



April 30, 2009

Respectfully Submitted by:

Michael J. Bobinsky, House of Delegate, Maine Chapter

The Maine Chapter has been busy with various events over the past year, including hosting our annual, Fall and Spring meetings; conducting supervisory training programs, monitoring state and federal legislation that affects public works and our communities; and promoting membership.

The following is a summary of our events during this reporting period:

Highway Congress. The annual Highway Congress was held on June 4, 2008 at the Skowhegan Fair Grounds, over 1000 attended the event and over 100 vendors participated, which featured, equipment displays, demonstrations, safety sessions, and the annual Snow Plow Rodeo. Given course conditions from a previous night's rainfall, the Rodeo needed to be held two weeks later in Augusta. The top finisher was the team of Rob Hames and James Nightingale of the Town of Kittery, Maine. Rob and James were invited to represent Maine Chapter at the national snow plow rodeo in Colorado at the Colorado Chapter annual snow conference.

Golf Tournament: The annual Golf Tournament was held on September 5, 2008, at the Natanis Golf Club in Vassalboro. 66 Golfers played, 13 holes were sponsored by area vendors and over \$2,000 in prizes were handed out during the event. The Golf Tournament serves a fund raiser for the Chapter and supports a scholarship fund for any college student interested in a field that supports public works.

Fall meeting: Our Chapters Fall Meeting was held on October 9, 2008 at the annual Maine Municipal Association Conference in Augusta. Annual election of officers was held with the following members being elected: Steve Bradstreet, Chapter President; Michael Clause, Vice President; Bob Burns, Treasurer; David Cote, Secretary and Mike Bobinsky, House of Delegate.

Attendees heard a presentation from representatives of the Maine Military Authority on how they restore and rebuild older heavy equipment used by Public Works agencies in Maine; also Efficiency Maine gave a presentation on current programs and supplies offered for reducing energy costs in municipal facilities.

Spring meeting: The annual spring meeting was held at the Waterville Elks, on April 2, 2009, and over 180 members participated; speakers from MDOT discussed current funding for State Transportation Programs and Highway projects, and speakers from equipment dealers gave an

overview about equipment alternatives used for emission reductions, Pete Coughlin of MDOT recognized 10 Roads Scholars, and Mike Bolduc, Town of Saco Public Works Director, was selected as a the top Public Works Leader for Year.

Supervisory Training Session: The Chapter is sponsoring the annual public works supervisory training workshop in mid May, 2009. Session will be held at the Augusta Civic Center, and provides training on a wide range of managerial, communications, problems solving, working with the media, and dealing with difficult employee's topics.

Our Chapter also tracked Federal Stimulus Funding and sent letters to Maine's Governor requesting that additional money be allocated to maintaining and upgrading our community's transportation and public infrastructure systems.

Preparations for the **annual Highway Congress in Skowhegan Maine to be held on June 4, 2009**, at the Skowhegan County Fair Grounds has been on going with the recruitment of vendors and the preparation of our equipment that will be used for displays or will be involved with the Plow Rodeo. Equipment Displays, presentations, equipment demos, and the annual state plow rodeo will be held. Local and County wide Snow Plow Rodeos are being conducted to determine the top finishers to be invited to compete at the State Plow Rodeo.