

Participant

The Magazine of the Texas Public Works Professional

Fall 2020

Texas Chapter Receives 23rd PACE Award – Virtually



TPWERC Update pg. 6

***Project Management –
Unforeseen Conditions
During Construction pg. 8***

***Former Chapter President
Runs for Office pg. 13***



*Greetings
from*

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2021
Annual Conference
& Public Workshop
May 25-27



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ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Fall 2020
Volume 14 Number 4

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Participant Magazine

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Participant

The Magazine of the Texas Public Works Professional

Cover Photo:

Pictured on the front cover are members of the TX-Chapter Board of Directors, receiving the 2020 PACE Award for the 23rd time, this time virtually, as 2020 has taught us to do in this year of many changes.



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President's Message

By Dorothy Bergesen

Halfway through my time as TX-APWA president, I can't help thinking about how this was supposed to be an unusual term because it would last 18 months, instead of the standard 12, as we align our organization's fiscal and calendar years. But who would have imagined how *really* unusual the year would turn out to be – and how we've spent most of it tackling the unexpected challenges of continuing to operate through the kind of health crisis none of us have ever seen before.

Let's give a shout-out to all the public works staff in Texas and beyond for continuing to serve our communities through the pandemic, through damaging storms, through whatever comes their way. I'm sure all of us have seen plenty of examples of resilience in action.

In fact, several of our members addressed that topic for the recent Texas Municipal League virtual conference. Keep an eye on our TX-APWA website to learn more; in December, we'll post a link to the presentation about

lessons learned. Here's who shared their experiences:

Session: A Public Works Response to COVID-19

Speakers:

- Shawn Poe, Director of Engineering, City of Richardson
- Robert Canterbury, System Engineer, Harlingen Waterworks System
- Brian Mason, Assistant Director, Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Houston
- Kristina Ramirez, Assistant Public Works Director, City of Harker Heights
- Richard Mendoza, Director of Public Works, City of Austin

Moderator: Dorothy Bergesen, Water Resources Design, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Strategic Plan Goals: Even though we've had to pivot in so many ways, our Board of Directors, staff and other leaders have continued working on the goals in our strategic plan. One of those is continuing to refine and expand our brand as the *Texas Chapter*



of the national APWA. To do that, we updated our chapter website, have continued to enhance our social media and are looking at other ways to define who we are. It might seem like a small thing to emphasize that we come under a big umbrella as the APWA Texas Chapter, but being part of the national organization offers us a wealth of resources for networking and training. And we aim to tap those as much as possible for the benefit of our members.

Let's Celebrate in 2022: Continuing to be a recognizable and trusted organization in our industry and communities is an important part of our future, just like it has been fundamental in our past and present. And in 2021, we'll focus on how our past leads us forward as we plan for a 75th



Anniversary celebration to take place in 2022. Our TX-APWA longevity is extra-special to me because Freese and Nichols partners Marvin Nichols and Simon Freese were among the organizers of the Texas Chapter, which launched in 1947. If you have ideas for our celebration or want to join planning committee, please contact me at dhb@freese.com.

Annual Conference Update: As I've reported before, we plan to hold a combined Annual Conference and Public Workshop and Equipment Rodeo in 2021 in Galveston. We've set the dates for May 25-27 for an in-person even with a virtual component for members who won't be able to travel. We'll continue to share additional details as they become available on the website and in *The Participant*.



2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**American Public Works
Association – Texas Chapter
2021 Field Awards**
Call for Nominations
Deadline: November 13, 2020

**Young Professionals
Virtual Happy Hour**
October 21st 4:30pm
(3rd Wednesday of each month)
[http://texas.apwa.net/
PageDetails/12642](http://texas.apwa.net/PageDetails/12642)

**Public Works Emergency
Response Council**
October 30th 12:30 to 1:15pm
(Last Friday of each month)
[http://texas.apwa.net/
PageDetails/21105](http://texas.apwa.net/PageDetails/21105)

**2021 Annual Conference &
Public Workshop**
May 25th-27th 2021
in Galveston
[http://texas.apwa.net/
EventDetails/18880](http://texas.apwa.net/EventDetails/18880)

October Board Meeting: Please look for a detailed report in the next issue of *The Participant*.

