

# **International Right of Way Association**

## ***“Spirit of the Heartland” - Iowa Chapter 41***

*Minutes of Business Meeting – January 21, 2006*  
*Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino – Altoona, Iowa*

The meeting was called to order at 3:12pm.

Secretary’s Report: The minutes from the September business meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes as published. The motion was seconded and approved.

Treasurer’s Report: The Treasurer’s Report indicated a total net balance of \$9,653.99. A motion to approve the report was made, seconded, and approved.

Membership Committee: Our membership count currently stands at 68. Membership Chair Don Corrigan shared a few tidbits from a recent meeting of the International Membership Committee. Don also reminded members of important deadlines regarding the payment of 2006 membership dues.

Education Committee: Chapter 41 plans to sponsor the following courses for 2006:

- Course 700/Introduction to Property Management, April 10-11 in Ames.
- Course 202/Interpersonal Relations in Real Estate, May 15-17 in Des Moines.
- Course 214/Skills of Expert Testimony, dates and location TBA.

A coordinator is needed for Course 214. Contact Nancy Halvorson if you are interested in attending this course for free as coordinator.

Program Committee: The March meeting of Chapter 41 will be held in Cedar Rapids. It will include a presentation from our own Tim Bunkers on Mid American Energy’s Grimes to Council Bluffs transmission line project. Watch *The Heartlander* for more details.

Program Committee Co-Chairs Jim Diemer and Vicki Elscott are putting together a mock condemnation for a future chapter meeting.

Professional Development Committee: PDC Chair Bernie Banker provided a summary of recent committee activities:

- Bob Dahlgren: Approved by headquarters for SR/WA recertification.
- Anne King: Approved by headquarters for SR/WA candidacy; passed SR/WA exam.
- Mary Beth Kiner: Approved by headquarters for R/W-RAC.
- Linda Martens: Submitted application to headquarters for R/W-RAC.

Congratulations to Bob, Anne, Mary Beth, and Linda!

Marketing and Mentoring Committee: Committee Chair Tim Bunkers is working to match future chapter leaders with incoming officers for mentoring purposes.

Utility Committee: Jim Diemer reported that there is a movement at the International level toward developing a utility course. More information to come later this year.

Right of Way magazine subscriptions for Universities: Bernie has been working to clarify this long-standing issue. He reported that Iowa State University’s collection is up to date, and that there is a desire from ISU to continue the subscription. So far Bernie has been unable to elicit a response from our state’s other institutions of higher learning, the University of Iowa and the University of Northern Iowa.

Toys for Tots: So far \$315 has been collected from Chapter 41 members in support of our 2005 Toys for Tots campaign. Beginning in 2006 we will be collecting donations throughout the year instead of just during the Christmas season. Please contact Vicki Elscott or attend a future chapter meeting for information on how to donate.

2005 Region 3 Fall Forum: The Fall Forum was October 14<sup>th</sup> in Bloomington, Minnesota. Dan Shiflett reported that fun was had by all. It was also reported that approximately \$3,000-\$3,500 has been raised/donated so far for Nancy Halvorson's campaign for International Executive Committee (IEC).

Directors for 2006 Education Conference in Denver: Bernie agreed to represent Chapter 41 as a Director at the 2006 Conference. He will take the place of Dan Shiflett. Our other Director is Jim Diemer.

Chapter Leadership Manual: When it comes to chapter business...who does what, and when do they do it? Chapter 20's Joanie Miller shared an example of what a chapter leadership manual could include. This served as a good reminder for outgoing Chapter 41 officers to follow through on Shelly's initiative to create and maintain leadership manuals for future Chapter 41 officers.

Region 3 Update: Region 3 Vice-Chair and Chapter 20 member Craig Poorker provided an update of happenings around the region and at headquarters.

- Online presentations for course coordinators, chapter education committee chairs, and chapter membership committee chairs are available at [www.irwaonline.org](http://www.irwaonline.org). IRWA's membership directory will soon be available online.
- Overall, IRWA membership numbers are up. However, course attendance is down.
- The Region 3 Spring Forum will be April 21<sup>st</sup> in Omaha.
- Region 3 remains very well represented on several committees at the International level.

Chapter 41 members should also keep in mind that our turn to host a region forum is approaching (Fall 2007).

Nancy Halvorson's bid for IEC: Nancy updated the chapter on her campaign for election to IRWA's International Executive Committee. Nancy will be hitting the road in upcoming months to promote her candidacy, including trips to attend regional forums in Wisconsin and Arkansas. Other plans include a mass mailing and a "meet and greet" at the Education Conference in Denver. Rita Rasmussen is helping manage the financial matters related to Nancy's campaign.

A motion was made, and seconded, to provide \$1,000 of Chapter 41 funds for Nancy's IEC campaign, with the understanding that the chapter would consider providing additional funding, if needed, at the chapter's March business meeting. The motion passed.

The Heartlander Chapter 41 newsletter: Producing an award-winning newsletter is a great challenge. Members are encouraged to help out our editor, Shelly Whiteing, in her efforts to maintain the high standard of quality we have come to know and expect from *The Heartlander*.

Remarks from our incoming President: Bernie Banker shared words of inspiration and optimism for the chapter during his upcoming two-year term as President.

Door Prize Drawing: Paige Norris was the winner of the drawing for the \$50 door prize. The names of the members attending today's meeting will be included in the drawing for the \$1,000 Grand Prize and the "free membership" Second Prize at the banquet in December/January of 2007.

At 4:24pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Anderson  
Vice President/Secretary  
*Spirit of the Heartland - Iowa Chapter 41*