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To: Brian Van Norman, APWA Director of Chapter Relations  
From: Eric J. Labelle, P.E., Maine Chapter House of Delegate  
Date: September 16, 2011  
Subject: **Annual Activities Report**

The Maine Chapter has been involved in various programs and events last spring and is planning for the fall workshops, conducting supervisory training programs, monitoring state and federal legislation that affects public works and our communities; The Chapter membership has generally remained steady over the past year with membership remaining in the 190's.

### **Fall Meeting**

MCAPWA Fall Meeting was held on October 13, 2010 in concert with the Maine Municipal Association Convention. Officers were elected for new terms starting January 1, 2011. The following informational sessions were also held:

- "Transportation Funding and Responsibilities: A State Perspective" presented by Bruce Van Note, MDOT Deputy Commissioner
- "Road Systems Management Systems 2010" presented by Peter Coughlan and Jerry Douglass, MDOT's Local Roads Program
- "LD 1725 Status" presented by Mike Mullen, Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Proposed legislation impacting requirements in the installation of culverts.
- "Snow Melting Technology" presented by Stewart Sevey, H.P. Fairfield Inc.
- "Dust and Erosion Control by Sweeping" presented by Tom Graham, Tenco

### **Board Member Legislative Involvement**

The Chapter President and other members have been involved in legislation action underway. They have testified and commented on **LD 1387, An Act To Restore Exemptions in the Natural Resources Protection Act**. The legislation has significant implications in the cost associated with the replacement of culverts.

Board Members have also been involved on the Policy and Sounding Board Committees for the **MDOT Simplification Study**. The study proposes ways to reduce the burden of supporting the state's road network by simplifying road classifications, funding the restoration of some of the roads, and transferring maintenance responsibility of the restored roads back to local municipalities.

### **Board Member APWA National Involvement**

*Public Works in the Public Interest*  
Home Page: [www.mcapwa.org](http://www.mcapwa.org)

### **Executive Committee**

#### **Officers:**

##### **President**

Mike Claus  
Public Services Director  
Kennebunk, ME  
468-3020

##### **Vice-President**

Bob Burns  
Public Works Director  
Gorham, ME

##### **Treasurer**

David Cote  
Public Works Director  
Brewer, ME

##### **Secretary**

Rob Pontau  
Assistant General Manager  
Brunswick Sewer District

##### **Past-President**

Stephen J. Bradstreet  
Oak Engineers  
Portland, ME

##### **Delegate**

Eric Labelle  
Assistant Director  
Portland Public Services

##### **Directors:**

Galen "Chip" Swan  
Public Works Director  
Hampden, ME

Peter Owen  
Public Works Director  
Bath, ME

Dennis Cox  
Public Works Director  
Millinocket, ME

Robert Seelye  
Public Works Director  
Calais, ME

Steve Johnson  
Oak Engineers  
Portland, ME

Steve Walker  
Greenman-Pedersen

Mike Bobinsky  
Director of Public Services  
Portland, ME

Stewart Sevey  
H.P. Fairfield, Inc.  
Skowhegan, ME

Megan Bates  
Deputy Public Works  
Director  
Lewiston, ME

Shawn Bennett  
Road Commissioner  
Pownal, ME

Craig Worth  
Transportation Director  
Brunswick Schools

*Honorary Director*  
Guy W. Melcher, Jr

##### **Other Associations**

Maine Local Roads Center  
Peter M. Coughlan

Board and Chapter Members have also been involve with Committees and Task Forces as well as serving as liaisons.

- Michael Bobinsky, APWA Audit Committee, Chair
- Eric Labelle, APWA Water Resources Management Committee
- Mike Claus, Peter Owen, Eric Labelle, APWA International Collaborative Committee with NEAPWA
- Ralph Norwood, P.E., APWA Transportation Committee Liaison
- Troy Moon, APWA Sustainability Committee Liaison

**New Officers began their terms on January 1, 2011. The officers are as follows:**

President: Mike Clause, Public Works Director for the Town of Kennebunk

Vice-President: Bob Burns, Public Works Director for the Town of Gorham

Treasurer: David Cote, Public Works Director, City of Brewer

Secretary: Rob Pontau, Assistant General Manager, Brunswick Sewer District

Delegate: Eric Labelle, Assistant Director, Portland Public Services was appointed

Delegate for the Maine Chapter. Former Delegate Michael Bobinsky, Portland Public Services Director will remain engaged as the Alternate Delegate.

**Spring Meeting**

The MCAPWA Spring Meeting was held on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Attendance for the meeting was 173, down slightly from the previous year. Informational sessions were held and the recently appointed MDOT Commissioner, Dave Bernhardt spoke at the meeting about his vision for MDOT.

**Supervisory Training**

The 2-3 day training sessions were held in late April and early May. Seventeen people participated in the program.

**Region 1 Director Nominations**

The House of Delegates met in Quebec City from May 13 through May 15<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is being held on May 13. Rick Stinson of the New England Chapter was nominated to the seat of Region 1 being vacated by Jean Guy Courtemanche of the Quebec Chapter.

**National Public Works Week**

National Public Works Week(NPWW) took place May 15 through May 21, 2011. Erik Street, Yarmouth Public Works Director and a MCAPWA Past President, gathered a committee to work on establishing regional displays at local malls. The effort was limited due to insurance requirements, however, southern Maine did hold one regional display in Kittery. Efforts were also helpful in establishing press releases and open houses throughout southern Maine.

**20<sup>th</sup> Annual Highway Congress**

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Highway Congress to be held on June 2, 2011 in Skowhegan. A free event provided to Public Works employees featuring 105 vendors, training, and demonstrations. Presentations were made for the Statewide Roadeo winners, Excellence Awards, and the Public Works Leader of the Year. Attendance for the event estimated to be just under 1000.

### **APWA International Committee Toronto Visit**

Peter Owen, Mike Claus and Eric Labelle attended and APWA regional trip to Toronto. They discussed stormwater management, snow control and energy sustainability. There were seven attendees from the Northeast, making the experience very personal. The trip included presentations from Ontario Ministry of the Environment, the Ontario Road Salt Management Group, and Toronto's Water Management Division, and the Toronto and Region Conservations Authority. Facility tours of watershed controls, combined sewer overflow and the Conservation Authority. We thank our gracious hosts, the Ontario Public Works Association, for their warm hospitality and for structuring such an informative visit.

The members of the visiting members have committed to develop articles and presentations from what they have learned. Eric Labelle, of Maine Chapter and Rob Robinson of the New England Chapter have submitted an article relating to Wet Weather Management for the Reporter's September 24<sup>th</sup> deadline.

### **APWA Public Works Leadership Fellow Program**

Michael Bobinsky, Chair of the APWA Audit Committee, Maine Chapter Director and Former Maine Chapter Delegate, has been nominated to the Leadership Fellow Program.

### **Dempsey Challenge – Team Nancy**

Mike Claus and Mike Bobinsky are leading a cycling and running team to raise funds fight cancer in remembrance of Nancy Tyler. Nancy has been an instrumental partner to MCAPWA for years as a member of the Maine DOT's Maine Local Roads Center. Her presence is deeply missed.

### **Upcoming**

The chapter is in the process of planning for several events. Steve Bradstreet is coordinating the upcoming golf tournament, Dave Cote is arranging the annual Director's Dinner, and Rob Pontau is organizing the MCAPWA Fall Meeting.