



Nomination and Supporting

Documentation for

Presidential Award for Chapter of Excellence

Submitted June 1, 2020

Vision Statement:

Enhancing quality of life for all.

Mission Statement:

Engage the public works community and citizens through support, education, advocacy, and outreach by creating opportunities for training, accountability, networking, and growth for the benefit of all.

2019 Chapter Executive Officers:

Eddie Staley, President

Ken Martin, Past-President

Robby Stone, President-Elect

Christopher McGee, Vice-President

Kelly Sanderson, Secretary

Dale James, Treasurer

2019 Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence

CHAPTER SUMMARY

2019 began with effective leadership in place and an enthusiastic and ambitious plan for the year. 2018 was a great year, which gave way to many initiatives and objectives that have continued to be of key focus throughout 2019. Much progress was made in new areas as well as a continuation of traditional Chapter activities with enthusiastic support from the members. Between the old and the new, the result has been an extremely successful year as the following highlighted information will describe.

I. INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS AND EFFORTS

- The NC Chapter is extremely excited about the opportunity to host PWX in Charlotte in 2022. Our Chapter Executive Board has approved the MOU and received the final executed document from APWA National. The host committee is having monthly conference calls as well as appointments of co-chairs for various subcommittees. The process of organizing and identifying Chapter members to serve on key subcommittees is on-going.
- The Chapter continues to use Basecamp as a way of keeping all the information associated with the Chapter in one repository. This platform is allowing the Chapter to keep up with critical information as well as share it with all the members of the Executive Board.
- The Chapter is continuing to use Helms Briscoe in planning conferences. Helms Briscoe works with the various Division Boards to identify venues and aid in negotiating a contract for room rates, the number of hotel rooms needed for the event and food for the event.
- The Chapter has been able to continue to grow membership by taking advantage of the first-time member's rate offered by APWA national and adding this cost along with chapter dues to the conference or workshop member rate to form a non-member rate. Our chapter then takes the necessary steps to get these attendees registered as APWA members.

- Sustainability continued to be at the forefront in many of the Divisions and Committees' efforts throughout 2019 and will continue to be an emphasis for the coming years. The Chapter worked towards promoting public works projects with features in our newsletter on the Envision® rating system for sustainable infrastructure. The sustainability Committee has also expressed its goal of starting an APWA student chapter at NC State University and other local colleges in hopes of recruiting new chapter members, ambitious to make a difference in their community and state through supporting public works.



- The Young Professionals (YP) committee has continued to gain momentum. The committee's primary focus this year was to continue growing and become more involved with younger new members. The committee has continued to increase their presence through regularly scheduled YP events. The YP committee sponsored multiple events in 2019: two public works projects and social events in Greensboro and Charlotte, a Winston-Salem Dash baseball game networking and social event, and multiple events at the North Carolina State Conference. The Chapter discussed the role the YP Committee could play within the Divisions which has generated quite a bit of excitement throughout the Chapter. The YP committee held its annual putt-putt competition in conjunction with the chapter's State Conference. The canned food and boxes of food used to construct holes were donated to the local food bank at the conclusion of the event. This event was very well received by attendees and Partners with many requesting that we schedule this activity for next year's conference.

II. **BUILDING CHAPTER CAPACITY**

- The Chapter continues to make recruiting and retaining members one of its highest priorities. Our growth in membership from December 2018 through December 2019 showed a gain of 148 members bringing the total to 1,337 members, a 12.4% net increase in one year's time. The Chapter's membership

numbers are by far the most that they have ever been. The Chapter was recognized at PWX 2019 in Seattle, WA for having the largest percentage of net increase in membership for large chapters (greater than 850 members).

- For the fifth year, the chapter held a 'Day of Engagement Summit' at the end of 2019 to help increase member commitment to volunteering and encourage being active members in the organization. In 2019, leadership put a central focus on recruitment and continued engagement within the organization. Our 2019 president put an emphasis on creating a community within APWA where members can come together to grow, engage, and develop professionally.
- The membership committee, together with YP committee, held several recruiting lunch-and-learns in Spring 2019 to recruit new members on the 2-year special offer given by national.
- On December 5th, the APWA-NC Chapter held its annual Leadership Training and Officer Installation at the NC State University Club in Raleigh, NC. This event was also held in conjunction with a Meet and Greet Lunch with new Chapter members. Incoming officers were sworn in at the close of the training followed by a group dinner. With special emphasis on chapter leadership, the Chapter now has a more centralized focus on recruiting and continued engagement in the organization. It was a great time for new and existing members to meet with the Board and refresh their excitement for public works.

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR CHAPTER EXCELLENCE SUBMITTAL **YEAR 2019 CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**

The APWA North Carolina Chapter has been honored to have received the Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE) eighteen times in the last twenty years. The award not only recognizes the abilities and dedication of the volunteers who serve our Chapter, it also encourages the leadership of our chapter to continue to 'raise the bar' for chapter standards.



Members from the North Carolina Chapter accepting the PACE Award at the 2019 PWX Conference in Seattle

With momentum from 2018, the Chapter maintained effective leadership and approached the year with enthusiasm and an ambitious plan for the year. The previous year paved the way with a focus on incorporating sustainability principles into trainings and workshops, which continued in 2019. The leadership put focus on Chapter involvement, volunteering, continued growth, and member opportunities.

I. Membership

a. Net Gain/Loss

- i. 2019 has shown a fantastic trend in APWA-NC recruitment and retention efforts. The NC Chapter has continued our growth in membership from December 2018 through December 2019 showing a gain of 148 members, bringing the total to 1,337 members, a 12.4% net increase in one year's time. The Chapter's membership numbers are by far the most that they have ever been.
- ii. Each of our newsletters document the new members that have joined our Chapter since the last newsletter was issued to welcome them to the organization.

