

Meeting Minutes
Region 3 Spring Forum
Des Moines, IA
Friday, April 16, 2004

Meeting called to order 8:30 a.m. by Region Chair Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA

Welcome remarks from Shelly Whiteing

Roll call - all chapters represented

Introductions

Howard Armstrong, SR/WA, from IEC, special guest

Region Secretary/Treasurer Report - balance of \$3587.97

Chapter Reports

Should be on line in next few days

Committee Reports

Asset Management - Judi Sorenson

Environment - no report

Ethics - Pat Cairns

LPA - Ed Opstein

Membership - sent by Barb Addie

Nominations & Elections - nominate slate of officers for 2004-2005;

Region Chair - Nancy Halvorson, SR/WA

Region Vice Chair - Jack Holt, SR/WA

Region Secretary/Treasurer - Craig Poorker, SR/WA

No other nominations; motion by David Johnson, seconded by Paul Gustafson; elected unanimously.

Pipeline - sent by Marvin DeJear

Professional Development - sent by Jack Borgmeyer

Relocation - no report; seat is possibly open

Survey - sent in by Dan Shiflett

Transportation - seat is open

Utilities - Dave Hingtgen

Valuation - Bernie Banker

Education Report - Jack Holt

There is no longer conflict between Chapter 20 and 78 Education schedules. Check Region 3 website often for courses to prevent conflict between chapters;
Bernie Banker says it's important for 41 and 78 to coordinate because of their close proximity. Nancy urged SR/WA exam course for Fall Forum.

Report from IEC Treasurer Howard Armstrong, SR/WA

Membership

1.5% membership increase over 2003.
Online membership directory is up and running; members are able to Update.
New members are receiving certificate and pin, and it's working well.
New member benefit kit introduced in 2003.
Online membership application has been revamped.

IRWA Course presentations

Number of IRWA courses same in 2004 as in 2003, but enrollment down 5.5%
Online Ethics Course operational.
Outsourcing of manual printing and distribution started in November, 2003 (Kinkos)
Principles of Right of Way textbook ready in late April 2004.
New pricing structure July 1, 2004; simpler, more logical.

Annual Conference

2003 Conference in KC was well received; attendees pleased; lost money.
Attendance down from previous year;
Golden anniversary conference in Philadelphia;

Other Meetings

US Army Corps of Engineers meeting in May 2004.
US Federal Update.

IRWA Communications and Marketing

Continued improvements in *right of way* magazine.
Articles will be placed on website and indexed.
Continued improvements in website.
Major marketing survey in 2004.

IRWA Governance Issues

Introduction of chapter assistance program in July 2004; some small chapters may be struggling. HQ will assist Regions, so that they can assist small chapters that may need financial assistance, i.e. licensing approval, course costs.
Introduction of leadership training programs through regions in Fall 2004;
Greater responsibility for Region Chairs and Vice Chairs.

More focused goals for committees.
Improved online support resources for chapters and regions in 2004;

Governance Reorganization

Region Chairs/Vice Chairs would become ad-hoc members of IEC for 2004-2005 (Chairs only).

Region Chair Responsibilities

Chapter Liaisons
Region Forums
Regional leadership development
Chapter training
Ten regions represented with two-year staggered terms

Lunch Break

Awards

Professional of the Year

Nominees, Pat Cairns, SR/WA; Daryl Knobbe; Jim Diemer, SR/WA; Randy DeGeorge, SR/WA; Al Donoho, SR/WA; Ed Schwab;
REGION 3 PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR - CONGRATULATIONS RANDY DEGEORGE !

Award made to J. PATRICK CAIRNS, SR/WA, FOR OUTSTANDING LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT OF SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP WITH DISTINCTION AND HONOR TO THE REGION, TO HIS CHAPTER, AND TO THE ORGANIZATION AT LARGE;

Award made to SHARON M. CAIRNS, SPOUSE OF PAT AND FRIEND TO THE ENTIRE IRWA FAMILY IN RECOGNITION OF MANY, MANY YEARS OF ATTENDANCE AT IRWA EVENTS.

(Howard Armstrong, IEC, cont.)

Course Pricing

Being revised to eliminate multiple variables, budget volatility;
Same cost per student
Spreadsheet to assist chapter in determining break-even point
Straight forward invoices
Except for "core" courses, "International courses" will no longer exist
Local chapters may adjust pricing, offer discounts, etc.
More risk, reward for chapters
Same suggested price per day for all courses

Resolutions at 2004 Conference in Philadelphia

Change in fiscal year to July 1 to June 30

Proposed Dues Increase

Senior Member \$190 from \$165

Regular Member \$175 from \$150

Intent is to have more frequent, smaller dues increases

Presentation by Chris Pawloski, Chapter 78 President

Chapter 78 is bidding for 2009 IRWA Seminar

Hilton Omaha – host hotel

No others bidding at this time.

Fall Forum in St. Louis

October 15, 2004

Course 214 day before

\$118 for hotel rooms (hopefully cheaper)

check website

It was decided that there would be no auction at Fall Forum.

Region Funds discussions. Guidelines for application for these funds voted on and adopted as printed on Region website. Any Region Committee Representative should refer to those guidelines and submit their application materials to Chair for approval of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer.

Discussion of funding committees and speakers at Conference. It was decided for this trial period of funding to restrict to Region Committee Reps ONLY.

Golf Tournament

Each chapter is requested to contribute \$300, funds going to Education Foundations. All Chapter Presidents said “yes” to committing. \$300 sponsors a hole.

Region 3 will sponsor Silver sponsorship of \$500. Motion by Pawloski, second by Shelly Whiteing. Approved unanimously.

LPA Conference – Rita Rasmussen and Ed Opstein. To be held in Des Moines, sponsored by Chapter 41. Ed urged that each chapter appoint a LPA Committee Rep. Contact Ed or Rita with questions. To be held toward end of 2004.

Spring Forum 2005 in Sioux Falls or ???

Chapter 78 donated \$500 to Region 3 - thank you!

Auction last night brought in \$1500, presented by Chapter 41 President Shelly Whiteing.

Annual Region 3 dues are due - \$1 per member of each Chapter.

Please mail to:

Craig Poorker, SR/WA
IRWA Region 3 Treasurer
Great River Energy
PO Box 800
Elk River, MN 55330

Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.