

# PUB NEWS

## APWA KC Metro Chapter Newsletter



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## President's Perspective

By Ben Will

October ushered in the first taste of Fall – changing leaves, dropping temperatures, playoff baseball, and mid-season football. The APWA KC Metro Chapter is poised to finish the year strong and get into the flow with the new national and chapter websites. As always, thank you to all of the public works staff (public and private) who continue planning, designing, building, maintaining, and keeping our infrastructure safe as we gear up for winter.



I'd like to highlight a few items related to the chapter:

- **APWA Chapter Website** – our chapter website <https://kcmetro.apwa.org/> is up and running. We still do not have all of the elements of the old website but most items members have inquired about are up and running (standards/specs and events). Specifically, if you are organizing a chapter event, we are back to running those through our chapter website but they all need to be coordinated through APWA Chapter Services ([chapterservices@apwa.org](mailto:chapterservices@apwa.org)), and you should provide typical event information: [https://apwack-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/jwillbeck\\_apwa\\_org/Ebiu1fytvSVEik7yeCv4JP0B5Mu5Okqq498413PEgxRgCQ?rttime=2rERmX7g20g](https://apwack-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/jwillbeck_apwa_org/Ebiu1fytvSVEik7yeCv4JP0B5Mu5Okqq498413PEgxRgCQ?rttime=2rERmX7g20g) Please reach out to Allison Bruner, Tommy Renfro or myself with any additional questions.
- **YP Disc Golf** - The YP committee hosted a disc golf event on September 28<sup>th</sup> in Lee's Summit. Thanks to Leslie Donnelly, Joey Carley and the YP committee for organizing that event.
- **Golf Tournament** – the chapter golf tournament was held at Drumm Farm on October 12. The clear highlight of the day was our chapter treasurer Tawn Nugent recording a hole-in-one. See more highlights of the golf tournament in the newsletter.
- **Public Works Institute (PWI)** – another (the 21<sup>st</sup>!) very successful PWI was held October 17-19<sup>th</sup> in Lee's Summit. Thanks to Dena Mezger and Tim Ross for leading, thanks to all the speakers who volunteered their time, and congratulations to graduates. See more highlights of PWI in the newsletter.
- **2024 Committee Workshop and Happy Hour** – The 2024 Committee Workshop and Happy Hour was held on October 23 at Lenexa Fire Station #3 with over 30 chapter members in attendance. Chapter Vice President Nick Arena led the group through discussion of 2023 year end reports and planning 2024 goals for all of our great committees. Reach out to Nick [narena@lenexa.com](mailto:narena@lenexa.com) or myself if you're looking to get more involved in the chapter in 2024!
- **Transportation Orange Barrel Report** – the return of this event on October 25<sup>th</sup> brought leaders from both Missouri and Kansas together to discuss some great upcoming projects and opportunities. Thanks to Linda Rottinghaus for organizing and Nick Bosonetto and Jason Waldron (KCMO) and Mike Rinehart (KDOT) for taking time to attend the event.
- **2024 North American Snow Conference Support and Involvement** – The KC Metro chapter is proud to host the 2024 North American Snow Conference in Kansas City April 28-May 1, 2024. Continue to look for

## President's Perspective

By Ben Will

ways to get involved with the snow conference to ensure our chapter puts on a great event in 2024.

- **Upcoming Events – see the chapter website at <https://kcmetro.apwa.org/event/>**
  - Highlights include:
    - FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Luncheon – November 9th
    - ISI Envision Prep Course – November 15-16th
    - Leadership Breakfast – November 30th
    - Holiday Party – December 6th

Overall, if you want to become 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](mailto:bwill@hntb.com).

## Delegate Details

By Becky Bonebrake

November is kind of a big deal for public works. It is the time we officially switch gears from our normal maintenance activities into the snow season. The amount of work that our staff put into preparing for the snow season is amazing to me. Most of the public does not understand the time and effort that preparation takes. It is jobs like this that go unseen by the public but we see you and appreciate the safety you provide for our communities through vehicle inspections, training, planning, technology and so much more! Thank you for what you do!



APWA's Operations and Maintenance Subcommittee is hosting an online event [November 15 on CDL Training Implementation Idea Exchange](#), check out the link for more information.

