

International Right of Way Association  
“Spirit of the Heartland” – Iowa Chapter 41  
Friday, October, 24, 2008  
Snyder and Associates, Cedar Rapids, IA

A Big Thank You to Rita Rasmussen for the program presentation.

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 A.M.

**Secretary’s Report:** The minutes from the June 6, 2008, business meeting held at The Iowa Department of Transportation, Ames IA, which is posted on the IRWA, Chapter 41’s website was 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 \$16,942.41. 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 was well attended by 38 students and Course 803, Eminent Domain was attended by 25 students. A profit of \$8520.65 was reported as a result of the offering of the classes.

Nancy also related that the SRWA Class will be offered jointly by Chapter 41, IA and Chapter 78, NE on December 8, 9 and 10, 2008 in Council Bluffs, IA any one who is interested can contact Nancy Halvorson for further information. Additional information will be posted on the website for Chapter 41. Both Mark Holm and Joe Anderson from Chapter 41 are candidates for the course.

Discussion regarding Relocation Classes took place and it appears Course 501 Relocation needs to be offered in the near future, Nancy will look into getting the course on the agenda as soon as possible. Course 501 would probably be valuable to Counties and Cities due to the flooding that occurred in the area during 2008.

**Program Committee:** The next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2009. Joe Anderson, Appraiser for the Iowa Department of Transportation will present an informative session regarding World Wide Web as a Right of Way Tool. More details will be put on Chapter 41 Website as soon as possible.

**Professional Development:** Mark Holm submitted a request for R/W-NAC Certification and Jay Peterson from Mid American submitted a request for SRWA Candidacy

Watch for a “**simplified**” form for **SR/WA and Certification Candidacy**. This will be available online and the form and the fee will get submitted directly to International. More info will be available on the website and /or in the Right of Way Magazine regarding the availability of the new form.

**Effective July 1, 2009** all disciplines of the Certification Program will require successful completion of the SR/WA individual discipline exam associated with that certification. Currently only two discipline (Appraisal and Relocation Assistance) require this. If you are a candidate for Certification in Asset Management, Environmental or Negotiation/Acquisition and are able to complete all requirements and submit the Certification Program Completion Application and necessary fees by June 30, 2009 you will not be required to take the exam.

**Membership:** Amy Walter, Membership Chair, reported we now have 72 members, including 5 members that have joined since the end of April and one pending member. Congratulations to the new members and welcome, if there is anything we can do for anyone please let us know and we will try to assist in any way possible.

Our newest members are:

David Frankel, Associate Professor of Economics, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Ryan Gurwell, JCG Land Services, Inc., Nevada, IA

D. Keith Jones, Valuation Services, Inc., Cedar Falls, IA

Carrol D. McCracken, JCG Land Services, Inc. Nevada, IA

Betsy Pokorny, Des Moines Real Estate Services, Des Moines, IA

Our pending members are:

Harry Pavelka, FPL Energy, Des Moines, IA

Elizabeth Anne Van Zomeren transferred to Chapter 41 from Chapter 20

Brian Currie, SR/WA, Mid American Energy transferred from Chapter 12

Eric Ackerman, Mid American Energy transferred from Chapter 12

**Old Business:** Rita Rasmussen presented a brief report on the possible changes to Region boundaries; it sounds like more information will be available in the near future. Rita indicated it is more about balance for the Regions. More discussion will take place in Indianapolis next year at the Spring Forum.

**Region Report:** Rita stated the presentation regarding the Condemnation of the Twins Stadium in Minneapolis, Minnesota was very well attended and very interesting. Nancy Halvorson reported that all Chapters were very well represented at the Fall Forum. The Project of the year will be announced at the Spring Forum in Kansas City, MO, one of the projects on the list is the 235 Project recently completed in Des Moines, IA. The Fall Forum for 2009 will be held in Omaha, Nebraska you might want to add this to your calendar as well as the Spring Forum 2009.

**New Business:** Nancy Halvorson mentioned that each year Scholarships of \$5,000.00 are given by the organization to a qualifying student. Student applications are available on line and the application deadline is February 15, 2009. This could be very helpful to assist in costs of higher education!

Rita Rasmussen asked if our By-Laws were up to date, Nancy related they are completely up to date reflecting any amendments that have been made.

Please remember to refer to Chapter 41's Web Site for all the latest information regarding Chapter activities and news regarding meetings, classes and other subjects of interest to our members. Our next Chapter meeting will be held in Ames, IA on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**Collection for Toys for Tots:** This is a very worthy cause and can add joy to many as we approach the 2008 Holiday Season, you have all been generous in the past and we want to do all we can this year to do as much as possible for those we can help. If you would like to send a check for your donation make it payable to Toys for Tots, Chapter 41 and you can get it to Nancy Halvorson, Treasurer. Thank you for your consideration and generosity to this worthy cause.

**Door Prize Drawing:** Eric Ackerman is the winner of the drawing for the \$50.00 door prize. Eric chose to donate the door prize to Toys for Tots. Thank you Eric!

At 11:40 A.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