Welcome New Members

The APWA-NC Chapter would like to welcome the following new members.

Name	Title	Company/Municipality
Ted Barker	Construction Contracts Administrator	City of High Point
Dwan Bell	Public Services Director	Town of Selma
Robert Bennett	Student	North Carolina State University
Kristen Benoit	Assistant to Public Works Director	Town of Carrboro
Lex Steven Benton	Engineering Supervisor	City of Raleigh
Andrew B. Blakley		Forsyth County
Robin Buchanan	Marketing Director	Davenport
Mark Cathey	Principal/Office Manager	McGill Associates
Clint Chamberlin	Sales Director Specialist Markets	Ennis-Flint
James Collins	Maintenance Supervisor	Forsyth County General Services

Excerpt from the New Member List in the March 2019 Newsletter

b. Recruitment and Retention Efforts

- i. The North Carolina (NC) Chapter has experienced significant growth in membership in recent years. One of our most effective recruitment tools has involved using the discounted rate for new members in conjunction with conference or workshop registration.

First Time member Campaign — Get your first year of individual membership at half price!

Any employee or official of a governmental agency, manufacturer/supplier, contractor, or consulting firm who is actively engaged in the field of public works and has not previously been an APWA national association member is eligible for the First-Time Member Special Offer. The special offer is also available for adding first-time members to your existing group's roster or starting a new group membership.

Special Offer price:

- Individual membership \$108 USD for your first year (this includes \$10 dues for NC Chapter) (regularly \$196 USD)

Membership Discount Promotion

This approach has been very successful for the NC Chapter. The Chapter first tried this approach in 2014 at one conference and added 5 new members. In 2015, we expanded this to other conferences and added 33 new members. In 2016, we added 19 new members. In 2017, we added

47. From June to December 2018 we added 99 new members, and from December 2018 to December 2019 we added 148 new members. We continue to add new and exciting members at workshops and development opportunities. From our perspective, there is no downside to this approach. The new members have already participated in an APWA event and seen the educational and networking benefits. They also benefit from the member registration fee option for Chapter events for the upcoming year. As such, the retention rate has been high.

- ii. A member on our Retiree Committee has been tasked with keeping up and communicating with our retirees to hopefully retain them as members. Outreach and involvement with the retiree community is important to our Chapter.
- iii. Membership applications were prominently displayed and readily available at all Chapter and Technical Division Conferences (in conjunction with showcasing Chapter awards). New member packets were also actively distributed at our various events to get the proper forms in the hands of potential members.
- iv. During conferences, the Chapter has made a large push to bring back the 'Family' atmosphere to encourage member participation. Each division works to incorporate family events into the agenda to keep a fun and lively atmosphere and continue creating a community atmosphere among Chapter members.
- v. On December 5th the APWA-NC Chapter held its annual Leadership Training and Officer Installation at the NC State University Club in Raleigh, NC. This event was also held in conjunction with a Meet and Greet Lunch with new Chapter members. This session is held to discuss ways to get involved and how the chapter works when they join. They are also recognized with special tags and recognized at luncheons.

C. Innovative Membership Development and Retention Efforts

- i. The Chapter has continued to electronically distribute new member packets which are sent to new members at the beginning of every month. This is in addition to the new member information sent from the national office. This packet contains website and listserv information for APWA-NC events. It also lists current chapter officers and committee chairman. The membership chairman personally welcomes each new member with an email in an added effort to show our excitement for their commitment to the organization, as well as introduce them to a variety of

boards and committees that they can join in order to become more involved in the chapter.

- ii. The Chapter continued its tradition of hosting new member luncheons throughout the State in an effort to service a larger portion of the new members. The luncheons provided helpful information about the Chapter and ways new members could start getting involved. With so many new members in 2019, the Chapter’s leadership has stepped up to the challenge and continues to work on incorporating new members into Chapter activities, and getting members involved in committees and divisions.
- iii. The continually growing YP committee has encouraged membership throughout the various events they have hosted to start drawing in members at a younger age. In 2019, they focused on recruitment of our newer, younger members as well as accumulating referrals from existing APWA members in order to increase membership within the committee.
- iv. The Chapter once again promoted and conducted the annual “Day of Engagement” this past year. It was a fun time with team building and small group activities. APWA-NC Board Members, as well as Committee Chairs were available to welcome new members in efforts to promote collaboration and intermingling of all members. The luncheon provided an excellent opportunity for new members to network with peers from both the public and private sector entities.
- v. Our Chapter recognizes that communication tools are changing, and in addition to newsletters and our website, a Facebook page is linked directly to the Chapter website. The YP committee has also worked hard to ensure APWA-NC has an up to date social media presence.

II. Service to Chapter Members

a. Number of Members Attending Meeting Events

The following list below provides a general sense for the attendance at some of the events held throughout the 2019 calendar year. While the Chapter held additional events which are not listed, the following numbers provide an average of the attendance seen for conferences, trainings, and Chapter events during 2019.

- i. The **Solid Waste Division** conducted its 24th Annual Winter Workshop in Burlington, NC at the Kernodle Senior Center on February 13th and had 83 members in attendance.