November also brings **Crash Responder Safety Week** (November 13-17). We are first responders! If you manage staff who have a responsibility to respond to crashes, please thank them and make sure they have the resources they need when responding to particularly traumatizing crashes. Police and Fire complete debriefs and are more than willing to include Public Works in those when involved. I encourage you to build relationships with the other first responders in your communities and share what resources are available or needed. Physical, mental and emotional safety are all important!



## Delegate Details - cont.

By Bill Stogsdill

November is also **Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month**. More and more agencies are experiencing struggles to keep their systems secure. What an example of the need for resilience! APWA is teaming up with Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to share ideas through social media throughout the month.

It is about time for the **2024 Awards**! National has made some significant changes to the program, which are outlined below. Please reach out to our awards committee at [awardsapwa@gmail.com](mailto:awardsapwa@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

- Sunset the Distinguished Service to Public Works Award
- Change the name of the Commendation for Exemplary Service to Public Works to Distinguished Service to Public Works Award
- Sunset the Community Involvement Award
- Sunset the Exceptional Performance Award
- Sunset the International Service Award
- Sunset the Donald C. Stone Award for Excellence in Education for Chapters
- Keep the Donald C. Stone Award for Excellence in Education for Individuals but remove the name Donald C. Stone and change the name to Excellence in Education Award.
- Remove the name Harry S. Swearingen from Harry S. Swearingen Award for Outstanding Chapter Achievement and Excellence in Chapter Service. The name will now be Outstanding Chapter Achievement and Excellence in Chapter Service Award
- Reduce the population eligibility of the Small Cities/Rural Communities Projects of the Year from 75,000 to 50,000 or less.

Lastly, if you are interested in an international study and professional exchange opportunity, applications for the **2024 Jennings Randolph International Fellowship** are open until November 15! Fellowships are granted for travel to an APWA international partner conference and are limited to a maximum of \$3,000 (USD) to assist with travel costs and other expenses. For more information: <https://www.apwa.org/connections-networking/groups-committees/jennings-randolph-international-fellowship/>

# Nominating Committee Report



## Kansas City Metro Chapter



### KC Metro Chapter Nominating Committee Report

Kansas City Metro Chapter Members,

The 2023 KC Metro Chapter Nominating Committee, consisting of Past Presidents Shawn Graff, Kyle Dieckmann, and Alysén Abel in accordance with the Chapter By-Laws has nominated the following individuals to serve as officers and directors on the Chapter Executive Committee for the 2024 administrative year:

President	Nick Arena	City of Lenexa
Vice President	Tawn Nugent	TREKK Design Group
Secretary	Patty Hilderbrand	City of Harrisonville, MO
Treasurer	John Cooper	GBA
Director (2 <sup>nd</sup> Year)	Ernie Longoria	City of Shawnee
Director (2 <sup>nd</sup> Year)	Trey Whitaker	City of Edgerton
Director (1 <sup>st</sup> Year)	Stephanie Boyce	City of Raytown
Director (1 <sup>st</sup> Year)	Jack Renfro	HNTB

Other ex officio and appointed members of the Executive Committee include:

Past President	Ben Will	HNTB
Director at Large	Paul Dunn	City of Leawood
Delegate	Bill Stogsdill	City of Fairway
Alternate Delegate	Becky Bonebrake	City of Overland Park

The 2023 Executive Committee has directed the election of these officers and directors to take place at the Annual Holiday Party on December 6, 2023.

This announcement serves as the official notice to chapter membership of the nomination of this slate of officers and directors for the 2024 Executive Committee and of the intent to hold elections. A copy of the ByLaws Article XIII — Election of Officers, is included for reference. This article outlines the election process, including the process by which chapter members may nominate other candidates for the 2024 Executive Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Alysén Abel, Past President Chair,  
Nominating Committee

## Awards Committee Announcement

Now that PWX is over and we've all recovered, it's time to get ready for the 2024 APWA Awards. Below are a few key dates for submission deadlines.