Social Media: Please follow us on our updated social media channels:

LinkedIn:

<https://bit.ly/TX-APWA-LinkedIn>

Instagram:


<https://bit.ly/TX-APWA-Instagram>

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<https://bit.ly/TX-APWA-Facebook>

Twitter:

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If you want to get involved at the chapter or branch level or serve on a committee, please contact Chapter Administrator Ronnie Bates at TPWA@outlook.com. 

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TPWERC Update

**By Ronnie Bates
Administrator
Texas Chapter of APWA**

Our new Texas Public Works Emergency Response Council (TPWERC) had its first call to be on standby operation for the State of Texas on Wednesday, August 26th at 10:45am. Notification was emailed out to our listing of participating cities and their responses began coming in that same day. The responses ranged from stating that they would not be able to respond at this time to those that confirmed they were willing to respond as needed.

On August 29th, TPWERC received the formal STAR request for assistance from the State in support of impacts from Hurricane Laura. The TPWERC then began putting teams together that met the needs of the specific STAR



request. This was accomplished by comparing volunteers to the STAR request and them making calls and sending emails to those selected to assist. These efforts led to the formation of

five Strike Teams consisting of six personnel. Per the STAR, those personnel had to specialize in water, sewer, storm sewer, debris removal and general labor. They were also asked to bring



equipment such as hoses, portable generators, and water pumps.

I was then appointed to be the POC for all the Strike Teams. All Strike Teams deployed on Sunday, August 30th and established a command post/camp in the City of Newton. Each Strike Team was required to be completely self-contained due to lack of power and crucial health & safety services in the impacted area. The Strike Teams provided their own food, supplies, and sleeping arrangements. The Strike Teams were then dispatched from the command post to the areas of Newton, Newton County, Jasper and Orange to provide critical public works services.

Demobilization was authorized on September 3rd. The TPWERC held a debriefing via zoom on September 25th. We were fortunate to have had TDEM officials participate in the after-action meeting. As with any emergency response, there are some lessons learned that we will utilize to make our next deployment even better. Speaking of next deployment, as I write this article the TPWERC received a new STAR request from TDEM for three Strike Teams to assist with the Brazosport Water Outage in the City of Lake Jackson for a 14-day period.

I am very proud to be a part of this awesome group, and very happy as to how our new TPWERC operated to date. If you are interested in becoming an active member of this awesome committee please email the TPWERC.

TPWERC contact is as follows:

TPWERC@outlook.com
210-944-8401 Ext 214
[http://texas.apwa.net/
PageDetails/21105](http://texas.apwa.net/PageDetails/21105)



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Project Management – Unforeseen Conditions During Construction

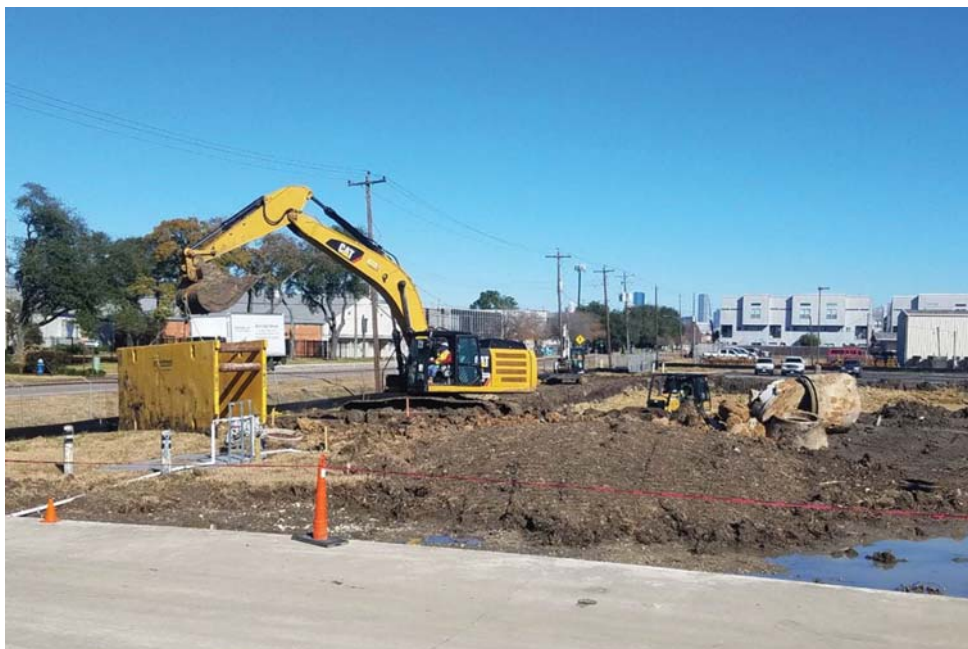
Author: Jay Patel, P.E. Supervisor Engineer,
City of Houston, (832) 395-2369

