

PUB NEWS

APWA KC Metro Chapter Newsletter



Agency Accreditation: City of Lawrence

See page 4 for more details

Myron D. Calkins Scholarship Application Open

See page 5 for more details

Annual Partnership Program

See page 5 for more details

Chapter Award Winners

See page 6 for more details

Sustainability News

See page 7 for more details

The Morrill Act & the Creation of Land Grant Schools

See page 8 for more details

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Perspective.....	2
Delegate Details	3
Upcoming Events	10
Chapter Leadership	14
New Members	15



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President's Perspective

By Ben Will

March is an exciting time with the changing season and college basketball March Madness (one of my favorite times of year)! The Kansas City Metro has lots of exciting things going on with the recent opening of the new terminal at KCI Airport on February 28th and hosting the upcoming NFL Draft April 27-29 at Union Station. I'm not even going to reference the weather (knock on wood) as this has been a pretty mild winter, but I would like to thank all of the public works crews who keep our infrastructure safe for all of us!



I have several items I want to update you on:

- **New Executive Committee Member** – it's with mixed emotions that I need to pass along that Director at Large Bill Billings is stepping down from the KC Metro Chapter Board due to his retirement from the City of Leawood on March 13. Bill's leadership and service to APWA and our chapter is appreciated. Even in retirement, Bill has agreed to honor his commitment as co-chair of the 2024 APWA North American Snow Conference to be held in Kansas City, MO April 28-May 1, 2024. Paul Dunn (City of Leawood) was unanimously approved by the board at our February meeting to fill Bill's Director at Large position and role as the Mo-Kan Committee Chair. Welcome Paul!
- **Register for MidAmX 2023** - we're excited to host MidAmX at the Overland Park Convention Center May 22-24, 2023. This tri-annual event brings together the Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri as well as our KC Metro Chapters and will have a great mix of educational sessions and social events. We like to think of it as a mini PWX! There is an array of options to get involved from registering to host an exhibit booth, attend social events including a golf tourney or escape room, signing up to volunteer, and/or attending educational sessions to attain professional development hours (PDHs). We will also be hosting our chapter NPWW event on Tuesday evening, May 23 at the College Basketball Experience (CBE) in conjunction with MidAmX. You must buy a ticket to MidAmX to get a ticket to this event.
- **Monthly Luncheons**
 - Thanks to ADS (Dirk Hudson) for hosting our in-person February Luncheon on 2/21 and for providing a great presentation on Flash Flooding in the KC Metro.
 - APWA/ASCE Joint Meeting – Register for the March 29 joint luncheon to be held in person at the Thompson Barn in Lenexa to learn about the 69 Express Procurement Process.
- **National Weather Service: Storm Spotter Training** – we hosted this half day training at Ironhorse Golf Course in Leawood on March 15.
- **Community Service Ronald Donald House Dinner Event** – volunteer to provide and serve dinner at this event on March 30.
- **APWA 5600 and MARC/APWA BMP Manual Update RFP** – The KC Metro Chapter is excited to support MARC in requesting proposals from consultants to update and integrate regional stormwater management standards and planning guidelines. Responses were due March 17 with an executed contract date with MARC targeted for May 2023.
- **Awards Recap** – congratulations to recently announced APWA KC Metro Chapter Level Award Winners – see page 6 for more details.

If you're looking to follow through on those New Year's resolutions to be more active and involved in the APWA KC Metro Chapter or just want to know more about the chapter, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at 913-312-4809 or bwill@hntb.com.

Delegate Details

By Becky Bonebrake

I can't believe March is here! I guess it is true that as you get older the time seems to go by faster.

This is an exciting time of year for our agencies and APWA! As we approach springtime we are preparing to switch gears from winter maintenance to construction. Take some time with your people to talk about challenges that transitions can bring and brainstorm solutions as a team. Team participation can ensure the best performance as you move into different tasks and can provide room for growth in your team.

As the Alternate Delegate it is my pleasure to keep you informed on the national opportunities available to our membership.

Here are some highlights!