### **Snow & Ice Awards**

Snow/Ice Awards are due to the Chapter for submission to National by November 17, 2023. Information regarding this award can be found here: <https://www.apwa.org/award/excellence-in-snow-and-ice-control-award/> Email submittals to [awardsapwa@gmail.com](mailto:awardsapwa@gmail.com)

### **Non-Snow & Ice Awards**

Non Snow/Ice Award applications are due **January 26, 2024**. Please email submissions to [awardsapwa@gmail.com](mailto:awardsapwa@gmail.com)

See below for information regarding the various Chapter Level Only and Chapter/National Level awards below. The awards committee will review all nominations and select chapter level winners. Chapter level winners of the national awards will be submitted to nationals by the chapter before the national deadline. Please request nomination forms from the awards committee by emailing [awardsapwa@gmail.com](mailto:awardsapwa@gmail.com).

#### **Chapter Level Only Awards:**

- Field Supervisor Excellence Award
- Operations Program Excellence Award
- Public Works Excellence Award
- Excellence in Public Works Publication Award
- Samuel A. Greeley Local Service Award

#### **Chapter Level and National Awards:**

- Public Works Project of the Year
- Public Works Project of the Year for Small Cities/ Rural Communities (changed population eligibility to 50,000 or less)
- Professional Manager of the year award (9 categories)
- Asset Management Award
- Distinguished Service to Public Works Award
- Management Innovation Award
- Technical Innovation Award
- Excellence in Education Award

## Past Events

### 42nd Annual APWA KC Metro Golf Tournament October 12, 2023

Thank you to all of our chapter partners, sponsors and participants in the 42nd Annual APWA KC Metro Golf Tournament! We held this year's event at Drumm Farm Golf Club in Independence, MO on October 12th with a 9:00AM shotgun start. The tournament included 14 teams and a total of 59 attendees. We look forward to another successful tournament next year!

The team awards were as follows:

- 1st Flight
  - 1st Place – Olsson, with a score of 59 (-13)
  - 2nd Place – Hometown, with a score of 60 (-12)
- 2nd Flight
  - 1st Place – HDR, with a score of 65 (-7)
  - 2nd Place – OWN, with a score of 67 (-5)



Olsson were the first place winners for the team competition.

The tournament included 6 hole prizes and a putting contest. Those winners were:

- Women's Longest Drive (Hole #9) – Natalee Page, OWN
- Men's Longest Drive (Hole #10) – Tommy Hunter, HNTB
- Women's Closest to the Pin (Hole #3) – Tawn Nugent, TREKK
- Men's Closest to the Pin (Hole #6) – Jason Eskina, Affinis
- Women's Longest Putt (Hole #11) – Melanee Jollett, Walter P Moore
- Men's Longest Putt (Hole #18) – Dan Miller, Lamp Rynearson

Thanks again to our chapter partners and all who donated raffle prizes!

- APWA Partners – Advanced Drainage Systems, Affinis, Benesch, BHC Rhodes, Burns & McDonnell, City of Prairie Village, Garver, GBA, HDR, Hg Consult, HNTB, Lamp Rynearson, Olsson, OWN, TREKK, Uhl Engineering, Unified Government, VSM Engineering, Walter P. Moore, WSP
- Raffle Donations – Affinis, Allendbrand-Drews, Amino Bros, Benesch, BHC Rhodes, HDR, HNTB, JEO, Kimley Horn, The Land Co, Landworks, Miles Excavating, Olsson, Pyramid Contractors, Schlagel, Tetra Tech, TranSystems, TREKK, VF Anderson, Walter P. Moore



Tawn Nugent at TREKK had a hole in one at the tournament—congratulations Tawn!

And a big thanks to the committee members: Katie Bushong, Tiffany Cartwright, Zac Coppersmith, Tommy Hunter, Tawn Nugent, Laura Sanford, Autumn Schleicher, Taylor Smith, Heidi Thummel, and Therese Vink!

## Past Events

### Public Works Institute Leadership Basic Supervision Skills October 17-19, 2023



Fall 2023 Public Works Institute attendees along with Chapter President PWI Co-Director Tim Ross.  
Photo by Co-Director Dena Mezger.

The Kansas City Metro Chapter held its 21st Public Works Institute (PWI) session entitled Public Works Leadership Basic Supervision Skills at the Lee's Summit Police Training Facility on October 17-19, 2023. Thanks to Dan Wood and other Lee's Summit staff for making this facility available at no charge to the chapter. Their generosity allowed us to keep the registration fee at \$250 again for this session.