Project Overview

The City of Houston planned to expand their existing Drinking Water Operations facility and decided to utilize a City-owned 4.25-acre site, across the street from their current facility, for a new administrative building (Building A) and maintenance facility (Building B). Building A was designed for administration offices, conference rooms, break rooms, a SCADA room, and library, as well as a plan room. Building B was designed with five bays for electrical and maintenance, carpentry, as well as administration offices on a second floor. The design was completed in 2017 and the project was awarded to Manhattan Construction Company in November of 2017. Construction was completed in July 2019. Huitt-Zollars, Inc. provided architecture, interior design, MEP engineering, and construction administration services for the new administrative building and maintenance facility. The environmental consulting firm, CRG Texas Environmental Services, Inc., provided, managed, and executed the environmental work.

Challenges

During construction of the new buildings on this new site, several unforeseen site condition issues were discovered including buried ground storage fuel tanks, buried concrete under the drilled piers, and remediation of soil. Because the site was previously



PPCA Soil Excavation in Progress Removal of USTs in progress – Photographs by Kevin Casler



used as a vehicle wash facility, Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was performed. Two areas were identified in Phase II ESA for Potential Petroleum Contaminated Areas (PPCAs). Area A was located on the southwest corner of the project, where a boring sample reported concentration of the semi-volatile organic compound (SVOCs) at a depth of 0-2 feet. Area B was located at the center of the site, where a boring sample reported volatile organic compound (VOCs) at a depth of 0-2 feet. As per TCEQ guidelines as well as City of Houston (COH) specification, the PPCA areas had to be excavated, screened, analyzed, and removed from the site. A total budget of \$450,000 was allocated for preparation

of an environmental workplan and an environmental health & safety plan, air monitoring for construction worker and public safety, impacted soil screening using photoionization detector, sampling, laboratory chemical analysis, reporting of results, waste profiling, and removal and testing of Type I and Type II soil. In addition, two excavations, which were permitted, removed, and the TCEQ closure report was prepared. Unregistered “ghost” underground petroleum storage tanks (USTs) were also encountered during construction.

Solution

Due to site constraints for the stockpiling of the contaminated Type I soil and non-contaminated Type II soil,



Removal of USTs in progress Removal of USTs in progress – Photographs by Kevin Casler



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several alternate remediation methods were reviewed and proposed. One of the options was to collect composite soil samples for laboratory chemical analysis of the excavated PPCA soil after they had been excavated and screened with the PID, segregated, and stockpiled on-site as per Specification. The second option proposed by CRG Texas and which was ultimately implemented by CRG Texas was to excavate the area within the PPCA with the sample collected on a grid and screened-in place for every loose 20 cubic yards.

The second option was thoroughly reviewed by the Project Management Team based on the construction schedule, frequency of the testing, and return of the testing results from the laboratory.