APWA's Government Affairs Committee (GAC) is in Washington DC March 21-22 to meet with key Congressional Committees that have jurisdiction over public works and infrastructure. Follow the APWA Government Affairs team everyday on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Call for Nominations of National Committees

If you would like to give back to the profession, share your knowledge, or want to become more involved in the association, this is a great way to serve at the national level. Individuals can self-nominate or nominate a fellow member through March 28, 2023. [More information here.](#)

Snow Conference

This year's conference is coming up quickly! April 16 - 19 an estimated 1,500 - 1,700 public works professionals will be meeting in Omaha for the 2023 Snow Conference. [Registration](#) is open! I encourage everyone's attendance! We have some groups who plan to travel up for a day to attend the expo. This is a good opportunity to energize your crews!

In 2024 the KC Metro chapter will be hosting the Snow Conference! Committees are being built and will be looking for volunteers! Please reach out to Bill Billings or myself for more information!

Emerging Leaders Academy (ELA)

Emerging Leader applications will open April 3, 2023 and are due July 28, 2023. ELA is a year-long program restricted to those with less than ten years of public works experience or who were promoted to their first career supervisory position in the last three years. The program focuses on building leadership skills, management skills, and a network of peers. Many program graduates state that people in their cohort become career-long friends and trusted colleagues. [Find out more here.](#)

The KC Metro Chapter encourages participation and provides a stipend to reimburse employers for part of the expense to send participants to PWX. Both of your chapter Delegates, Bill Stogsdill and myself, are past graduates among SEVERAL other KC Metro Members! If you are interested or have questions please let Bill Stogsdill or myself know!

Certifications

Certified Public Fleet Professional is on track to launch in May 2023. Visit the [certification](#) page for more information.



Delegate Details — cont.

DISCOUNTS

DIY Public WorksShop Kits are 30% off through March 31 with code DIY30

Ethics for Public Works Professionals & Supervisors, 20% through March 31 with code ETHIC

Upcoming Education Opportunities

[Click here for calendar and registration](#)

Construction Inspection Workshop - March 21, 2023

NEW Solid Waste Summit - March 22, 2023

Facilities and Grounds Management Certificate - April 4, 2023

SCRC Communities Perspective on Public Policy Changes - April 12, 2023

Click Listen and Learn - Accessibility for Outdoor Grounds Facilities - April 27, 2023

Envision Sustainability Professional (ENV SP) Training - May 1, 2023

Click Listen and Learn - Climate Positive Design - May 25, 2023

Call for Volunteers: APWA Top Tech 2023 Work Groups

Do you have experience with one of APWA's 2023 Top 5 Trending Technologies in Public Works? Here's your opportunity to share your knowledge. Join a work group today to help inform and educate our members on these important advances in the industry.

- Asset Management Technologies <<
- Drones/UAS Technology <<
- Electric Vehicles <<
- Geographic Information Systems <<
- Technology for Field Crews <<

Please contact April Jones at ajones@apwa.net to join a Top Tech Work Group.

We are specifically looking for volunteers for the Drones/UAS Technology and Technology for Field Crews work groups.

Agency Accreditation

The American Public Works Association is thrilled to announce the initial accreditation of the City of Lawrence, Kansas Municipal Services and Operations Department. Please help us recognize their hard work and dedication to providing excellence in public services. For more information about the agency accreditation process, please visit: https://www.apwa.net/MyApwa/Apwa_Public/Education_and_Events/Agency_Accreditation.aspx



Call for Scholarship Applications

Myron D. Calkins Award applications are due
April 17, 2023

Applications for the Myron D. Calkins Scholarship are due Monday, April 17, 2023. The scholarship award is up to \$2,500 per student, per year. For more information and to apply, download and complete the scholarship application here <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/PageDetails/665>. If you have any questions, please contact Erik Troy at kcmetroapwascholarship@gmail.com.

Annual Partnership Program

This program was started in 2013 with two objectives:

- Promote the support of our local agencies and companies at chapter activities throughout the year
- Simplify and limit the collection of event partnership costs into one payment

The Annual Partnership Program provides a convenient and cost-effective way for your agency/company to show your support for all major KC Metro Chapter events on an annual basis. Annual partnerships, while providing excellent recognition and exposure for your agency/company, also provide support for the events that require additional financial support.

To promote flexibility and confusion, the annual partnership does NOT include any registration for the events. Registration will be handled directly with each event. Our Annual Partners will be promoted at events with programs/signage. In addition, your partnership will specifically help finance the following events:

- National Public Works Week Event
- Membership BBQ
- Chapter Golf Event
- Young Professional Event
- Holiday Party

We look forward to your continued support of the Kansas City Metro Chapter of APWA. To become an Annual Partner, please email our chapter Vice President, Nick Arena at narena@lenexa.com and remit payment in the amount of \$900 by March 17, 2023.

