



Calendar of Events

CHAPTER 41 QUARTERLY MEETING

PLACE MIDAMERICAN'S RUAN CENTER (SEE PAGE 9)
DATE & TIME FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006 9:30 A.M.

REGION 3 FALL FORUM

PLACE KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI (SEE PAGE 4)
DATE OCTOBER 20, 2006

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL 2006 -- COURSE 214 SKILLS OF EXPERT TESTIMONY,
TENTATIVE (SEE PAGE 3)
DECEMBER 1, 2006 - CHAPTER 41 MEETING - TOUR OF
MARTIN MARIETTA, AMES. LUNCH AT "THE
COTTAGE", STORY CITY

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President's Message

President Bernard B. Banker, SR/WA, R/W-RC

Whew!!...such weather we're having these days, eh? It's too bad that we can't bottle this heat and save it for January and February. However, that might not sit well with all my utility industry friends.

The Denver conference was very well attended by our chapter membership and the breakout sessions were very interesting. The 16th Street Mall was adjacent to our hotel with many excellent restaurants and shopping opportunities within walking distance. For this somewhat naïve Midwesterner, the sights and sounds were at times shocking, at times humorous, but will always be memorable.

Although we were not successful in getting Nancy elected to the IEC, the experience was unforgettable. The Tuesday evening open house for Nancy's candidacy was fantastic. The event was catered by "Buen Provecho" Catering from Denver. The chef/owner, Mr. Steve Kiner, and his wife Amy, put together a classy spread. Steve is the son of Mary Kiner, a member of our chapter and a relocation specialist at Iowa DOT. We had a great turnout including past, present and future International presidents. Most everyone will agree with me when I say that we had a very, very good time.

Jim Diemer and I attended the Board of Directors' meeting on Wednesday afternoon, June 21st. We were asked to approve several changes to the bylaws including a technical change to address Canadian tax issues, reducing the IEC membership from six to five members, and, increasing the 2007 membership dues structure. All three amendments were approved and specifics will follow in *Right of Way*.

The liveliest part of the meeting came when Ken Davis and Nancy were nominated from the floor to run for one position on IEC along with Ronn Carlentine, who was the selection of the Nominations and Elections Committee.

Continued on Page 3



Marty Sankey

Marty Sankey, one of our new IRWA Chapter 41 members is also a Licensed Professional Engineer in Civil Engineering.

Marty has been involved in the project development process for highway projects for 22 years, however, has just become involved in the day to day specifics of right of way this year when he was named Director of the Office of Right of Way for the Iowa DOT.

Marty says: "I joined IRWA because I am committed to the employees in the Office of Right of Way and want to learn as much as I can about the right of way process. I believe the training I can receive through IRWA and the networking that is available will help me succeed in my position. A number of the staff in the office are members and speak highly of their experience with IRWA. Being in management and a member of AASHTO/FHWA Subcommittee for Right of Way, I can bring to the Chapter my perspective on training needs and other roles/functions that IRWA can provide for the profession."

Marty is a 1982 graduate of Iowa State University with a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering. He and his wife Julie live in Ames with their three children, Mitch, Kayla and Michael. He says he enjoys "camping and boating whenever I get the chance. I enjoy golfing but would enjoy it a lot more if I was better!"



Becky Kluesner

Chapter 41 welcomed another new member recently when Becky Kluesner, Property Acquisition Agent for the City of Cedar Rapids joined our organization.

Becky is new to the Right of Way profession, with just a few months of experience under her belt. She says she "joined IRWA after accepting a position as a Property Acquisition Agent. I will be attending my first IRWA course in Council Bluffs in May where I hope to meet new people. I look forward to the opportunity to become more involved in IRWA as I gain professional and personal development".

Becky is a mother of two (soon to be three) and lives with her family in Cedar Rapids. She enjoys time with her family, golfing, biking and quiet times.

Who Will Be.....



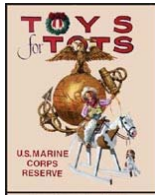
Chapter 41 Professional of the Year???

Please **submit Nominations** for Chapter 41's Professional of the Year to Chapter President, Bernie Banker (bernard.banker@dot.iowa.gov) no later than **September 11, 2006**.