- ii. The **Facilities and Grounds Division** held its annual Conference May 1st-3rd in Wrightsville Beach, NC at The Blockade Runner Beach Resort. The conference had 43 attendees and 17 partners.
- iii. The 2019 **Annual Chapter Conference** on June 26th-28th was held in Winston-Salem, NC. The conference was held at the Benton Convention Center and had 113 attendees
- iv. The **Leadership and Management Conference** was held on July 31st – August 2nd, Asheville, NC. This conference was held in downtown Asheville at the Hyatt Place with 87 attendees.
- v. The **APWA-NC Stormwater Management Division** held its annual conference from October 20th – 22nd in Wilmington, NC at the Hotel Ballast. There were 375 stormwater and water resources professionals in attendance along with 30 speakers.
- vi. The **2019 APWA-NC Combined Equipment Services and Streets Division Conference** was held in Wilmington, NC. The conference was a huge success with over 130 registered attendees.
- vii. The **Solid Waste Division** held its 54th Annual Fall Conference in Beaufort, NC at the Beaufort Hotel on August 7-9. The conference title was “The New Normal in Solid Waste Services”. 131 participants were in attendance along with 24 partners.

III. Member to Member Outreach

- i. Continuing this past year, we held quarterly new-member meetings to help acquaint new members with our chapter and help get them involved from the beginning. This effort has allowed us to get members excited about the opportunities for involvement and advancement in the chapter as we are working to improve member involvement and retention.
- ii. Each of our monthly newsletters documents the new members that have joined the NC chapter since the last newsletter was issued. The newsletter also provides the municipality or organization each individual works for encourage current and new members to reach out and make connections. The new members like be recognized and it provides a sense of inclusion and promotes the family-style atmosphere our Chapter seeks to maintain.
- iii. Each year the Chapter uses conferences, meetings, and activities as opportunities for members to meet and expand their professional network. These events include time in their programing to allow members to collaborate, meet, and learn from each other’s experiences.

Conferences also include recreational activities to allow members to meet and converse on a more personal level.

- iv. Newsletter committee sections often feature the names of new and current members of that committee who are volunteering their time for the organization. This information serves as a resource to members who may want to reach out to these committees.
- v. The Young Professional Committee hosted several fun programs to bring in individuals early on in their career and help to connect them to other young professionals from all sectors of public works.
- vi. Members from the APWA-NC Chapter were able to attend the PWX Seattle Conference where they participated in workshops, saw new construction equipment, enjoyed live music, and explored the city. Additionally, members had the opportunity to network with fellow Chapter members and members from other Chapters. This also provided a great opportunity to gather ideas for future planning of our own PWX event in Charlotte.



PWX 2019 – Seattle, WA

a. Chapter Best Practices

i. *The Chapter conducts an annual orientation session for new executive committee and committee chairs.*

- Each year following Chapter elections, the North Carolina Executive Board hosts a one-half day ‘Meet and Greet Luncheon’ in conjunction with the annual Leadership Training Initiative. New members and current members are encouraged to attend and meet the incoming Chapter Board. This luncheon also provides the Chapter Board the opportunity to interact and build better relationships with new members and with the new Chapter Officers. All current, outgoing, and (new) incoming officers and committee chairs are requested to attend both events, with a focus being on leadership training.
- On December 5th the APWA-NC Chapter held its annual Leadership Training and Officer Installation at the NC State University Club in Raleigh, NC. This event was also held in conjunction with a Meet and Greet Lunch with new Chapter members. Incoming officers were sworn in at the close of the training followed by a group dinner. This event was held in conjunction with a Meet and Greet Lunch with new Chapter members.
- This event allows new members to meet the Chapter Board and provides training for newly elected officers and committee chairs. The morning session focused on Basecamp, contract negotiation, newsletter, website, setting conference and workshop fees, State Chapter representation at Division Conferences and our purpose and goals. The afternoon focused on scholarships/awards, budgeting/fiduciary responsibilities, and more basecamp training. Basecamp is a web-based platform that allows the Chapter to manage its files and assigned tasks. It serves as a repository for the Chapter’s documents and eliminates the need to pass information along using flash drives and emails.



Basecamp Training at 2019 Leadership Training Conference

- The Chapter continues to use Basecamp as a way of keeping all the information associated with the Chapter in one repository. This platform is allowing the Chapter to keep-up with critical information as well as share it with all the members of the Executive Board. The Chapter is also continuing to use Helms Briscoe in planning conferences. Helms Briscoe works with the various Division Boards to identify venues and aid in negotiating a contract for room rates, the number of hotel rooms needed for the event and food for the event. The Chapter has been able to continue to grow membership by taking advantage of the first-time member's rate offered by APWA national and adding this cost along with chapter dues to the conference or workshop member rate to form a non-member rate. Our chapter then takes the necessary steps to get these attendees registered as APWA members.
- ii. ***The Chapter Directors have a defined role and serve as mentors/liaisons to the Divisions.***
- Over the years, the North Carolina Chapter has been faced with the challenge of keeping their Chapter Executive Board "Directors" regularly involved in the annual activities. While several of the

North Carolina's Directors have historically also served as committee chairs, due to the expansion of their committees, the actual involvement of several Directors has varied from very involved to only being a 'voting' member at Board meetings without having direct Chapter responsibilities. In an effort to help address this challenge, the Chapter wanted to create a detailed job description to better define Director's role, while intentionally engaging these individuals in the activities of the Chapter. In addition, this aided Directors in being mentors and liaisons to each Division of the Chapter. 2017 was the first year that this plan was fully implemented and since then we have seen great results.

iii. *Annually, the Chapter reviews all contractual agreements with Chapter administrator and/or other remunerated independent contractors.*