Checks should be sent to our treasurer:

Tawn Nugent
TREKK Design Group
1411 E 104th Street
Kansas City, MO 64131

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM](#)

Please reach out to Nick Arena with any questions regarding the Annual Partnership Program at narena@lenexa.com or 913.477.7810.

KC Metro Chapter 2023 Award Winners

Congratulations to this year’s Chapter Level Winners!

Myron Calkins

Young Leader of the Year

Allison Bruner, TREKK Design Group

Public Works Leader of the Year

Tim Ross, GBA

Field Supervisor Award

Bruce Niedholt, City of Liberty



Projects of the Year

- Small Cities Rural Communities Transportation
 - Little Mill Creek Tunnel
 - City of Lenexa, KS
 - Wilson & Company
 - Pyramid Contractors, Inc.
- Transportation under \$5 million
 - Kansas Avenue Streetscape Project
 - City of Olathe, KS
 - GBA
 - Miles Excavating, Inc.
- Transportation \$5 million to \$25 million
 - I-49 Outer Road Conversion
 - City of Grandview, MO
 - TREKK Design Group
 - Radmacher Brothers Excavating Co.
- Environmental Under \$5 million
 - Lindenwood Drive and Brougham Drive Embankment Improvements
 - City of Olathe, KS
 - Affinis Corp
 - Superior Bowen

March Sustainability News

The Sustainable Infrastructure Committee (SIC) wants to thank you for participating in our ISI Envision Certification survey. Your feedback received was of great contribution to us as the KC Metro Chapter continues a plan for hosting an ISI Envision Certification training this fall 2023. We need your help to finalize the details, so keep an eye out for a follow-up survey.



The SIC meets on the second Monday of the month at 1:00 PM, virtually and in person quarterly. If you would like to join the committee, please reach out to any of the SIC members, or if you would like to attend one of the meetings, please contact Carla Anderson carla.anderson@ks.gov, 24 hrs before the meeting to receive an invite.

Resilient Success Stories:

Tell your story, as public works professionals you are doing great things. Envision is a platform to measure and track your sustainability goals for projects and be recognized for the value you add to your communities.



Sustainability Spotlight: Leaders meet to honor examples of climate resiliency. Click the link to learn more, [MARC Resilient Success Stories](#).

The Morrill Act & the Creation of Land Grant Schools

Terry Uhl

Thanks to Terry Uhl for providing this article that he prepared as a volunteer at Ag Hall in Bonner Springs. If you're interested in learning more about the Ag Hall of Fame, visit: www.aghalloffame.com

At **Ag Hall**, the mission includes recognizing those that have demonstrated leadership in Agriculture. Exponential growth of American Agriculture occurred in the late 19th century, largely due to the **Morrill Act of 1862** presented by **Justin Smith Morrill** (United States Senator from Vermont) and signed by **President Abraham Lincoln**.



630 N 126th Street Bonner Springs Kansas 66012
(913) 721-1075 Aghalloffame.com

The National Agriculture Center and Hall of Fame (Ag Hall) exists to educate society on the historical & present value of American agriculture and to honor leadership in agribusiness & academia by providing education, information, experience & recognition.

**Kansas State University:
"We were the FIRST"**

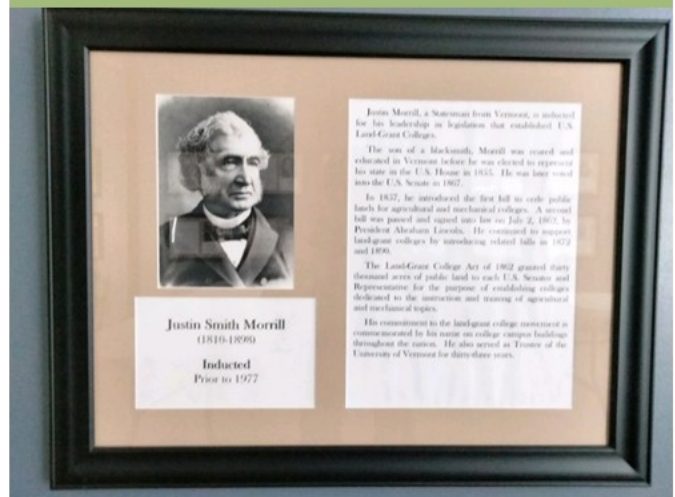


Kansas State University (K-State), the nation's first Land Grant university, was founded in 1863.