At our September 15 meeting we will also accept final nominations from the floor and voting will take place.

Be sure to attend to participate in the voting!!

Chapter Committee Reports



TOYS FORTOTS

Vicki Elscott, Program Co-Chair

To date our 2006 donation for Toys for Tots is \$235.
(We collected \$105 in June!)

For more information on where to send a check,
please email Vicki Elscott vicki.elscott@dot.iowa.gov
Thank you for your continued generosity.

CONGRATULATIONS



\$50 Door Prize Winner

June Meeting

Amy Walter

Continued from Page 1

Many people spoke on behalf of all three candidates in hopes of swaying the voting members of the meeting. Nancy was well represented by our chapter and regional speakers. When the dust settled, Ken Davis was the selection of the majority for the IEC. Our association should be very proud that three people were willing to sacrifice time, talent and treasure to serve us at the international level.

It is once again time to consider a member of our chapter for 2006 Professional of the Year. Specifics are elsewhere in this newsletter. We will vote at our September meeting so we need a good turnout....see you then.

Remember..."If you smile when no one else is around, you really mean it." -- Andy Rooney

Bernie

Education Report

Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC, Chair

Course 214

Skills of Expert Testimony

Instructor: Robert Montgomery

October 23, 2006

Mid American Energy

Ruan Building 26th Floor

Assembly Hall Conference Room

Des Moines

Contact Class Coordinator for more info:

Gwen Ballard (gwen.ballard@iowa.dot.gov)

515.239.1732 or FAX 515.233.7859

You can register for this course at:

<http://www.irwaonline.org/education/register.cfm>

Mr. Montgomery is an attorney and co-wrote this course.



The Historic Marriott Renaissance Savery Hotel located at 401 Locust Street in Des Moines is holding a block of rooms at the rate of \$92 - please specify you are with IRWA when making reservations. Their toll free reservation number is 1.800.798.2151, or call them direct at 515.244.2151.

Website:

<http://marriott.com/property/propertypage/DSMBR>

Member News & Information



SR/WA

Anne M. King SR/WA

Congratulations, Anne!

Recertified

Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA

Edward Opstein, SR/WA

Congratulations, Nancy and Ed!

Letter from IEC Nominee

Thanks to Everyone

As you all know by now, I did not succeed in my run for the IEC in June. It was a close race and we did well – hopefully someone from our Region will give it a run in two years when there's another slot open. We have some excellent potential candidates and I would like those folks (they know who they are!) to pay particular attention to this message. I lost the election but words cannot express all that I gained. The support from my chapter as a whole and several individuals in particular was phenomenal. From those who donated funds or auction items, our wild high bidders at the auction to those who helped so much in Denver with whatever needed to be done - you all humbled me. Of course, those who spoke on my behalf in Denver also touched me more than I can say. This kind of support makes one a winner regardless of other outcomes. To get a bit sappy, it kind of makes Sally Field's Oscar speech ring true – “you like me, you really like me” – it's an amazing feeling to hear and see such support and I have truly been enriched by the experience.

We worked hard, we had a great time and we lost, but we made a great showing and we'll learn from the experience.

I have such gratitude for so many of you who personally gave of your own time and resources to help. That is the message I want the candidates of the future to take from this – it is a tremendous amount of hard work but the rewards will stay with you forever. It is with pride that I will continue to be a participant in Chapter 41 and Region 3.

My sincerest thanks for everything.

Nancy



What is the “East Village”



If you aren't from Des Moines you may not be familiar with the “East Village”

Our Guest Speaker at the September 15 Chapter Meeting will be sharing some information about this “progressive, pedestrian friendly neighborhood”.

Matt Anderson from the City of Des Moines Economic Development Department will be meeting with us at 9 a.m. to give us a Power Point Presentation before we take a “field trip” to this “American Village”.

More info is available at
www.eastvillagedesmoines.com

Letter FROM the Editor

Dear Chapter 41 Members

First, I would like to say I have really enjoyed being your Newsletter Editor for the past four years. I would like to thank Linda Martens for the nomination of Newsletter of the Year this year. I always appreciate the “kudos” received from (all of) you!