- The Chapter continues to work with Helms Briscoe in planning conferences. Helms Briscoe works with the various Division Boards to identify venues and aid in negotiating a contract for room rates, the number of hotel rooms needed for the event and food for the event.
- Over the years, the Chapter has built upon both its own experiences and, with guidance, a base model from APWA National to create its own 'Guidelines for Negotiating Conference Site Contracts'. As in most Chapters, new individuals may be responsible for annual conference site selection responsibilities, and consistency from year-to-year remains important as these transitions occur. In addition, we have at times, struggled with estimating/giving minimum meal guarantees during our conferences (i.e. specifically those provided by the Chapter and not necessarily ones that would be scheduled and provided by a sponsor/partner). These 'number' challenges attempt to protect the best financial interests of the Chapter (but at the same time, not 'skimp' on providing the quality of the meal service for our conference attendees; i.e. by under-estimating actual meal attendance). Accordingly, we have developed both the 'guidelines' document for negotiating such contracts and a tool by which to estimate meal guarantees. Conferences and workshops held throughout 2019 utilized this tool and have seen improvement.

iv. Chapter mentorship

- The NC Chapter is comprised of over 1,300 members representing a diverse group of municipalities, counties, and private sector individuals. Our main goal and mission is all about educational and networking opportunities for our members. The Chapter has seven technical divisions that provide training specific to an individual's interests and needs. They also provide the opportunity to meet your peers from across the State in the particular work disciplines.

Many of the Divisions have ad hoc members on the Board in a non-voting manner to get exposure to Board activities, roles, and responsibilities, and thereby are mentored into a leadership role as they chose to be more involved in APWA. Leadership and Management Division, for example, has over 4 ad hoc members participating.

The Chapter's Divisions are: Leadership & Management, Facilities & Grounds, Equipment Services, Solid Waste Management, Stormwater Management, Streets, and Technology. Each Division schedules either separately, or in partnership with another Division, an annual conference of its own. These conferences are held in addition to the Chapter's statewide Annual Conference. We also voluntarily staff over twenty diverse committees, each with its own area of responsibility.

Our Chapter strives to actively embrace, support and practice the APWA 'Chapter Best Practices', recognizing we do better in some categories than others. Outlined below are some areas we feel we have a history developed in building a better 'model' as each year progresses.

b. Chapter to Chapter Outreach

- i. Members from the APWA-NC Chapter were able to attend the PWX Conference in Seattle where they were able to participate workshops, see new construction equipment, enjoy live music, and explore the city. This gave members an opportunity to network with fellow Chapter members and members from other Chapters.

- ii. The Chapter Delegate continues to share best practices with other chapters within Region III at the regional meetings that are held at least twice a year. APWA-NC members also share and gather ideas from other Chapter members informally while being engaged in various national committees.
- iii. There was no Backhoe Roadeo in 2019 due to logistical and more important safety challenges for the participants and onlookers. All municipalities were encouraged to hold their own event and submit names of their winners. The winner's names were submitted and drawn from a hat at the annual meeting. The winners were then contacted and given the opportunity to represent the State Chapter at the National Roadeo challenge.

c. Chapter Diversity/Inclusiveness

- i. The conference planning committee was increased in size to include some of the YP members and other members from groups such as the Technology division. The Chapter has made a large push to improve topics and events that reach a broader audience and are updated with the times.
- ii. On December 5th, the APWA-NC Chapter held its annual Leadership Training and Officer Installation at the NC State University Club in Raleigh, NC. This event was also held in conjunction with a Meet and Greet Lunch with new Chapter members. We focused on collaboration between and among all the divisions and committees, and our charge was to find new and exciting ways to educate and invigorate our membership for members from all backgrounds.
- iii. The quarterly Chapter newsletter contains an "Upcoming Events" calendar for all chapter events. This allows members to see all the events going on across the chapter and allows them to get involved on multiple levels. The chapter newsletter also contains valuable information on how diversity can be a very beneficial tool among our companies and clients.

d. Young/Emerging Professionals

- i. As the Young Professionals (YP) Committee continues to grow, they begin to focus on new members as well as encouraging existing members of the NC APWA to refer Young Professionals within their organizations. In 2019, they continued to utilize Basecamp, the software tool the Chapter is utilizing to centralize information for all divisions and committees. In 2018, they started to fill roles within the committee: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and two Social Subcommittee Chairs. By the end of 2018, they had also

filled roles for 2019, of the Past Chair, Secretary, and Professional Development Subcommittee Chair. This structure continues to prove successful in 2019 as well.

- ii. Another focus of the YP Committee was outreach. They felt it was important to host regular events, a healthy combination of socials, training, and volunteer opportunities, in various locations for maximum exposure and impact. During 2019, they hosted several events across the state to reach as broad of an audience as possible.
- iii. The **Young Professionals Committee** hosted a tour of the South Buffalo Creek Stormwater Wetland on April 4th in Greensboro, NC. At the conclusion of the tour, the YP Committee hosted a “Happy Hour” at the Boxcar Bar + Arcade. In the fall, they hosted a similar event in Charlotte, NC where the group and several other members toured the Myrtle Morehead Phase II Stormwater project in Uptown Charlotte. The YP Committee hosted a networking event on June 26th at BB&T Park where the Winston-Salem Dash took on the Myrtle Beach Pelicans for some minor league baseball. This fun filled event was held in conjunction with the Chapter’s Annual Conference.