This method was proven very effective in expediting the work within PPCA designated soil. The entire PPCA soil was screened with a head-space screening method using a photoionization detector (PID). Based on the PID reading, the soil was placed in two piles (Type I and Type II). The PID screening took place at every 20 cubic yards of soil excavated. Laboratory chemical analysis in PPCAs were collected for one composite sample of 20 cubic yards. The PPCA soil was then stockpiled and covered with plastic sheeting with the date of generation. The entire process was documented in a daily activity report which included location, depth, type, and source. The grid sampling, screening, and lab analysis before excavation of the soil allowed the insitu screening of the soil to be removed ahead of time and expedited soil segregation, profiling, and waste management activities.

The City Project Manager, CRG Texas, and the construction team monitored the excavation work on a daily basis by reviewing the job site condition as well as reviewing the chemical

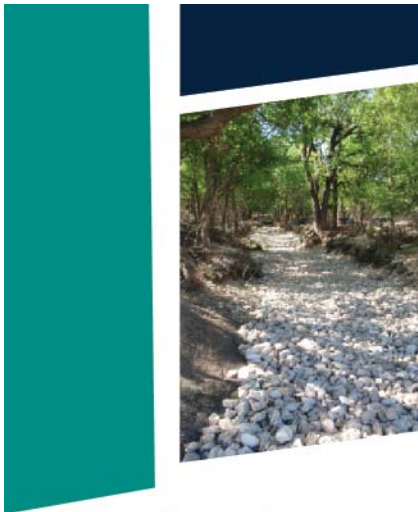


Right: PPCA Soil Hauling & Grading With Imported Soil – Photographs by Kevin Stricklan

analysis of the PPCA soil. It was found that the soil identified in Area A and B did not contain SVOCs or VOCs. Therefore, the entire soil was treated as Type II and used for backfilling of the excavated areas on the entire site. The remaining soil was hauled off and disposed of appropriately.

By implementing this alternate method, the City not only saved the budget allocated for PPCA soil but also expedited the construction schedule. Construction was completed within the contract time and 2% above the original construction contract, and the new facility successfully opened in July 2019. 

Right: Ardmore Drinking Water Facility –
Photograph by Randall Hickey



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TML Corner

By Kristina Ramirez, PE, CPM, CFM
Assistant Public Works Director
City of Harker Heights

I would like to first thank the Texas Chapter of APWA's Board for electing me to fill the remaining position of Alan's Schubert's TML Representative term. I am proud to be able to represent all of our members as an Affiliate TML Board Member once again.

The TML Conference this year was held virtually from October 14th through October 16th. The conference theme this year is "From Crisis to Recovery: Texas Cities Rebound and Rebuild". The Texas Chapter contributed to the conference by participating in a prerecorded session titled "A Public Works Response to COVID-19". During that session topics covered included impacts of the pandemic on operations, personnel, & emergency response, general emergency response preparation, changes to public outreach & interactions, and lessons learned to date. You all can access the Public Works session and all the TML Conference sessions online through January 1, 2021 if you register for the conference. The cost

