

**International Right of Way Association
“Spirit of the Heartland” – Iowa Chapter 41
Marshalltown Community College**

Minutes of Business Meeting – September 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Anderson.

Introductions of meeting attendees started the business meeting with 29 members in attendance.

Secretary’s Report: Joe reviewed the brief minutes prepared for the previous meeting held prior to the Iowa Cubs game on June 23, 2012. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes.

Treasurer’s Report: Joe explained the online honorariums are an annual contribution from International for online courses that our membership participates in. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report.

Committee Reports:

Asset Management: please contact Joe Anderson if you are interested in chairing this committee

Education: Dwayne Myers, chair, they are looking to hold 10 courses over the next two years including a pilot appraisal course. It was discussed that the pilot course may need further review before we present it as it may not qualify for continuing education credits for appraisers. It was also discussed that we should contact the Real Estate Commission for approval of our courses to tap into a market of consultants that need their real estate licenses renewed and realtors that may be looking for alternatives for their elective course requirements. Please fill out the course interest survey to assist with knowing which courses to include in the schedule. We also are needing course coordinators. In order to take the course for free as the course coordinator, you need to take the online course coordinator class which is a brief online class that will assist you in running a successful class. Please contact Dwayne or Joe if you are interested in being a course coordinator or have a request for upcoming courses.

Membership: Angie Sheeley, new chair, we presently have 79 members and our membership roster matches the information held by International.

Newsletter: Joe Anderson, chair, Joe is planning to continue editing the chapter newsletter but would welcome any assistance. Please contact him if you can assist in any way or would be interested in learning how to prepare and publish a newsletter. Also provide any news items or article ideas to Joe, including employment ads, new hire spotlights, birthdays, anniversaries, certifications, designations and kudos of any kind.

Nominations/Elections: Joe Anderson, chair, please start thinking of nominations for the annual conference awards that are due in February. Small chapters are no longer in their own category so they will be vying for the awards against the large chapters. Please consider submitting a nomination for Balfour, Chapter of the Year, Newsletter of the Year, and Employer of the Year. We also need Chapter Employer of the Year and Professional of the Year nominations.

International Nominations/Elections: Nancy Halvorson, Nancy is attending the International Governing Council Meeting in Los Angeles in September. November 1st is the deadline for submitting the Young Professional of the Year nomination. The application for the Balfour Award has been revised so please be aware of that when completing this nomination. Nancy also is encouraging us to be active in our nominations.

Professional Development: We currently have nine candidates for certification/designation. There are a couple starting the process for the career path. Please contact Joe Anderson if you have any questions about the certification or designation process.

Program: Liz Van Zomeren, chair, please provide Liz any ideas for future meeting topics, speakers, locations or tours. Most specifically we are needing to put together the program for December/January so please let her know if you have any ideas. One idea that was mentioned was touring the Martin Marietta mine in Ames again. The meeting held in Marshalltown was thought to be a good central location based on the comments at the meeting. They provided a nice breakfast buffet, easy access off Highway 30 and ample parking.

Relocation: Shelly Whiteing, chair, nothing to report at this time.

Survey: Chad Johnson, chair, they are working on finishing up the survey manual.

Utilities: Dave Hingtgen, chair, nothing was reported at this time.

Valuation: nothing was reported at this time.

2012 Annual Education Conference in Seattle

The annual conference was held in June in Seattle with seven chapter members in attendance and approximately 36-40 members from Region 3. Our chapter was represented on four international committees: nominations, survey, utilities, and IGC. We encourage you attend this conference in the future as it provides for outstanding programs and networking opportunities. The next educational conference will be held in West Virginia June 23-26, 2013. Book your hotel room now if you want to stay in the host hotel.

Award Presentation: City of Cedar Rapids

The City of Cedar Rapids was an awards finalist for Government Employer of the Year for 2011. Joe presented a plaque recognizing this accomplishment to the City Staff in attendance at our meeting.

Newsletter of the Year

Once again our Chapter received the Newsletter of the Year award! Congrats to Joe Anderson! This is the second time our Chapter has received this award...congrats to Shelly and Joe for being award winning Editors.

2012 Region 3 Fall Forum

The Fall Forum will be held October 18-19th at Riverside Grill in Council Bluffs, IA (across from Harrah's). Group rates have expired but reasonable rates can be found online. On Thursday, 10/18 they will be holding Course 902 which will be followed by a social hour and silent auction from 6-9pm. Friday's activities start at 7:30 with breakfast and the business meeting following at 8:30am. It was voted and approved to offer \$100 for Liz Van Zomeren to prepare gift baskets on behalf of the chapter to be used at the silent auction.

2013 Region 3 Spring Forum

Save the date: March 14-15, 2013 at Prairie Meadows Hotel, Altoona, Iowa.

Our chapter is hosting the forum and will need many volunteers for planning and holding the event. Please contact Joe Anderson to let him know how you can help. We will also be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our Chapter. Joe has contacted some of the retired members to speak and would like to have many of the retired or charter members in attendance. This is a great opportunity to show what the Spirit of the Heartland has to offer so please plan on helping in some way to make this event a success.

Other Business

It was motioned and approved to donate \$300 to Toys for Tots this year in lieu of passing the hat at every meeting. If you would like to make an individual contribution, please mail your check to Mark Holm with the check payable to Toys for Tots.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00.

The program was presented by Adam Jablonski, Supervisor of Wind Operations for MidAmerican Energy. We also toured a wind turbine located south of Marshalltown.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Walter
Secretary