IV. **Advancement of Public Works and Sustainability**

a. **Awards/Recognition Programs**

- i. The scholarship program has been the heart of the APWA-NC North Carolina chapter’s outreach to engage young professionals in the career of public works. We target rising juniors and seniors as well as graduate students that have an interest in public works. The scoring includes a focus on academics, community service and a demonstrated interest in a public works career. Also, an employee scholarship is offered that reimburses full-time public works professionals’ money towards their costs related to continued education in public works. The employee program seeks to encourage, reward, and retain those employees dedicated to advancing themselves professionally and within their organization. This year a new program was added to the awards and recognition programs. The internship program provided student interns to municipalities and government entities which in turn provided students assistance with their career aspirations and building foundations for their future in public works. A section of each quarterly newsletter is used to promote the scholarships and awards and provides members with submittal information and deadlines to submit. The 2019 winners were Maurice Smith, Hanna

Billington & Matilynn Maltba. Our internship winner for 2019 was Levi Hiatt.

Scholarships and Internships Available

APWA-NC will once again offer scholarships and stipends to its members this year. Also, APWA-NC will be awarding an internship(s) to deserving student(s) in North Carolina. The internship program is designed to assist students in attaining their career aspirations and build a foundation of future public works leaders.

The following scholarships, internships and stipends will be offered by APWA-NC in 2019:

- **Public Works Internship**
- North Carolina **School of Government's Municipal and County Administration Course Scholarship**
- **Employees in the Public Works Field scholarship**
- **Student Scholarship**
- **2019 PWX Stipend**

For deadlines and additional information, go to <http://northcarolina.apwa.net/PageDetails/1020>



Scholarship Ad in the March 2019 Newsletter

- ii. In addition to traditional academic scholarships, the APWA North Carolina chapter has long recognized the value of our members attending PWX, and, as a result, we now offer a new stipend award for active members that have never attended PWX. This award is designed to allow members who may never have had the opportunity to attend PWX to further help educate our membership on all that APWA has to offer and to encourage attendance at our flagship national conference. One stipend is offered. Recipients are required to share their experience at our state chapter conference and write an article about their experience for our chapter newsletter. In addition, they will be required to serve on the conference planning committee for our annual state chapter conference.
- iii. **Chapter Awards:** Chapter Awards were presented to the following during the Annual Chapter Conference at the Past Presidents' Dinner:
 - Robert K. Seals Award – Barry Lowry (Town of Chapel Hill)
 - Robert S. Hopson Award – Veronica McGriff Wallace (City of Charlotte)
 - Samuel Greeley Award – Kenneth Martin (Retired City of Charlotte)

- Robert E. Linkner Award – Rebecca L. Bost (LaBella Associates)
 - President’s Award – Robby Stone (City of High Point)
 - James Loyd, Lifetime Membership Award
 - Crabtree Creek Greenway, Project of the Year Transportation \$5 - \$25 Million
 - Ronald Moore, Professional Manager of the Year – Transportation
 - Ralph Sheffield, Professional Manger of the Year – Public Fleet
 - Doug Jewell, Professional Manger of the Year – Water Resources
 - Melissa Stuart & Jackie Dillon, Technical Innovation
 - Terry Houk, Top Ten Public Works Leaders
 - Levi Hiatt, 2019 Internship Winner
 - Maurice Smith, Hanna Billington & Matilynn Maltba – 2019 Scholarship Winners
- iv. During the 2019 APWA-NC Solid Waste Division Conference in Beaufort, North Carolina, chapter members were recognized for outstanding services. At the conference this year we honored both Rodney Sutton from the Village of Pinehurst and Larry Wiegman a 2019 board member. Rodney was our 2019 Herman Drake winner and Larry Wiegman was honored for his 50+ year career in the solid waste industry.



Larry Weigman Accepting Award for 50+ years in the Solid Waste Industry

b. Public Works Promotion

- i. The Chapter received a proclamation from the Governor's Office recognizing National Public Works Week statewide (see below). In addition, numerous chapter members worked with their city, town or county elected officials to proclaim May 19th – 25th as National Public Works Week. Chapter members and member organizations held numerous events (staff luncheons, equipment displays, backhoe competitions, etc.) across the state in celebration.



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

2019

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina sustainable communities depend on public works infrastructure to ensure our health, safety, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, public works professionals, engineers, managers, state and local governments, and private sector employees plan, design, build, operate, and maintain transportation, water supplies, sewage and refuse disposal systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential to serving our people; and

WHEREAS, our cities and towns are safer, and individuals and families can enjoy the quality of life that makes North Carolina special because of the dedication of public works professionals; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina joins the American Public Works Association, and other interested agencies and organizations, in recognizing the contributions of public works professionals to the health, safety, and welfare of North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 19 – 25, 2019, as “**PUBLIC WORKS WEEK**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.





Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirteenth day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.

Excerpt from NC Chapter Report

- ii. Our May edition of the APWA-NC newsletter featured the article “Celebrating Employees during National Public Works Week in Kernersville”.

The Department’s 56 employees celebrated the event by enjoying a lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs and many traditional picnic sides. The culmination of the luncheon was desserts prepared by The Ice Queen Parlor Food Truck from



Kernersville NPWW Celebration

Greensboro, who served ridiculously large “ice cream sammiches” like the King Kong, the Cookie Monster and the Big Bird. During the event, the Public Services Director, Doran Maltba, PWLF, CGPM, presented two members of the street division, Michael Allocco, CPWP-S and Tim Goins, CPWP-S with plaques celebrating the supervisors attaining their Certified Public Works Professional – Supervisor designation. With the addition of these two employees, this brings the Town’s total number of APWA certified public services employees to nine, five of which are in the street division. The employee appreciation luncheon is an annual event they hold during Public Works Week to celebrate all the employees and the many contributions they make to the quality of life for the residents of Kernersville.