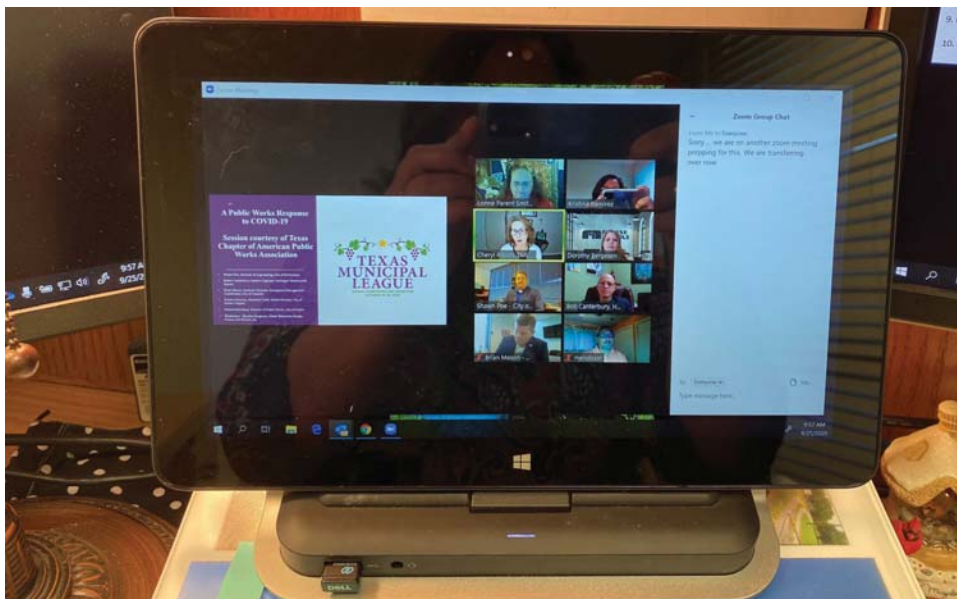
for access is \$270 via online registration at tmlconference.org. Thank you to our panelists Brian Manson (City of Houston), Robert Canterbury (City of Harlingen), Shawn Poe (City of Richardson), Richard Mendoza (City of Austin) and our Moderator Madam President Dorothy Bergesen (Freese & Nichols). A special thanks to Past President Eric Dargan for identifying and securing our panelists and for coordinating the session with TML.

The Texas Legislature meets in odd years. As a result, the TML Board and staff are hard at work preparing for the 2021 State Legislature. Due to the pandemic, how we contact our legislatures has changed. TML facilitated virtual regional round table discussions in August, September and October. Various state legislative committees have issued Requests for Information in lieu of in person meetings & virtual meetings. At the time of publication, TML had responded to the RFIs issued by the House Ways and Means Committee




and the House Land on Public- Private Partnerships, Property Tax Relief, and Sales Tax. TML had also responded on Annexation to the Resources Management Committee. As the Legislative session draws near TML will be reaching out to its members for volunteers to provide testimony and impact examples.

The next TML Board Meeting will be held on December 4th. If there is a topic you would like TML to address, or if one of the topics or activities mentioned above is something that you are interested in providing input or testifying on, please feel free to contact me directly (kramirez@harkerheights.gov or 254-953-5663). Stay Safe and Be Well. 🇹🇽



Former Chapter President Runs for Office

Tom Ramsey, PE, former President of the Texas Chapter, is running for Harris County Commissioner Precinct 3. Supporters hosted a Women for Ramsey event to spread the word about the race. Former Chapter President, Sharon Valiante, Current Chapter President, Dorothy Bergesen and Former Southeast Branch President, Katherine Mears, PE, ENV SP, attended the event to show their support. Tom's platform is safety, infrastructure and lowering taxes. APWA is proud of its members running for office. Don't forget to vote. 



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Mark your calendars: The Young Professionals
will be having a bar crawl along The Strand
in Galveston, Wednesday night during the
APWA Texas Chapter Annual Conference.

TX-APWA Thanks Past President, Eric Dargan

The TX-APWA Chapter would like to thank Eric Dargan, Chief Operating Officer of Houston Public Works, for his service and dedication to APWA. Eric began his leadership role in 2005 by serving as Treasurer for the Southeast Branch and moved up to become President of the Southeast Branch in 2013. He also served on the Diversity Committee in 2006-2007. In 2014, Eric began his journey on the Texas Chapter Board of Directors and became President of the Texas Chapter in 2019. He plans to continue serving in some capacity for APWA in years to come.

Eric has a passion for providing more education and training opportunities for field staff and is currently working on some programs with APWA and other organizations.

It is tradition for the current President to present the Past President's Award to the Past President at the awards ceremony during the Annual Conference in June. Due to the pandemic, the conference was canceled this year. Current Chapter President, Dorothy Bergesen, met with Eric in August to present him his award. 🇹🇽



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Texas Delegate

**By Sharon Valiante,
Public Works Director, City of Fulshear**

Happy Fall everyone! Wow, it's been a host of virtual meetings this year, especially, since the September online sessions associated with the Council of Chapters. As your Texas Delegate to the Council of Chapters, our meeting sessions with PWX this year, all virtual, centered around dis-

cussions related to COVID-19 and the impacts to Public Works operations and training. And, since I also serve on the Steering Committee (advisory board to the National Board (Region Directors)), so we've been able to provide some good focus and task force group topics to get good discussion



and feedback on. This has afforded me the opportunity to work with other steering committee members and Chapter delegates in reviewing, discussing and brainstorming about how we, as a National Council, can help/assist our Chapters, as well as branches, in coping and dealing with the impacts.