The class was welcomed to the PWI training on the first morning by Chapter President Ben Will and Lee's Summit City Manager Mark Dunning. Seventy-one individuals attended the three-day training with presentations by twenty-four of our region's public works directors and senior public works professionals. This brought the historical total attendance to 1246 for at least one three-day session since the chapter began the program in 2011.

Through 2023, the chapter will have graduated 255 professionals from our PWI, which requires attending all four of the three-day training modules. Graduates will be recognized in December of 2023.



## Past Events — PWI Continued



Shawn Graff presents Conflict Resolution Skills. Mayra Toothman of the City of Smithville volunteered to photograph all three days.

This fall's attendees came from 24 municipalities and counties (9 Missouri and 15 Kansas). We had 11 out-of-Metro attendees from Jefferson City, MO, Warrensburg, MO, Cowley County, KS, and Hutchison, KS. 31 people attended their first PWI.

PWI Module II – Public Works Basic Supervision Skills is planned for April 2023. Watch for advance details on the event on the chapter's website as early as February with registration beginning in late March or early April.



Dena Mezger leads an exercise on Communication Skills.

## Past Events — PWI Continued



Jeff Fisher facilitates discussion on Change Management.



Caitlin Gard, Doug Wesselschmidt and Kenve Taylor contemplate feedback on Generational Differences.

## Past Events

### Orange Barrel Report October 25, 2023

This year, the Orange Barrel Report was held on October 25th at Lew's Grill and Bar located in the Waldo area. Local agencies talked about the upcoming construction work that will impact the metro area. The meeting was a great opportunity to network, meet others in public works, and hear about upcoming project opportunities. The following agency representatives gave a brief overview of their upcoming construction activities for 2024:



- Jason Waldron, Deputy Director of Public Works, Kansas City, Missouri
- Nick Bosonetto, City Engineer, Kansas City, Missouri
- Mike Rinehardt, Metro Engineer, KDOT
- MoDOT provided a list of projects.

After the presentations, APWA members enjoyed appetizers, drinks, and good conversations about upcoming projects and what has been happening in their communities.

The Transportation Committee would like to thank everyone for attending! We would also like to give a big thank you to the representatives for coming to give updates.



## Upcoming Events

### FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance

**November 9, 2023 11:30 AM — 2:00 PM**

Virtual or In-Person Option

11224 Holmes Rd.

Kansas City, Missouri

United States

[REGISTER](#)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is working with public works officials in the Kansas City metro as communities face an increasing threat from natural disasters and hazards. The potential disasters and hazards that each community faces can vary, which is why FEMA works with local officials to reduce risk through hazard mitigation. Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) provides both pre- and post-disaster grant funding to states, tribes, and local governments to reduce the potential damage from future disasters.

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant, and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant fall under HMA. HMGP helps communities implement projects after a major disaster to reduce future disaster losses. Examples of HMGP projects include the acquisition and removal of structures from floodplains and drainage improvement projects. BRIC offers mitigation grant opportunities to communities without a recent federally declared disaster. BRIC funds may be used for capability and capacity-building activities, mitigation projects, and management costs.

### ISI Envision Training

**November 15-16, 2023 8:00 AM — 12:00 PM each day**

Virtual Training

The Sustainable Infrastructure Committee is excited to announce that our KC Metro Chapter APWA community will provide an ISI Envision Certification training prep course.



This training fulfills the requirement for the official ENV SP training and prepares the candidate to pass a comprehensive exam. The ENV SP training is offered as a virtual course. Completion of the course is a prerequisite for taking the exam. The ENV SP training is designed to educate candidates on Envision. After completing the training, candidates will understand how Envision works, how it can improve the sustainability of their projects, be able to successfully apply it to assess project sustainability and have access to take the exam. After passing the exam you will be ENV SP certified.

Limited to the first 20 who register.