- iii. The City of High Point held its annual Public Services Day on May 22, at the High Point Public Library’s parking lot. Nearly all of its divisions under Public Services were represented with either equipment or an educational booth. There were four different day cares, one public school, homeschool groups, and various small groups and families who came to the event and totaled approximately 220 people.



High Point Annual Public Services Day

iv. The Town of Wake Forest celebrated National Public Works Week in several ways throughout the week. On Tuesday, May 21st, they held a “touch a truck” event at a local school. They set up stations with equipment and operators from various departments:

- Environmental Services
 - o Yard waste truck
 - o Recycling (Tent with Recyclables)
 - o Republic Waste Truck
- Streets
 - o Street sweeper
 - o Dump Truck
- Engineering (Enviroscape demo)
- Electric - Bucket Truck



Town of Wake Forest NPWW Celebration

On Wednesday, May 22, they started the morning off with a roadside cleanup that included various staff members cleaning up the 98 Bypass, which is part of the States Adopt a Highway program. This portion of the bypass is cleaned by the town staff every 3 months. They later had a great NPWW luncheon where they gave an award for Employee of the Year, and honored staff with numerous “kudo” emails they had received. It was a great week celebrating public works staff and all they do to provide a better quality of life for.

C. Professional Development

- i. **The 62nd Annual Conference** was held at the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem, NC, June 26th – 28th. The event began with a golf tournament and a board meeting on June 25th. APWA President Elect Bill Spearman and Region III Director Keith Pugh were present for the conference. Our community service project tied to this event was a donation (food and monetary) to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Carolina. This year the Chapter’s YP Committee worked with DevelopUS to get sponsors to construct miniature golf course holes out of canned and boxed food items. There was a team competition on the various holes on Thursday afternoon. At the end of the day, all the food items were gathered and sent to the Second Harvest Food Bank.



2019 NC Annual Conference – President’s Award

- ii. The Equipment Services Division and the Streets Division hosted a combined conference from September 25th – 27th at the Wilmington Convention Center in Wilmington, NC. The conference was a huge success with a record number of attendees. The following awards were presented at the conference:

Streets Achievement Award Winner	Jason Brown, Town of Matthews
Street Manager of the Year	Steve Halsey, City of Raleigh
Fleet Manager of the Year	Cindy Forrester, City of Gastonia
Fleet Technician of the Year	Robert Willard, Town of Kernersville

- iii. Our 2019 Leadership & Management Conference attracted members to Asheville, NC. This conference allowed members to learn about topics regarding management in Public Works and best practices for risk mitigation and management. Topics covered during the conference included:

- The Resilient Leader
- The Last Only Woman in the Room
- Risk Management for Public Projects
- Circles of Collaboration

- Engaging All Generations in Today's Workforce
- Resiliency: Facing the "Rising Tide" of Age
- Linking NC Communities
- Advantage of Investing in Community Healthy/Activity
- Leveraging Unmanned Aircrafts in Public Works

Awards presented at the conference included:

- Professional Manager of the Year – Jeff Boyles (City of Mount Airy)
- Public Works Leadership Award – Phillip Lopina (City of Charlotte)

- iv.** The APWA-NC Facilities & Grounds Division held its annual pesticide training session in conjunction with the Old Dominion Brush Company (ODB) Equipment Show at the J. B. Hunt Horse Complex on the State Fair Grounds in Raleigh, NC on April 24, 2019. Matt Martin with the North Carolina State University of Crop Science gave two presentations covering pesticide safety. This training is provided to attendees free of charge and these individuals received two credit hours that count toward their pesticide license renewal. Fifty-two attendees took advantage of this opportunity.
- v.** The Solid Waste Division held its Fall Workshop on Wednesday, October 23rd at the Kernodle Center in Burlington, NC. The workshop was titled "Back to Basics – Knowing is Half the Battle." Topics covered included the importance of post trip inspections, effective communications, and understanding and using standard operation procedures.
- vi.** The Stormwater Management Division held its annual conference from October 20th – 22nd in Wilmington, NC at the Hotel Ballast. There were 375 stormwater and water resources professionals in attendance along with 30 speakers. The conference was initially planned for September 8th -10th, however due to Hurricane Dorian the conference had to be rescheduled. The Stormwater Management Division Board did a phenomenal job in rescheduling the event. Annette Lucas, Director of Stormwater Program at NCDEQ was presented the H. Rooney Malcom Stormwater Professional of the Year Award.
- vii.** The Technology Division – hosted a GISP workshop on August 12th at the Town of Kernersville Public Services Building.
- viii.** The Chapter's Education Committee continues to work to provide training opportunities for our membership outside of the annual conferences and workshops that are hosted by the technical divisions. The following events have been held since July.

- Emergency Vehicle Technician Training:
 - January 22 - 25, Module F5 – Charlotte (9 attendees)
 - April 1 - 5, Modules F1 & F3 – Raleigh (22 & 15 attendees for F1 & F3, respectively)
 - August 19 - 23, Module F7 & L1 – Charlotte (9 & 14 attendees for F7 & L1, respectively)
 - October 21 - 24, Modules F2 & F6 – Raleigh (18 & 19 attendees for F2 & F6, respectively)
- Landfill Training:
 - NC Certified Landfill Manager Training – April 30 - May 3 – Charlotte (7 attendees)
 - NC Certified Landfill Operator Training – September 11 – High Point (7 attendees)
- Construction Inspection Training:
 - Construction Inspection: A Review – March 13 - 15 – Raleigh (36 attendees)
 - Advanced Construction Inspection – May 16 - 17 – Raleigh
 - Construction Inspection: A Review – October 14 - 16 – Charlotte (36 attendees)
- Pipeline Training Seminar (jointly with CCPPA)
 - June 6 – Charlotte (~ 30 attendees)
 - November 5 – Wilmington (~ 30 attendees)



APWA Annual Stormwater Conference – August 7-9, 2019

d. Promotion of Sustainability in Public Works Management

- i. The September newsletter featured an article on dam safety and emergency response titled ***‘Have a Game Plan: Strong Preparation for Dam Emergencies Will Improve Your Response’*** the article highlighted the

actions necessary to create an emergency action plan that all dam owners/managers need to have on hand in order to be more prepared in the midst of an emergency such as hurricane, spillway collapse, or vandalism.