One of the great focus group topics that was widely discussed was Chapter Sharing; how do we let other chapters know what we are doing that works for us; what can we offer now that will provide information; what are our resources; what are the challenges that Chapters have; and identify the outcomes/next steps.

During our conversations it was abundantly clear that there are challenges for many Chapters:

i. Paving the way for other chapters, that they are not alone

ii. How do we understand who is good at what (what forum)?

iii Timely topics/relevant topics for chapters to have – why cannot we cross platform this across other chapters/regions (and be a value to more than just their specific members)

1. Time/Energy is being wasted with educational events (how can we stop this?) EXAMPLE: Region 8 monthly meeting, sharing their events, etc.

Is there a way to pull all events from chapters and host on COC website or something to share these.

iv. Access from National on the events like the hill briefings (sharing this out beyond just specific folks)

v. Sharing resources beyond just their local area – big conversation and need/want

vi. Joint/Combined regional meetings – should we do this more (should all Regions do this now?)

vii. Building a calendar for the whole year of events/programs (such like PWX@home) Chapter Connects (town halls, etc.)

viii. Modeled practices/HELP sites & programs – centralized website for programs such as finance/membership, etc.

ix. In the Chapter ITW – a highlight

of something a chapter is doing well that's included in each communication (monthly maybe) – a paragraph & contact information of how to get a hold of folks at that chapter.



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- x. Focus on Regional connection and events
- xi. Monthly sorted email that is similar to the job posting email (for events/upcoming things by Region)

Wrapping it up, the group did identify several outcomes/nest steps:

- a. Create a chapter community (online) – let's Implement right away
 - b. Suggest Regional meetings amongst delegates/leaders
 - c. Chapter Calendar – update this, add filtered features – Implement right away (make aware that this resource is available)
 - d. Chapter Websites – make recommendations to keep this updated/current
 - e. Suggestion Regional communities (online)
 - f. Look at Chapter Leader news– call out monthly highlights of chapter happening/great things
 - g. Look at Reporter Magazine – include a chapter highlight section
 - h. Publish the Chapter support flyer from the Marketing & Education department – do this right away
- provide clean drinking water?" "Join us, it's what we do!"; simple, to the point; appeals to the environmental side
- Well, that's a wrap up of the PWX, Council of Chapters Delegate meeting. Until the next time we visit, just a few reminders:

- 1. Use your Chapter Leader resources visit www.apwa.net, click on Resources
- 2. Create and/or Maintain your membership profile: visit www.apwa.net; create an account or sign in (go to MyAPWA)
- 3. Advocate, promote and engage for Public Works
- 4. Membership is on a roller coaster ride – in light of the impacts to a lot of us from the COVID-19 issues and concerns, please try to maintain your memberships; we are struggling a bit but will bounce back! Quick data fact (July 2020):
 - a. Top Ten Chapters:
 - Texas – 1,609
 - Florida – 1,607
 - Washington State – 1,473
 - Chicago Metro – 1,411
 - North Carolina – 1,318
 - Southern California – 1,297
 - Minnesota – 1,067
 - New England – 967
 - Mid-Atlantic – 965
 - Oregon – 847
 - b. Your member ship Chair: Membership Chair: Lake-idea (Lucky) Smith. Dallas Texas

5. Education does not stop because we are not able to meet in person.

6. The Public Works Institute of Texas is still a powerful opportunity:

Is the Institute for Your Staff?

