Council of Chapters - Agenda Item No. 6

October 3, 2014

The Council of Chapters (CoC) met on August 29, 2015 at the National EXPO in Phoenix. There were reports from each of the Council’s committees. It seemed that the CoC is reenergized in the new committee centered structure. Each committee met and reported on their activities of the past year and plans for the future year. Attached is my report to National that toots Florida’s horn about all the great things we are doing.

Florida was well represented at the CoC meeting. Of course, having the National President from our Chapter gains us considerable prestige. In addition, I serve as the Chair of the CoC’s Chapter Mentoring Committee. We have structured the Mentoring Committee with 4 subcommittees; Mentoring, Fundraising Registration, Leadership Forum, and Best Practice Updating. Rick Keeney was chosen Chair of the Fundraising Registration subcommittee and reported on their activities to the full Council. Mark Juliano also reported to the full CoC on Florida’s mentoring visit to the Alabama Chapter.

One of this year’s Mentoring Committee’s accomplishments is a Chapter Mentoring Catalogue that lists examples of best practices implemented by Chapters and lists Chapters available for mentoring other Chapters with contacts for follow up. Many Chapter delegates were impressed by Florida accomplishments and leadership of the CoC. This catalogue can be accessed on the National APWA and CoC webpages.

As chair the Mentoring committee, I was asked to attend a small lunch with CoC leadership and the Board of Directors. I was also able to serve as one of the facilitators for the Chapter’s leadership forum and help the Florida Chapter accept the PACE award.

National Update:
- There are now 101 Accredited Agencies.
- The Sustainability Institute (ISI) is off and flying.
- Larry Frudentail (Sp) is filling in as the acting Executive Director of APWA until a permanent replacement can be hired. A search firm was selected using QBS
and the contract for their services is currently being negotiated. A 6 month period is anticipated for hiring of a new Executive Director. We are looking for the right person to “move APWA forward.”

- There is a discussion about moving APWA Chapters to a fiscal year rather than a calendar year. This discussion is in the very early information gathering stages to see how Chapters and branches may be impacted by this change.
- There is a consideration of grandfathering in Public Works Executives (PWE) with a minimum of 15 years of service by Donald C. Stone (DCS). 27 people have completed the DCS program.
- National APWA membership is currently at 28,800 and holding steady. This is considered good considering the average age of our membership.
- Don’t hesitate to use technical committees to assist Chapters or individual agencies.
- The Board of Directors is reviewing the DCS business plan and considering renewal options for the KC office lease.
- Region III is hosting a leadership training session in Chattanooga on April 7 & 8. Hotel is the Doubletree at approximately $150/night. Training pricing is not confirmed but will be less than $200 to just cover the cost for 40 people. Will coordinate this training with a Region III Spring meeting.
- A suggestion for Chapter awards program is to push Chapter awards to local newspapers and consider re-awarding at local agency meetings.
- Consider having the DOT Secretary speak at a Chapter event to build DOT support for Chapter.

Prepared by Douglas E. Layton, PE, PWLF

Attachments:
Florida Chapter 2/15- 8/15 report to CoC
Membership

Florida Chapter membership has been flat continuing just below 1400 since our cold, KC meeting in February.

We continue to give away $200 & a bragging plaque quarterly to the Branch with the highest percentage of NEW members and a positive increase in TOTAL membership.

We also have membership competitions for individuals where prizes are given to existing members that signed up the most new members.

We have a membership committee at the Chapter Level that encourages, trains and supports Branch membership committees.

Chapter Activities

We held our 2015 Expo in Daytona Beach April 19th thru 22nd. This year our Expo was bigger and better as we combine with the National Association of County Engineers (NACE) conference. APWA attendance was 826 with a larger attendance from NACE. Many of our events were held jointly with NACE including 50 technical sessions, social events and the exhibition floor. This combined event included over 700 Delegates, 48 technical sessions with CEU/PDHs, an equipment rodeo with over 54 participants, 95,000 SF of exhibit space, chapter scholarship awards, Director’s Roundtable, annual awards, a YP event and a few social opportunities.

Our Chapter is coordinated by committees and District Representatives. Committee Chairs and Directors meet quarterly with Chapter Officers and Branch Chairs for
reporting and formal approval of approach and expenditures. Attendance at these roving meetings usually totals over 40.

Most of our activities are organized and carried out by our 11 branches. Among these activities are local meetings, education events, fund raisers, golf tournaments, community service events, local scholarships, and YP events.