What Can an Emergency Action Plan Do For You?

- Anticipate/outline emergency conditions your dam(s) might face and provide directions for responding in each context
- Minimize risk to life and property by identifying vulnerable residences/properties near the dam and giving technical guidance for reducing downstream impacts
- Centralize contact information for essential emergency communications
- Assemble data, such as evacuation maps, you'll need at your fingertips
- Help define when a threat or emergency has passed and how to let the public know

Excerpt from September 2019 Newsletter – Dam Safety Article

- ii. The September 2019 newsletter features an article titled **'Flood Mitigation for Ebinport Road Community'** discussing how high flooding in a Rock Hill, SC community was mitigated through innovative solutions such as upstream flow attenuation to ensure that the culvert used at the area of interest was not overtopped during storms in excess of a 2-year event. This solution saved the City of Rock Hill nearly \$500,000 from the original budgeted construction amount. The implementation of the project was also simple enough that City crews were able to construct and implement the proposed improvements themselves. Construction on the project



*Flooding prior to flood mitigation project
 - September 2019 Newsletter*

was completed in May of 2018 and has provided effective flood control for the downstream residents through two hurricanes and a number of intense storm events since completion of the project. This project was also recently selected by the APWA South Carolina Chapter as Project of the Year for 2019.

- iii. The NC APWA held a sustainability workshop held by the NC APWA Sustainability Committee:



As a graduate student at NC State University, I got involved with APWA when the NC APWA Sustainability Committee Chair Liz Ward approached me with an idea of doing a sustainability workshop where students can present their research, and asked if I would be interested in presenting research on Environmental Advisory Boards (EABs). I gladly accepted this opportunity and decided both to research EABs for the workshop and put all of my findings into a report as a public resource. In particular, my research focuses on how EABs can adopt better policies to deal with climate change. First my report introduces what environmental advisory boards are and their importance to local communities for dealing with environmental issues. My report will also show how climate change will harm North Carolina and review the policies already put in place by existing environmental advisory boards in this state to reduce emissions and build climate resilience.

Later, an analysis is given on how EABs can better handle climate mitigation and adaptation by adopting more available climate information, implementing a climate action plan, and by following the Vulnerabilities Consequences and Adaptation Planning Scenarios process (VCAPS) to help EABs think of strategies to address climate issues. Furthermore, this VCAPS process is combined with a newly made policy toolbox that contains a database of different policy options for EABs to address climate change. The goal of this report is to serve as a guide for citizens in North Carolina counties looking to start an EAB in their community and as a guide for existing boards to operate more effectively and with more sound climate policies. APWA members can benefit from this report because it promotes policies that can jump start public projects that boost the economy, help build resilience to climate hazards, and reduce emissions. The results of my research as well as more information for existing and prospective EABs will be elaborated on for APWA members at APWA's first ever Sustainability Workshop on March 24, 2020.

Excerpt from September 2019 Newsletter – Sustainability Committee

e. Advocacy Outreach

- i. The North Carolina Chapter Divisions held a multitude of educational sessions throughout 2019. The sessions helped update members on current topics, including laws and regulations. By sharing information from the different communities throughout the state, the sessions provided unique and creative ideas on how to best meet the requirements of an ever-evolving system of public works. Below are the various sessions held by divisions.

- **Leadership and Management Conference on July 31st – August 2nd, Asheville, NC**
 - The Resilient Leader
 - The Last Only Woman in the Room
 - Risk Management for Public Projects
 - Circles of Collaboration
 - Engaging All Generations in Today’s Workforce
 - Resiliency: Facing the “Rising Tide” of Age
 - Advantage of Investing in Community Healthy/Activity
 - Leveraging Unmanned Aircrafts in Public Works
 - Legislative Update

- **Solid Waste Division Fall Workshop, October 23rd, Burlington, NC**
 - The Importance of Post Trip Inspections
 - Effective Communications
 - Understanding and Using Standard Operation Procedures

- **Stormwater Management Conference on October 20th – 22nd, Wilmington, NC**
 - NC Stormwater Program: Achievements & Aspirations
 - MS4 Program News
 - NC State Research Update
 - NCDEQ Watershed Restoration Project
 - City of Jacksonville’s Climate Change Action Plan
 - History Evolution & Successes of Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s Storm Water Services
 - Grassy Creek Restoration to Provide Hellbender Habitats
 - Design Build Stream Restoration in Kernersville
 - Exposed/Threatened Utilities: Using Natural Channel Solutions to Wash Away Risk
 - “Smart” Stormwater Management Structural Practices: The Futuristic Solutions
 - 2D Overland Flow Modeling in Urban Areas – Upsides & Downsides
 - Streamlined Strom Analysis & Visualization for Smarter Planning, Design, & Operations
 - Devils in the Outfield: A Sports Sand Filter
 - How Amazon Managed Stormwater Runoff