If you answer yes to any of these questions, consider using the Institute to meet your staff training and employee succession needs:

- Would you like to promote someone who lacks supervisory experience or training?
- Are your leaders retiring or are you anticipating considerable turnover?
- Would you like your staff to develop a "big-picture" perspective about their work?
- Do you have a limited budget for staff training?
- Is local professional development limited/unavailable or not applicable to your needs?

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- Communicating Effectively
- Building Teams, Relationship and Partnerships
- Providing Excellent Community Service
- Managing Finances, Budgeting and Resources
- Governmental and Legal
- Public Works Operations and Municipal Services
- Planning for the Future
- Creating and Growing Sustainable Communities
- Managing Resources and Infrastructure

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't give a big shout out to the great Texas Chapter – another PACE award in the books! Congratulations to your Texas Chapter Board and to you for making it happen.

Shape the world in whatever fashion or flavor you choose, just choose it in Public Works!

Please don't hesitate to reach out and contact me at any time: svaliante@fulsheartexas.gov; I'm always receptive to ideas, suggestions, messages to take to the Chapter and the National organization. Would love to hear from you!

— Sharon



COMING IN AUGUST...



With the cancellation of PWX 2020 in New Orleans, LA, APWA is going back to the drawing board! We've repurposed PWX sessions and added a whole host of additional virtual education and networking opportunities that will be presented, by topic, to you on a monthly basis throughout 2020/2021. There's even a virtual exhibit floor! Mark your calendars!

TOPICS BY MONTH

August 2020 = Utilities & Public Rights-of-Way
September 2020 = Fleet
October 2020 = Winter Maintenance
November 2020 = Operations & Maintenance
December 2020 = Leadership & Management
January 2021 = Engineering & Technology/Asset Management
February 2021 = Water Resources Management
March 2021 = Solid Waste Management
April 2021 = Facilities & Grounds
May 2021 = Sustainability
June 2021 = Emergency Management
July 2021 = Transportation

Take advantage of all these great virtual education and networking opportunities!

- Live streaming events
- On-demand eLearning opportunities
- Exhibitor showcases
- New topical public works resources
- Monthly Trending Technology/Roving Reporter videos
- APWA Committee news & events
- Legislative town hall events
- Career/workforce development events & resources
- Social media events & contests
- APWA Members' Library highlights
- APWA Store publication & product highlights

Riding the Wave of Public Works

2020 One-Day Seminar

When: Thursday November 19, 2020, 8 am – 4 pm

Where: Richardson Civic Center/City Hall

Cost: \$30 online registration

\$35 onsite registration

– includes breakfast, refreshments, & lunch

PDH: Up to 5 hours

Additional information: <http://nctxbranch.apwa.net>



MISSING YOUR TEXAS CHAPTER APWA
FRIENDS?

YP HAPPY HOUR AND CHAPTER UPDATES

Please join us for our monthly APWA Virtual Happy Hours! You are invited to connect and have a “toast” with other members virtually, learn about what has been going on with APWA, and hear from our Chapter President!

WHAT: Texas Chapter APWA Virtual Happy Hour

WHEN: Third Wednesday of each month

4:30 – 5:30 PM

HOW: Register online at texas.apwa.net

TEXAS JOBS

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Let's get Texas moving again!



PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR CHAPTER EXCELLENCE

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Texas Chapter

For outstanding contributions and service to your
Membership, Profession and Community





BRANCH NEWS: Central Texas Branch APWA

The Central Texas Branch unfortunately had to cancel the last Quarterly Meeting on September 10, 2020. The meeting was planned to be hosted by the City of Round Rock at the Administration Training Facility and we would like to thank them for their assistance.

The Central Texas Branch's next Quarterly Meeting of 2020 is scheduled for December 10th and will be held at the Transportation Office for the City of Killeen. Our election for new Board Officers and Trustees will be held at that meeting. The nominations for officers include Israel Garza – City of Belton – President, Jim Gray – City of Taylor – Vice President, Amy Burley-Hyland – City of Waco – Secretary, Treasurer – TBD. The Trustees include Leah Garrett – City of Killeen, David Greear – Travis County and James Sassin – LNC, Inc.