The newsletter is time consuming to put together, and it really helps when I have Committee Chairs and others who are able to get their information to me as soon as it is available. I need to remind you, that I do this newsletter in my (limited) “spare” time and any assistance you can provide to get any items to me as early as possible is appreciated.

If you will note on the last page of every issue I have a newsletter deadline date of the 15th of the month preceding the month the newsletter is due out – my goal each quarter is to have the newsletter sent out to our membership during the first week of the particular month. I can't stress how important this is, and how it will relieve the stress of the final editing stage and release of The Heartlander.

Thank You in Advance for Your Assistance,
Shelly J. Whiteing

Region News and Information

Meeting Minutes

IRWA Region 3 Caucus Monday, June 19, 2006 Denver, Colorado

Meeting called to order at 7:00 a.m., by Jack Holt, SR/WA Region 3 Chair.

Introductions were given by the attending members.

Roll call was taken and all chapters were represented.

Region 3 attendees to 2006 Conference:

<u>Chapter</u>	<u># of Members</u>	<u>Guests</u>
5	12 (total)	
20	7	5
37	7	0
41	10	7
72	11	6
78	11	5

Ken Davis stopped by for a visit as he is a candidate for the IEC.

Valerie Fries invited everyone to attend the Successful Education & Professional Development Programs session sponsored by the Professional Development Committee.

Region 3 recognitions:

- 2 members up for the Balfour award: Joanie Miller & Bruce Reed
- Basin Electric is the Employer of the Year for under 20 members
- Region 3 had a total of 33 members who were recertified, received their SR/WA designation or special designation.

Region 3 Fall Forum is scheduled for October 20, 2006 and will be hosted by Chapter 5.

Jack Borgmeyer, SR/WA, IPDC Chair gave a brief overview of the 12 strategies to bring the education program into the 21st Century. Courses revised to draw younger people, new binders for courses, better quality control, revised instructor qualifications and deactivating some courses. Cut the course inventory from 71 to 57.

Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, RW-RAC, candidate for the IEC, stopped by for a visit and announced the hospitality suite for Tuesday evening.

Daryl Knobbe reviewed the voting process.

Bruce Reed gave a report from RWIEF; Only 40% of the members are adding the \$10 for the education foundation donation when renewing membership dues. Bruce encouraged everyone to consider donating to the education foundation as more money is needed.

Randy DeGeorge and Chris Pawloski announced they are both running for the Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer position.

Ronn Carlentine, SR/WA, candidate for the IEC, stopped by for a visit.

Ashleigh Robison, ILPAC Region 3 Rep. announced the mobile workshop and encouraged members to attend.

Meeting adjourned.

*Minutes submitted by Rita Rasmussen, SR/WA
Region 3 Secretary/Treasurer*

Region 3 Fall Forum October 20, 2006 Hosted by Chapter 5



Quarterage Hotel
(in historic Westport District)
560 Westport Rd., Kansas City, MO
816.931.0001

More details to be released as they become available.
The room rate will be \$89 + tax.

Links of Interest:
Quarterage Hotel www.quarteragehotel.com

International Right of Way Association

"Spirit of the Heartland" - Iowa Chapter 41



*Minutes of Business Meeting – June 3, 2006
Mid American Energy, Des Moines, Iowa*

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. by Chapter President, Bernie Banker.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the March 10, 2006 business meeting were reviewed and accepted as published. A motion to approve the report was made, seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report indicated a total net balance of \$21,155.61. A motion to approve the report was made, seconded and approved. Nancy Halvorson reported that the Educational Courses held recently had excellent attendance and will reflect positively on our balance. It was suggested that the Chapter look into moving the checking account from the current institution to Members First in Ames, IA, Nancy said she would look into that and get back with the information, it was agreed a vote by the board could be done if necessary.