- Growing Smart Through Strategic Master Planning
- Planning for Intensifying Storms Along the Carolina Coast
- Managing Flooding in the Coastal Environment
- “Hurry” cane Modeling – Forecast Modeling to Optimize Limited Resources with Limited Time
- Interactive Tools for Stormwater Education v3.0
- The Good, the Bad, the Ugly of Post-Construction SCM Inspections
- Geoweb Installations to Stabilize Repetitive Loss Slopes on NCDOT Roadways
- Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Drivers for SCM Maintenance
- “The Road is Going to be Closed for How Long?” Reducing the Impact of Road Closures During Emergency Repairs
- Evaluation of Stream Culvert Crossings for Function & Aquatic Life Passage
- Failing Culvert Solutions
- The City of Greenville Planning Tool
- Where and How do Lakes Fit in with a Municipal Stormwater Management Program?
- What’s in a Name?
- Who Pooped in our Water? Lessons Learned Using Bacteroides Biomarker Methods
- Qualitative Evaluation of Stressors Impacting Freshwater Fish in Ellerbe Creek
- Using ASTM C330 Expanded Slate to Meet the NCDEQ Bioretention Media
- Developing IDF Curves for Extreme Precipitation in Future Climate Scenarios
- How Municipal Programs are Adapting in Response to Intensifying Rainfall Events Panel Discussion

- **Combined Equipment Services and Streets Annual Conference on September 25th – 27th, Wilmington, NC**
 - The Cherry on Top by Keynote Speaker Steve Gilliland
 - EV Infrastructure
 - Maintenance Quality Assurance Program
 - Corrosion Mitigation Lessons Learned
 - Repairing Utility Cuts
 - Three Key Ingredients of Leadership by Keynote Speaker Larry Weaver

- Small Engine
- City of New Bern Response to Debris Management from Hurricane Florence
- NCDOL: Hazard Communication
- Streets Panel Discussion
- Fleet Panel Discussion

- **Facilities & Grounds Conference on May 2nd – 3rd,
Wrightsville Beach, NC**
 - Pesticide Application
 - Preventing Roof Failures with Sound Design Strategies
 - Building Envelope Panel Discussion
 - Asbestos Abatement
 - Playground Safety Surfacing & Inspections
 - Unmanned Aircraft – Extending the Reach of Facilities Managers

- **Annual Chapter Conference on June 26th – 28th, Winston-Salem, NC**
 - Anyone Faced with the “Right Now” request?
 - Who Are You Becoming as a Leader?
 - They Serve: The True Essence of Authentic Leadership
 - Town of Cary’s Evolution in Pavement Management
 - NCLM and Duke Energy Outdoor Lighting Forum
 - Leadership Skills for the Public Works Professional
 - Enjoy the Ride
 - Creating and Growing Sustainable Communities
 - Seven Secrets of Great Presentations
 - What Did You Say? 7 Tips for Getting Heard and Understood
 - Crafting a Crisis Management Plan
 - Tree & Water Sensitive Urban Design
 - Successfully Implementing New Project Management Practices
 - Active Shooter/Armed Assailant
 - How to Get Through an OSHA Inspection

V. Service to the Community

a. Education Outreach Programs

- i. The YP Committee along with the Education and Training Committee hosted a leadership training class on October 11, 2019 entitled “Essential Skills for Success: Empowering Public Works Professionals.” It was held in Raleigh and each attendee earned 0.4 CEUs.
- ii. The **Facilities and Grounds Division** held their annual pesticides workshop on April 24, 2019 in conjunction with the Old Dominion Brush Company (ODB) at the J.B. Hunt Horse Complex on the State Fair Grounds in Raleigh, NC. This training was provided to 52 attendees free of charge and they received two credit hours that count toward their pesticide license renewal. The Facilities and Grounds Division hosted its annual conference May 1st – May 3rd at the Blockade Runner Beach Resort in Wrightsville Beach, NC. The conference kicked off with a golf tournament on the afternoon of May 1st at Beau Rivage Golf & Resort.
- iii. These classes were open to members and non-members alike.

b. Community Service Programs

- i. The APWA-NC Chapter takes great pride in providing support to local charitable organizations. At many conferences there is an opportunity for those in attendance to give back to the local community in which the conference is being held. At the State Chapter Conference held in June, the YP Committee organized the 2nd Annual Design Build and Putt Putt event. Each hole had to contain at a minimum 24 cans of food, 16 boxes of mac and cheese, 8 mini cereal boxes, and 3 jars of spaghetti sauce or peanut butter. At the conclusion of the event, all the food items were donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC.



2019 State Chapter Putt-Putt Food Drive

- ii. The Town of Wake Forest, including members from the APWA NC Chapter worked to build homes with Habitat for Humanity on November 7, 2019. Three houses were worked on within the town limits. Some of the things done included applying siding, building decks, & making door frames.



Habitat for Humanity Build

VI. Conclusion

As mentioned, 2019 was yet another record year of innovation and continual growth. The North Carolina Chapter placed a large focus on chapter membership, specifically continued involvement from existing members, as well as chapter recruitment. Our methods have clearly been paying off as we continue to grow, recording 1,337 chapter members at the end of 2019. We continued to utilize practices that have shown their worth, such as the 'Day of Engagement' leadership summit and new member luncheons. We also continued to make a mark in our communities by directing community service towards hurricane relief, as well as donating to various charities. Conferences and training sessions had wonderful attendance and provided the membership with many effective educational opportunities. As we move forward, we are excited to continuously make progress and provide our membership with even more opportunities than in past years. In the words of our 2019 president, Eddie Staley, "the APWA NC Chapter is strong, engaged, and living out its vision and mission." We are what our membership has made us, and the future looks bright as to what the North Carolina Chapter can accomplish in the coming years.