Our Branch is pleased to announce the award of 2 High School/College Scholarships (\$1,000 each) and look forward to continuing to this tradition with the rescheduling of our annual Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament scheduled for Crystal Falls Golf Club in Leander in May 2021. We also plan to award 2 Continuing Education Scholarships (\$1,000 each) to the upcoming PWITX for 2 Central Texas Branch members.

North Central Branch

NCT APWA 2020 Clay Shoot Recap: We had another great year of testing our skills at the 2020 TPWA NCTB Clay Shoot. We started with a misty morning, but then nice weather moved in for some great shooting. We had a great crowd come out and enjoy the tournament, lunch, and a raffle. The raffle this year was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone. We are excited about continuing to grow our tournament.

See you at this event next year!



Tournament Highlights

- We had more than 100 registered shooters, and even though COVID-19

Around The State



restricted a few shooters from attending, we still had more than 70 participants in the tournament. This was more than double last year's registration, despite the misty rain and a "minor" pandemic.

- More than 21 sponsorships this year.
- The shooting competition was followed by the awarding of trophies and prizes.

Special Thanks to our Sponsors

Gold Sponsors: Alpha Testing, EJ, MAS Civil Engineering Consultants, The Rios Group,

Henley-Johnston & Associates, Inc., and McMahon Contracting LP

Silver Sponsors: Sunbelt Rentals and Santos Construction Inc

Team Sponsors: Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc., RJN Group, Kimley-Horn,

City of Colleyville, EJ, Pelco Products, Inc., Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc., Bass & Hays Foundry, Inc., Half Associates, ADS Associates, Reynolds Asphalt, Paradigm Traffic Systems, and McCain Waterworks.

South Central Branch 2020 Spring/Summer Events

STILL HERE FOR YOU!

APWA

South Central Branch Presents:
"Communicating for Success"

FREESE NICHOLS

Presented by: Stephanie C. Buckingham, CPTD, PHR
Tuesday, July 7th, 2020
11:30am-1pm

Stephanie focuses on Organizational Development and is responsible for coaching, career and leadership development, and designing and delivering training for Freese and Nichols employees and clients. In 2019, she facilitated 103 courses for over 2,500 people, including employees, clients and conference attendees. Her training focuses on Communication, Teamwork, Accountability, Strengths, Emotional Intelligence, and Ethics.

Most people communicate with the wrong intent - to get their point across. Successful communication is much more than being understood. This session will cover how to communicate for successful outcomes, less stress, and more productive relationships. We'll explore traits of successful communicators and discover how your preferences shape your communication. Participants will also take part in an activity called the Six Thinking Hats. This activity is designed to help us look at a problem from different perspectives.

• July General Meeting – "Communicating for Success" – July 7th, 2020

In July, APWA South Central Branch held its first virtual general meeting in accordance with CDC guidelines. July's meeting featured Stephanie C Buckingham, CPTD, PHR who gave a presentation on how to successfully communicate in a business environment to achieve positive results.

• COVID Assistance - Food Bank Volunteering Event – August 28th, 2020

In August, APWA South Central Branch organized a volunteering event to assist the community that had been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by teaming up with the San Antonio Food Bank to distribute meals at the Alamo Dome. We had a great turnout from our board, general membership, and our UTSA student chapter. We helped over 1,500 families that received over \$200 worth of groceries!



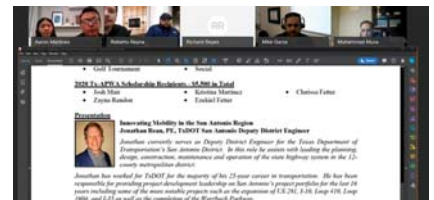
• September General Meeting – TxDOT 2021 Outlook – September 22nd, 2020

In September, APWA South Central Branch held its second virtual general meeting, this time with a presentation from Jonathan Bean on TxDOT's outlook on projects for 2021. Nearly 50 people attended the virtual meeting to hear from Jonathan and a link to the presentation video is available here:

Tx-APWA SC Branch

September General Meeting Video

Here are some screenshots from our meeting video...



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