Note: Iowa State University and Michigan State University make similar claims about being the first Land Grant university.

By the Morrill Act, the Federal Government transferred land ownership (30,000 acres for each congressional seat held) to states for the creation of institutions of higher education focused on teaching practical sciences to the working and rural populations.

Justin Smith Morrill (4/14/1810-12/28/1898)
An American politician and entrepreneur who served in the US House of Representatives (1855–1867) and US Senate (1867–1898) from Vermont. He is most widely remembered today for the Morrill Land-Grant Acts that established federal funding for establishing many of the United States' public colleges and universities.



Plaque @ Ag Hall of Inductee Justin Smith Morrill

The Morrill Act & the Creation of Land Grant Schools — cont.



United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture

NIFA LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



These are land grant schools today, including those established for the benefit of Native American Tribes and those included among the historically black colleges and universities. Several (but not all) are identified with 'State' in their title.

Three Missions of the Land Grant Universities

- Academics:** Teaches students and traces directly back to the Morrill Act.
- Research:** Traces directly to the Hatch Act, with that research intellectually feeding both the Land Grant university's academic program & Extension.
- Extension:** Smith-Lever Act allows the public access to information.

Abbreviated Timeline

- 1862:** President Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act a year after the attack on Fort Sumter that began the American Civil War.
- 1890s:** Land Grant universities were established to educate black students in states where segregation was practiced. Lincoln University in Missouri is an example of an 1890 Land Grant.
- 1914:** Smith-Lever Act of 1914 then established the Cooperative Extension System to EXTEND the Land Grant information to the public through local, regional and campus-based extension agents and specialists.
- 1994:** Land Grant institutions were created that focused on educating indigenous peoples. Haskell University was added in 1994.

“By the 1820s, the proposition that universal education was essential to the vitality of a self-governing people had become a staple of American politics.” *The Origins of Federal Support for Higher Education*, Roger L Williams

Land Grant Schools and Economic Impact

The Land Grant schools created better farmers, and the demand for more & better farming equipment in the late 1800s. Manufacturers such as Cyrus McCormick, John Deere, IJ Case and many others met that demand. The template for modern manufacturing was born, along with vertical integration and supply chain. The Industrial Revolution had begun in America.

Please Support Ag Hall
www.aghalloffame.com

- Acknowledgements:*
- The Origins of Federal Support for Higher Education: George W. Atherton and the Land-Grant College Movement, by Roger Williams*
 - Richard Meyers, President, K-State University*
 - Gregg Hadley, PhD, Director of Extension, K-State University*
 - Jeffery Morris, PhD, VP Comm. & Mktg, K-State University*
 - United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)*
 - Wikipedia*

Upcoming Events

Upcoming ACI Certification Opportunities

For those interested in getting inspectors or staff ACI Field Testing Certified, the 2023 certification schedule and registration is available. See schedule here: [https://acikansas.org/Upcoming Certification Opportunities](https://acikansas.org/Upcoming_Certification_Opportunities)

Life of a Concrete Cylinder: Quality Concrete Testing

March 24, 2023 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

J.E. Dunn Construction Auditorium KCMO
1001 Locust Street
Kansas City, MO 64106

Earn 2 continuing education credits while learning about concrete jobsite testing. Topics covered include:

- Preconstruction meeting
- Truck/batch tickets
- Is the 90 minute rule, still a rule?
- What is the most important concrete test on a jobsite, if you could only conduct one?
- Testing
- Making Cylinders
- Maturity Testing Methods
- Concrete Testing Adherence Collaboration (CTACC)

[REGISTER](#)

WTS-KC MARCH EVENT

**Learn from
a Leader**

Tuesday, March 28
11:15 AM



GUEST SPEAKER - LORI LUTHER
City Manager - City of Overland Park, KS

[REGISTER](#)

Upcoming Events

APWA/ASCE Joint Meeting: US-69 Procurement Process

March 29, 2023 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Thompson Barn
11184 Lackman Road
Lenexa, KS 66219

Join us in this joint APWA/ASCE luncheon to learn more about the US-69 Express project procurement. This program will cover why this project utilized an alternate delivery methodology, how KDOT tailored the procurement to their needs and what the outcomes were.

