Further discussion will take place at the March 19, 2010 Chapter meeting. Please consider helping in any way possible to make the Forum a success for our Chapter and the other Chapters that will be attending. It is a great opportunity to meet other members from the Region and expand your horizons. It is tradition to assemble "Goodie Bags" to present to all attendees at the Forum, they serve as a gift of appreciation to all and a fun memory and information regarding our Great State of Iowa and Chapter 41. Think about items you might be able to find to add to the "Goodie Bags" if you have ties to a company, organization or if you just want to donate a trinket for the "Goodie Bags" please get them to Nancy Halvorson. Nancy thought we would probably need 30 plus bags.

**New Business:** Dates for meetings in 2010 will be March 19, 2010, location Ames, IA, June 18, 2010, Cedar Rapids, IA, September 10, 2010, Ankeny, IA. More details will follow regarding meetings in the near future.

Report from INEC, International Nominations and Election Committee, Nancy Halvorson reported there are two new candidates for the IEC Committee they are Terry Gamble of Canada and Lee Satterfield Hamre of Colorado. Rita Rassmussen from our own Chapter 41 and Region 3 is a candidate for the Balfour Award, good luck Rita. Remember IRWA has a Scholarship Award (\$5,000.00) you can find out more details on the IRWA website look under SARPA. There are many awards that Chapter Members can work towards as well as Newsletters published by Chapters you might take a look at the IRWA website to find out more about awards and the criteria needed to achieve these awards. The IRWA website is very user friendly and a wealth of information.

Report from Rita regarding IRWA changing the fiscal year to July 1, the current fiscal year has a January date. The annual conference which is held in June each year would coordinate with new committee/officers/region chairs starting with the annual conference. Another issue the Chapter bylaws would need to be changed to reflect the fiscal year change in order to be current. There has been discussion that Region Representatives to International Committees should be nominated by the Region Chairs as they know their Region Members and their individual abilities and values.

Don Corrigan, President Elect reminded us that Chapter bylaws will need to be updated to reflect any changes that take place to coincide with the International guidelines. Vicki Kitelinger offered to serve with Don to review the by-laws.

**Awards and Pins Presented:**

Jim Diemer received his plaque as Past President

Don Corrigan received his plaque as Professional of the Year for 2008

Linda Martens received her plaque as Professional of the Year for 2009

Jay Peterson received his plaque for SRWA

Mark Holm received his plaque for Certification in Negotiations

Rita Rasmussen received her plaque for Certification in Negotiations

**Installation of Officers for 2010-2011 by Rita Rasmussen:**

President: Don Corrigan

President-Elect- Tim Bunkers

Secretary/Vice President- Amy Walter

Treasurer- Nancy Halvorson

**Report on Donation to Toys for Tots for 2009:** Nancy Halvorson reported that Chapter 41 donated \$500.00 to Toys for Tots for 2009. Remember this is a very much needed donation to children that might not receive a gift if it were not for the willing support from all members. Thank you for donating and being thoughtful and generous in your continued gifts to Toys for Tots! You can give your donations at meetings if you desire or you can send a check to Nancy Halvorson.

**Semi Annual Chapter Drawing:** The drawings for the \$1,000.00 Educational Assistance went to Patti Simons, since Patti was not present the drawing is split between Patti and another member that was present and that lucky person is Joe Anderson. The drawing for a free membership went to Linda Martens. We are thankful and appreciative of the gifts received from the drawing.

**Chapter Drawing:** Jim Diemer is the lucky winner of the \$50.00 drawing.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M. A motion was made and seconded and approved by all.

Respectfully Submitted,

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