

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

February 15, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Bob Kass, Chair at 4:35 p.m., Central. Members of the committee present were Bob Kass, Chair; Marty Basta; Len Bernstein; Chris Champion; Neil Grigg; Larry Lux; Zeferino Sanchez; and Diane Linderman, Board Liaison. Ross Vincent was absent. Geoff Greenough and Julio Fuentes, chairs of international task forces; and Richard McCoy, International Liaison from the Minnesota Chapter were also present. Staff included Kaye Sullivan, Mark Tibbetts and Nickole Blankenship.

Fundraising for Jennings Randolph Fund

Staff advised that fundraising for the Jennings Randolph Fund needs to involve firms, corporations, and partners in firms (or people with authority) with high dollar donations of \$1,000-5,000. The IAC Committee will need to commit themselves to providing staff with contacts for those high dollar donations if the committee is to reach its goal of \$100,000 in the fund by 2006. Geoff agreed to approach other APWA past presidents who work for firms to get advice on the approach to use with firms and corporations. In the meantime, the committee agreed to approach each APWA chapter for a contribution of \$500-1,000 or a contribution of \$5,000 over a five year period.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 18, 2005 meeting were approved by consensus.

Review of Future Reporter Articles

Committee members and staff are on track with articles for the *April Reporter*. Julio is working with Paul Cooley on his article for the May issue.

Review of International Task Force Work Plans for 2004-2005

APWA/AMMAC Task Force: Zeferino, Bob and Ruben Fernandez will travel to Kansas City for a meeting with staff on February 22nd to finalize the contract for the management Practices Manual. Bob will secure names for invitations to be sent from AMMAC for the AMMAC Congress in July. The Department of Commerce work is going well and AMMAC is hoping to have several presentations by APWA members at their Congress.

APWA/IPWEA/INGENIUM Task Force: The task force has progressed on all aspects of their work plan and will forward that progress table to the committee. INGENIUM is in the process of providing a link on their website to APWA.

APWA/SPWA/CZPWA Task Force: Dwayne Kalynchuk will be presenting a workshop at both conferences on the Management Practices Manual and self-assessment. Geoff is attempting to get speakers from Slovakia and the Czech Republic for a Congress presentation.

Report of International Disaster Relief Task Force

The task force presented a report to the committee suggesting that staff contact Federal agencies/departments to determine their interest in funding a program with APWA to provide technical expertise and support from the APWA membership through response to natural or man-made disasters in both the national and international communities. If a positive response is secured, the task force suggested that IAC work with the Emergency Management Committee (EMC) to recommend to the Board of Directors that a database of interested APWA members be established to be called upon in times of international or national disasters to provide disaster relief. Diane indicated she would be meeting with the Emergency Management Committee and would discuss their interest in this project. Larry suggested staff research a peer matching project that occurred in the early 1990s to determine if any portion of that project could be utilized currently. Diane will report at the next meeting on her discussion with EMC and a suggestion was made to have a face-to-face meeting with EMC at Congress.

Staff shared information from *Engineers Without Borders* about their work with the recent tsunami, however, the committee felt that public works expertise that APWA members could provide goes beyond the work this organization is doing in engineering projects. Geoff indicated that CIDA (in Canada) is very much like USAID and is sending teams to countries that were affected by the recent tsunami to see what needs to be accomplished and will then send teams to help with the rebuilding of those countries.

Jennings Randolph Fellowships for 2005

Bob announced that Larry Lux and Brian Pettet will receive \$2,500 fellowships for public works study trips to Australia. The Mexico fellowship is still under consideration. *[Note: At a later time, a \$1,000 fellowship was provided to Julio Fuentes for a public works study trip to Mexico.]*

Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting date is March 15, 2005 at 4:30 p.m., Central.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.