[**REGISTER**](#)

APWA Community Service Committee Ronald McDonald House Dinner Event

March 30, 2023 3:30 - 5:30 PM

2502 Cherry Street
Kansas City, MO 64108

[**More Information**](#)

The Ronald McDonald House Dinner Event is coming up. Our group of volunteers will provide and serve dinner for 40 - 50 people. Please RSVP to Tommy Hunter (thunter@HNTB.com) if you are able to attend so you can secure your spot in the event (10 volunteers maximum).

Sustainable Structures Webinar Series Designed for Resilience and Sustainability

April 12, 2023 12:00 - 1:00 PM CST

Webinar

Resilient design of buildings in the twenty-first century is imperative given increased intensity and frequency of extreme adverse climatic events. Buildings must withstand environmental impacts to their exteriors while simultaneously protecting the occupants within and maintain operational functionality.

In this presentation we will discuss how to incorporate concrete construction systems as a sustainable building assembly option to meet the challenges of designing and building energy efficient and resilient structures that can withstand most, if not all natural disasters.

[**REGISTER**](#)

Upcoming Events

Leadership vs. Management—An Interactive Discussion

April 20, 2023

Lee's Summit City Hall

Howard A&B Conference Rooms

220 SE Green Street

Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Larry Frevert, a retired professional engineer refers to himself as a retired public works professional. He worked 46 years in the public works field with a combination of public and private employment as well as nearly a year as the Interim Executive Director of APWA. He is a past national and KC Metro Chapter president of APWA and has served on and chaired various committees at both the national and chapter level. A former APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year, he has traveled both domestically and internationally to Japan, Austria, Germany, Canada, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, New Zealand, China, Russia and Cuba to exchange public works technologies and strategies with representatives of those countries and cities within those countries.

[Register](#)

Public Works Institute Module IV Leadership Skills

May 9-11, 2023

Shawnee Town Hall

11600 Johnson Drive

Shawnee, KS 66203

[More Information Coming Soon](#)

Public Works Institute Module IV is the fourth of four modules which attendees may attend to graduate with a PWI certification. Public Works Institute is intended for public works supervisors, managers, and leaders and persons aspiring to those levels of responsibility. While the modules are designed to be presented in order I to IV, attendees are welcome to attend them in an order that works best for them. The Module IV draft agenda will be posted to the Chapter web site.

Continental breakfast and hot lunch are included in the registration cost, as well as snacks and refreshments throughout each day. The registration cost is \$250 which includes a printed workbook. Attendees are encouraged to register on-line using a credit card. However, payment by check will also be accepted if necessary.

Upcoming Events

APWA Mid-America Conference and Exhibit Show

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Education. Networking. More than 100 exhibitors. And the largest joint National Public Works Week Event in the country! Mid-Am Expo and Conference is jointly hosted by the KC Metro, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Iowa Chapters of the American Public Works Association (APWA). You won't want to miss it.



REGISTER NOW

**APWA MID-AMERICA
CONFERENCE AND
EXHIBIT SHOW**

May 22-24, 2023

[**REGISTER**](#)

Overland Park
Convention Center
Overland Park, Kansas



Chapter Leadership

APWA 2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit & Budget - Bryan Blizzard
 Awards - Nathan Hladky & Becky Bonebrake
 By-Laws - Alysen Abel
 Chapter Meetings - Thomas Renfro
 Communications and Publicity - Allison Bruner
 Community Service - Jaclyn Willis & Tommy Hunter
 Diversity and Inclusion - Sheila Shockey
 Education & Training - Zach Matteo & Blake Moris
 Emergency Management - Trey Whitaker & Alysen Abel
 Engineering & Technology - Michael Haake
 Facilities & Grounds - Dan Brown
 Fleet Services - Mark Stinson & Josh Wood
 Golf Tournament - Taylor Smith
 Governmental Affairs - Trey Whitaker & Kati Horner
 Historical - Ernie Longoria
 Holiday Party - Nicole Woods & Sabrina Parker
 K-12 Student Outreach - David Smalling
 Leadership & Management - Gary Strack
 Membership - Scott Cogan & Zac Coppersmith
 Membership BBQ & Steak Fry - Brian Ladd & Jack Renfro
 MidAmX - Dan Brown & Kyle Dieckmann
 MO-KAN Street Superintendents - Bill Billings
 Myron D. Calkins Scholarship - Erik Troy
 Myron Calkins Symposium - Alysen Abel
 National Public Works Week - Sabrina Parker and Nicole Woods
 Snow & Equipment Training Expo - Paul Dunn & Jody Malone
 Standards & Specifications - Michael Anderson & Mark Montgomery
 Student Chapter - Levi Cole & Lewis Muriithi
 Sustainable Infrastructure - Carla Anderson
 Transportation - Linda Rottinghaus
 Utility & Public Right-of-Way - Andy Roddy & Brent Berry
 Water Resources Management - Andrew Smith
 Webmaster - Allison Dobie
 Young Professionals - Leslie Donnelly