Committee Reports:

- Membership: Don Corrigan reported that we have two new approved members, Theodore Francois of Alliant Energy, rejoining, and Rebecca Kluesner with the City of Cedar Rapids, we sincerely WELCOME our new members. As of April 1, 2001 International had 71 members on our roster. They also sent a list of 12 members who had not renewed. On May 15, 2006 International was to send out the final roster, deleting those we had not renewed. Once the roster has been received it will pass on to the Officers.
- Education: Nancy Halvorson reported there is still a need for someone to coordinate class 214 Skills of Expert Testimony to be held fall of 2006. Gwen Ballard has volunteered as coordinator; Tim Bunkers has volunteered to mentor our volunteer.
- Program: Jim Diemer reported a mock condemnation hearing is being planned for our September 15, 2006, meeting however; there are still details to be worked out. Vicki Elscott reported a tour of Martin Marietta Aggregates located in Ames, IA is in the planning stage for the December 1st meeting, details are to be worked out. It was also suggested if we meet in Ames, that lunch and business meeting could be held at the Cottage on Broad in Story City, IA, before the tour. Bernie Banker suggested we look at a tour of Union Pacific facilities in Omaha, NE, as a possibility for a future meeting.
- Professional Development: Shelly Whiteing reported Dan Shiflett's SR/WA plaque is now ready to be delivered to him. Shelly also reported that many fees associated with SR/WA and Certification, including Candidacy will go up on July 1, 2006; refer to page 4 of The Heartlander, May 2006.

Old Business: Nancy Halvorson reported she has obtained a wormwood/pearl pendant from Ames Silversmith on behalf of the Chapter as a donation for the Auction to be held on behalf of the International Educational Foundation at the International Education Conference in Denver, Colorado, June 18 thru 21, 2006. The amount budgeted for the auction item was \$250.00 and the item came to \$275.00. A motion was made that the chapter would reimburse Nancy for the additional amount paid, motion was seconded and approved.

Nancy's IEC campaign update, a mailing has been sent out to invite people to an open house to be held during the Educational Conference in Denver, Colorado, Tuesday evening June 20, 2006. Nancy is excited, confident and looking forward to the opportunity and challenge to serve on the IEC.

Spring Forum Report: Bernie Banker handed out a written report for review by all members. The report is also on line electronically for review. There is also an in depth power point presentation available, Bernie would be pleased to share if anyone desires.

Board of Directors Meeting in Denver: Bernie Banker and Jim Diemer, as Directors will be voting on issues at the Educational Conference in Denver, such as Dues, Amendments of By-Laws, ideas to help increase membership. Early reports indicate we will probably have 10 to 12 members attending and representing our Chapter at the Denver Conference, June 18 thru 21.

New Business: Discussion of the Region 3 Fall Forum 2007 suggested that the Hotel Pattee in Perry, Iowa might be a possible location. The Region Chair will be contacted to further define the actual date for the Fall Forum. An educational course will be considered for the 2007 Fall Forum.

New E-mail address for IRWA and Region Webmaster: Vicki Elscott Region 3 Webmaster, Vicki@elscottfamily.com

Bernie Banker sent a questionnaire to Chapter members in April 2006 requesting information on member interests. The information could be used in program planning for our chapter meetings. The information could also be useful in future course development.

Discussion regarding the sponsorship of a golf outing for the Education Foundation in the amount of \$300.00 resulted in a motion, seconded and approved. This will take place during the Conference in Denver, Co, in June 2006. The Education Foundation is responsible for updating courses, development of courses and Instructors certification are some of the functions the foundation is responsible for. It was suggested we look into a budget line item to cover donations to the Education Foundation (i.e. Golf Tourney) on a regular basis. We need to address this during the next business meeting.

A donation for Toys for Tots was taken which resulted in \$105.00 for this meeting.

Drawing for the Door Prize: Amy Walter was the winner of the \$50.00.

Motion to adjourn at 1:40 P.M. was made seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Martens, R/W-RAC
Vice President/Secretary
Spirit of the Heartland-Chapter 41

	TREASURER'S REPORT	
	Treasurer Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA, R/W-RAC	
<u>Second Quarter Report</u>		
Income	\$	22,451.43
Expenses		<u>9,204.56</u>
Net Income	\$	13,246.87
Net Balance	\$	19,820.61
Long Term Obligations		<u>1,335.00</u>
Cash on Hand	\$	21,155.61

International Education Conference Denver, Colorado



Region 3 Attendees – Monday Morning Caucus



Rita Rasmussen & Craig Poorker



IRWA President Dan Beardsley
and Nancy Halvorson



International Utility Committee
(represented by Jim Diemer & Dave Hingtgen)