Chapter Capacity Best Practice/New and Innovative Ideas

- Florida was recently selected for Congress to be located in Orlando for 2017.
- We maintain a Public Works Institute and 2 Public Works Academies
- We held an annual Chapter Expo in conjunction with the National NACE conference this year
- We utilize a compensated event planner to coordinate our annual Expo. These Expos are normally scheduled 3 years ahead. 2016 will be in Tampa, 2017 will be in Tallahassee, 2018 will be in Jacksonville.
- We lobby the state legislature, coordinating with other groups that share our interests.
- We have Branch Excellence awards similar to the national PACE award.
- We hold an annual Director’s Roundtable limited to City and County Public Works Directors. We also hold regional Director’s Roundtables in several locals.
- We maintain a $250K Chapter Scholarship trust. The proceeds from this trust fund annual Chapter scholarships. Each year we fund approximately $30K in scholarships at the Chapter and Branch levels
- We maintain a $60K designated account for support of public works employees during a natural disaster.
- We maintain an average balance of approximately $500K in Chapter & Branch accounts.
- We utilize a financial planner to manage our investments to maintain a reasonable return. We also utilize a CPA to assist our Treasurer in consolidating our branch financials into a combined financial report to National.
- We average over 30 Chapter awards at our annual Chapter awards event as part of our Expo.
- We utilize our website to compile officer and committee reports for our Executive Committee meetings.

Chapter Key Issue and Area of Focus/Challenge

The Chapter is focused on branding, membership & Branch support.

Membership contests are described above.

Our branding efforts are carried out through coordinated Chapter and Branch stationary, social media, and website content.
We have one underperforming Branches that we are trying to reinvigorate with Chapter support.

**Chapter Educational Sessions**

We have two Public Works academies which assist in training our blue Collar workers. We also have a Public Works Institute that teaches the first two levels of the Donald C. Stone Program.

Most of our educational sessions were held in conjunction with our annual EXPO. Attached are the 50 educational sessions held in April at the Daytona Beach Chapter EXPO. A list of these sessions is attached.

In addition, several of our 11 Branches hold educational sessions at their branch meetings. Some of these are listed here:

**September 2014 Big Bend Branch**

We had a guest presentation on the Tallahassee-Leon County Civil Rights Heritage Walk. This cultural landmark commemorates the Tallahassee bus boycott of 1956, and the nonviolent lunch counter sit-in demonstrations of the first years of the 1960s. The commemoration is located at the corner of Monroe and Jefferson Streets in downtown Tallahassee, near the entrance to the segregated lunch counter in McCrory’s dime store, which was demolished in 2010. In the sidewalk, the brass shoe prints of 50 Tallahassee “foot soldiers” trace the path of picket lines, along with quotations and images of the times. Our guest speaker was Daniel Donovan from the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department.

**October 2014 Big Bend Branch**

We had a guest speaker presentation on the benefits of using Evotherm Warm Mix Asphalt. Some of the many advantages of this product are improved compaction, reduced thermal segregation, extended haul time and paving season, increased use of recycled asphalt pavement (RAP), reduced fuel consumption and emissions, and a longer binder life. Our guest speakers were Lance Brooks and Matt Lachance from MeadWestvaco.

**November 2014 Big Bend Branch**

Mark Llewellyn – President/CEO of Genesis presented a spring restoration study involving three freshwater springs on Econôa Creek in Bay and Washington Counties. They worked with the Northwest Florida Water Management District to plan and design site improvements throughout the Econôa Springs Complex that would minimize the impacts of heavy public use and remediate the eroded spring and creek banks. A variety of innovative techniques and sustainable materials were used to recreate a facility that would allow for continued public enjoyment of the springs while preserving and protecting the water resource.

**April 2015 Big Bend Branch**

David Ziegler, P.E. of Contech Engineered Solutions, LLC presented to the group and provided an update on their recent drainage innovations. The presentation focused toward rehabilitation of aging pipes and structures especially, Contech’s “reline” portfolio.
June 2015 Big Bend Branch
Brad Martin, our area’s Damage Prevention Liaison for Sunshine 811, presented to the group on the role of Sunshine 811 in the “call before you dig” process. Mr. Martin’s presentation outlined the different responsibilities of the contractor and the utility owner, and answered questions about the challenges of marking for survey and design.

September 2014 SW Florida Branch
Louisiana LA1 Bridge Replacement

October 2014 SW Florida Branch
Southwest Florida Water Management District presented the updated Stormwater Environmental Resource Permit (SWERP) rules.

January 2015 SW Florida Branch
FDEP mangroves and NPDES Permitting Process

April 2015 SW Florida Branch
The Envision Rating System