For contact information, visit: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net>

Appointments, Liaisons, Coordinators, and Task Forces

Asset Management Task Force - Brandon Grover
 Calendar/Events Coordinator - Ben Will
 Construction Materials - Christy Martin
 Public Works Institute - Larry Frevert
 Solid Waste Management - **Vacant**

KC APWA 2023 OFFICERS

President - Ben Will
 Vice President - Nick Arena
 Secretary - Patty Hilderbrand
 Treasurer - Tawn Nugent
 Past President - Alysen Abel
 Director (2nd Year) - Phil Herman
 Director (2nd Year) - John Cooper
 Director (1st Year) - Ernie Longoria
 Director (1st Year) - Trey Whitaker
 Director-At-Large - Paul Dunn
 Delegate - Bill Stogsdill
 Alternate Delegate - Becky Bonebrake



New Members

Scott Banister, Unified Government
Rusty Berry, Johnson County Wastewater
Michael Beukel, Johnson County Wastewater
Jeffrey Biles, Central Power Systems & Services
Bryan Blizzard, Olsson
Wayne Carter, City of Gardner
Alison Cioffi, Johnson County Wastewater
George Cloud, Johnson County Wastewater
Clayton Duffin, City of Olathe
Morgan Fotovich, Unified Government
Justin Gifford, Johnson County Wastewater
Stephen Goceljak, City of Bonner Springs
Alex Gonzalez, City of Mission
Russell Harding, City of Independence
Ryan Haupt, City of Belton
Ian Hayes, Unified Government
Bryan Henderson, Unified Government
Dean Hiegert, Bettis Asphalt

Gary Long, Johnson County Wastewater
John Manis, Johnson County Wastewater
Jason Martin, Johnson County Wastewater
Jared Masters, City of Bonner Springs
Jeremy McCracken, Johnson County Wastewater
Naomi Oitker, Anderson Engineering
Fabian Owens, City of Gardner
Scott Roberts, Unified Government
Kyle Rodenhouse, City of Lenexa
James Rose, Johnson County Wastewater
Ted Sellers, City of Gardner
Dewayne Smith, Unified Government
Jeffrey Stacey, Advanced Drainage Systems
Joe Starlin, City of Lee's Summit
Tanner Stark, Unified Government
Shawna Trarbach, Unified Government
Chris Truett, City of Mission

The APWA Pub News, a free publication of the Kansas City Metro Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA), is published in six issues throughout the year. To receive a free subscription, send an e-mail to abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com.

Publisher: Kansas City Metro Chapter of APWA
 Editor: Kansas City Metro Chapter of APWA
 Staff: Allison Bruner

The Pub News staff welcomes announcements, news articles, photos and suggestions. A new issue will be published in May. The deadline for the next issue will be Friday, May 5, 2023. Deadlines will be strictly enforced. Electronic formats are preferred, but not required. Send your stories to Allison Bruner via email at abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com.



POLICY FOR THE USE OF THE APWA PUB NEWS, WEBSITE AND ELECTRONIC MAILING LIST

It shall be the policy of the KC Metro Chapter that the use of the "APWA Pub News, Website and Electronic Mailing List" by outside agencies shall abide by the following:

- Outside agencies, educational institutions, and not-for-profit organizations may utilize the Chapter's website for dissemination of approved items that are considered beneficial to our membership.
- Approval of these items may be granted by the Chapter President, the Newsletter Editor and the Website Committee. When requested, announcements from other organizations may be posted on the Chapter's website under "News" if the Newsletter/Communications Committee is provided electronic announcements in a format that can be posted without modification or editing.
- The Newsletter/Communications Committee may use the chapter's electronic mailing list for announcements to KC Metro Chapter members when the topic is related to an APWA activity or event. However, an announcement will not be sent before the Chapter event has been posted on the KC Metro Chapter website.

This policy was approved by the Executive Committee on November 19, 2008.