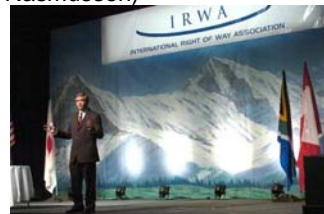
International Valuation Committee
(represented by Bernie Banker)



International LPA Committee
(represented by Rita Rasmussen)



Balfour Nominees



Jim Finnegan



President Jim Finnegan
and Outgoing President Dan Beardsley

SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

MID AMERICAN ENERGY

RUAN CENTER, 26TH FLOOR ASSEMBLY HALL

666 GRAND AVENUE - DES MOINES

Friday, September 15, 2006



9:00 – 11:30 East Village Development (including a tour)
Matt Anderson, City of Des Moines Economic Development
www.eastvillagedesmoines.com

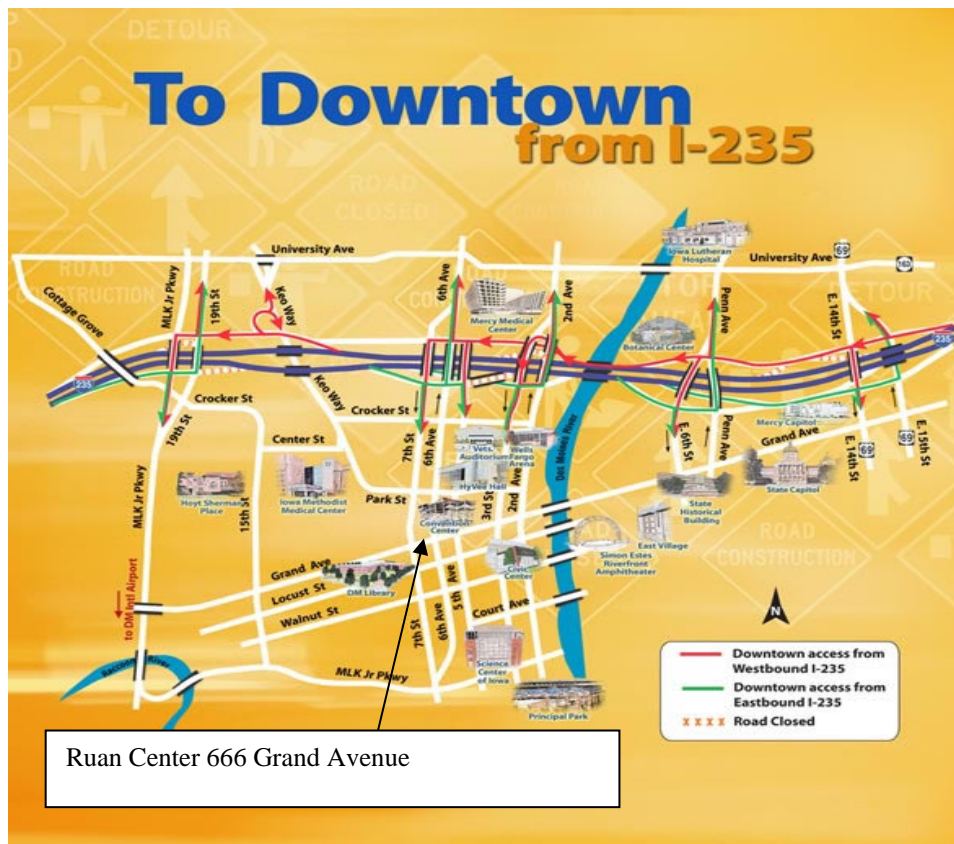
11:45 – 12:30 Lunch provided by Tumea and Sons
(Chicken and Pasta, Rolls and Salad)

12:30 Chapter 41 Meeting



Reservations must be received by Monday September 11, 2006 (so name badges can be printed)

Please email Jim Diemer at JPD3919@aol.com



Parking for Ruan Center

Ramps:

7th & High
9th & Locust
4th & Grand

Take the Skywalk to the Ruan Center or from Street Level, there is only one set of elevators to the 26th Floor.