[REGISTER](#)

<b>Cost:</b>	APWA Member	\$75.00
	Non-APWA Member	\$150.00

## Upcoming Events

### Fundamentals of Concrete Construction and Fire Safety

**November 15, 2023 11:00 AM**

Matt Ross Community Center

8101 Marty Street

Overland Park, KS 66204

[REGISTER](#)

Historically, concrete has performed well in large structural fires due to its noncombustibility and low thermal conductivity. Concrete construction provides a practical means for achieving the required fire resistance rating required by the Code. Options include cast-in-place or precast concrete floors, ceiling and roofs; and tilt-up walls, precast walls, insulating concrete form (ICF), or cast-in-place walls. The session's learning objectives are:

- Review the fire safety design criteria and construction elements of commercial, institutional, multifamily and residential structures built with concrete.
- Understand the contribution noncombustible materials such as concrete make to fire safety.
- Assess code compliance and performance characteristics of concrete as it relates to fire, flood, wind, and earthquakes.
- Examine case studies demonstrating the performance of concrete in the built environment.

### Training that Sticks

#### Leadership Development that Transforms Habits

**November 30, 2023 7:30 AM**

Matt Ross Community Center

8101 Marty St.

Overland Park, Kansas, 66204

[REGISTER](#)

Brock Simmons is an award-winning learning professional with 20 years in strategic learning and course development, specializing in Leadership Development. Brock has worked in a wide variety of industries from software and tel-com to running his own practice. He is from Vancouver Canada, a father of four and a self-professed lacrosse junkie. Brock is the Learning and Development Manager for GBA and has transformed the learning environment to be more engaging and hands-on.

## Upcoming Events



*Tickets Now on Sale  
for the APWA KC Metro's Annual*

# *Holiday Event*

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**Wed. December 6, 2023**

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*5:30 - 8:30 PM  
Union Horse Distillery  
11740 W. 86th Ter., Lenexa, KS 66214*

*for more details, contact  
[ncwoods@olatheks.org](mailto:ncwoods@olatheks.org)*

**[REGISTER](#)**

## 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 - 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 - Zac Coppersmith  
 Membership BBQ & Steak Fry - Jack Renfro  
 MidAmX - Dan Brown & Kyle Dieckmann  
 MO-KAN Street Superintendents - Paul Dunn  
 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 - Mark Montgomery  
 Student Chapter - **VACANT**  
 Sustainable Infrastructure - Carla Anderson  
 Transportation - Linda Rottinghaus  
 Utility & Public Right-of-Way - Andy Roddy & Brent Berry  
 Water Resources Management - Andrew Smith  
 Webmaster - Kati Horner-Gonzalez  
 Young Professionals - Leslie Donnelly & Joey Carley

**For contact information, visit: [https://  
kcmetro.apwa.org/](https://kcmetro.apwa.org/)**

### Appointments, Liaisons, Coordinators, and Task Forces

Asset Management Task Force - Brandon Grover  
 Calendar/Events Coordinator - Ben Will  
 Construction Materials - Christy Martin  
 Public Works Institute - Dena Mezger & Tim Ross  
 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) - Phil Herman  
 Director (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) - John Cooper  
 Director (1<sup>st</sup> Year) - Ernie Longoria  
 Director (1<sup>st</sup> Year) - Trey Whitaker  
 Director-At-Large - Paul Dunn  
 Delegate - Bill Stogsdill  
 Alternate Delegate - Becky Bonebrake

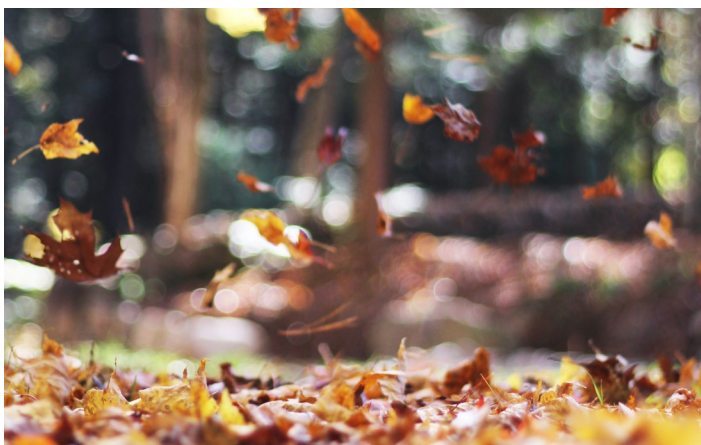




The APWA Pub News, a free publication of the Kansas City Metro Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA), is published in six issues throughout the year. To receive a free subscription, send an e-mail to [abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com](mailto:abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com).

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 January. The deadline for the next issue will be Friday, January 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](mailto: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.