Officers for 2005

Chapter 41

PRESIDENT: BERNARD B. BANKER, SRWA, R/W-RAC

BERNARD.BANKER@DOT.IOWA.GOV

PRESIDENT-ELECT: JAMES DIEMER, SR/WA

JPD3919@AOL.COM

VICE-PRESIDENT/SECRETARY: LINDA MARTENS,
R/W-RAC LINDA.MARTENS@DOT.IOWA.GOV

TREASURER: NANCY HALVORSON, SR/WA R/W-RAC

NANCY.HALVORSON@DOT.IOWA.GOV

DIRECTOR (1-YRS): BERNARD B. BANKER, SRWA, R/W-RAC

BERNARD.BANKER@DOT.IOWA.GOV

DIRECTOR (2-YRS): JAMES DIEMER, SR/WA

JPDIEMER@MIDAMERICAN.COM

Important Websites:

Chapter 41: www.irwa41.org
Region 3: www.irwaregion3.org

Questions or Comments,
contact Webmaster

Vicki@elscottfamily.com

Do you have a new email address?

Are you moving?

Notify:

Shelly Whiteing

515 -239-1753

The_heartlander41@yahoo.com



Newsletter Editor: Shelly J. Whiteing, SR/WA, R/W-RAC

the_heartlander41@yahoo.com 515.239.1753

Contributing Photographers:

Tim Bunkers, SR/WA, R/W-NAC

and the IRWA Photographer

DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE

October 15, 2006

Your articles and/or suggestions are always welcomed.

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS

SHELLY WHITEING, SR/WA R/W-RAC, CHAIR

SHELLY.WHITEING@DOT.IOWA.GOV

NANCY HALVORSON, SR/WA R/W-RAC AND JAMES DIEMER, SR/WA

EDUCATION

NANCY HALVORSON, SR/WA R/W-RAC, CHAIR

NANCY.HALVORSON@DOT.IOWA.GOV

AMY WALTER, RITA RASMUSSEN, SR/WA

MEMBERSHIP

DON CORRIGAN, SR/WA, R/W-RAC DONINDSM@AOL.COM

VICKI ELSCOTT VICKI.ELSCOTT@DOT.IOWA.GOV

MARKETING

TIM BUNKERS, SR/WA, R/W-NAC TJBUNKERS@MIDAMERICAN.COM

DAN SHEPHERD DSHEPHRD@SIRWA.ORG

PROGRAM

JIM DIEMER, SR/WA JPD3919@AOL.COM

VICKI ELSCOTT VICKI.ELSCOTT@DOT.IOWA.GOV

ASSET MANAGEMENT

ED OPSTEIN, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC UFSEDO@CS.COM

AUDIT

RITA RASMUSSEN, SR/WA RITAR@CEDAR-RAPIDS.ORG

DAN SHIFLETT, SR/WA AND SHELLY WHITEING, SR/WA-R/W-RAC

ENVIRONMENT AND SURVEY

DAN SHIFLETT, SR/WA, R/W-NAC DAN@CBPOWER.COM

PAIGE NORRIS, PMNORRIS@MIDAMERICAN.COM

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

SUE ALBRIGHT SUSAN.ALBRIGHT@DOT.IOWA.GOV

LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY

RITA RASMUSSEN, SR/WA, CO-CHAIR

R.RASMUSSEN@CEDAR-RAPIDS.ORG

ED OPSTEIN, SR/WA, R/W-NAC, R/W-RAC, CO-CHAIR,

BERNARD BANKER, SR/WA AND DENNIS CLARKE

RELOCATION

TIM GREENWOOD, R/W-RAC TIMOTHY.GREENWOOD@DOT.IOWA.GOV

MARY BETH KINER, R/W-RAC MARY.KINER@DOT.IOWA.GOV

TRANSPORTATION

DENNIS CLARKE DCLARKE@CO.BLACK-HAWK.IA.US & BERNARD BANKER

UTILITIES

DAVE HINGTGEN, DHINGTGEN@GLAA.COM

JIM DIEMER, SR/WA & TIM BUNKERS, SR/WA,

VALUATION

JOE ANDERSON, JOE.ANDERSON@DOT.IOWA.GOV

RUSS MANTERNACH MANTERNACH@CAIOWA.COM

FRED LOCK FREDLOCK@IOWAAPPRaisal.COM AND

CHRIS JENKINS CHRISJENKINS@IOWAAPPRaisal.COM