



American Public Works Association Central Pennsylvania Chapter

MINUTES

Executive Board

Friday, March 20, 2026

Marzonis

4925 Ritter Road Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

In Person and Virtual

Call to Order: Blaire Prough, President, called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present:

Blaire Prough (BP), Maria White (MW), Neil Stoltzfus (NS) Ron Jones (RJ), Jim Phipps (JP), Kay Dohm (KD), Jeremy Miller (JM) (Virtual), Liz Cheeseman (LC) (Virtual), Robin Kohler (RK)(Virtual), George Schwarz, Ed Kauffman (EK), Charlie Jones (CJ)

Absent: Jeremy Spicher (JS), Don Bortner (DB) and Jim Close (JC)

Note: Aaron Rugh has officially stepped down from the board and the YP Committee due to a position change at PA One Call taking him to the Pittsburgh area. Congratulations Aaron!

Meeting Minutes:

February 2026 Executive Board Meeting Minutes were distributed for review.

Motion to approve: JP

Seconded by: GS

Discussion: None

Motion carried

Treasurer's Report:

JS was not present and we did not receive a February Treasurer's report. We expect to have the February and March reports presented at the April Meeting.

Council of Chapters:

APWA Podcast now on Linked if any ideas for that, please reach out to be interviewed or otherwise be part of the podcast

Program for new project funding.

APWA Website. Application deadline April 15th. (insert LC email on the scholarship or info from the APWA website)

Snow conference was brought up.

PACE award deadline is in June (Our Chapter is not eligible this year in part because of the 2025 taxes and audit missing the deadline in 2025).

Local municipalities can add their jobs. There is a cost. Admin@apwa.org.

[APWA 2026 North American Snow Conference](#) is right around the corner (April 26-29) in Cleveland, OH.

Old Business:

NS Flagger Training. We have been looking into doing our own in-house. We have been supplementing the cost for the last two years so we might be able to do ourselves. Robin sent NS paperwork ATSSA has a training firing off on April 6th. – If we are going to do this we need to know asap. There is an online version about 1100-1200. NS said Ed is trained as instructor. The flagger is very robust in PA because we don't have the federal restraints like other states. Ed is recommended to go ATSSA. NS has left a mssg with national to get answer of what are the ramifications of doing this ourselves or is there any ramifications from national? In PA Penndot has to approve someone to be qualified as a flagger. Ed said ATSSA takes on a lot of the responsibility. Ed doesn't do the whole ATSSA training because of the \$25 per documentation. Can only buy from them and cannot copy them.

NS is going to sign himself up if everyone is okay...

JM spoke up and said he sent a some information out for us to see. Is it worth having a two-day?

Motion – KD get Neil signed up and pay for hotel room. RK seconded. One Nay - JM

Discussion – JP said to make sure APWA is onboard and wants NS to get a response from Headquarters.

Ed said he trains trainers for the flagger training. Nothing in PA says you must be accredited per Pub 408 and 213. Ed is subject matter expert (SME). Ed said it wouldn't be a conflict of interest.

Need to do the most cost-efficient way.

Kay rescinded her motion

New motion NS plan on attending July 17th and from their work with Ed to develop a criteria for this program provided Capitol branch has PennDOT coming out for April meeting – will have conversation in person.

NS made the motion

JP seconded the new motion

All in Favor

Motion Carried

Kept in notes as placeholder - Need more discussion on switching the banking to Bank of America (BoA) as requested by National. It is voluntary at this time but may become mandatory in the future. A copy of the benefits was previously distributed to the Board. Note – We can get a credit card if we bank with BoA, as one benefit.

Kay like the idea of a scholarship because Vance Spicer was the President and did a lot for the chapter. Scholarship would be in order. Discussion \$500 or \$1000 feel most people won't even do the applications. It will take some research for criteria.

JM made a suggestion that a scholarship is a great idea. Decide what a reasonable amount would be tossed around \$2000 or more. BP said she would reach out the Wester Chapter for some criteria. JP said engineering. LC doesn't think it needs to be engineering. Additional schooling or classes.

(Note: After the meeting, BP sent out email with some scholarship ideas for Western APWA and IRWA (Maria is involved in the scholarship for IRWA).

Decided to start a Scholarship Committee LC Chair and members will be BG, KD and BP.

National Public Works Week (NPWW)
2026 NPWW Theme:

Rooted in Service, Powered by Community

JM will request a proclamation again from National.

NPWW 2026

May 17–23, 2026



This year's theme "Rooted in Service, Powered by Community" acknowledges that the roots of service run deep in public works. It's what has propelled public works innovations that have helped our communities evolve into places where people can lead lives of purpose and possibility. Some work—like building roads and bridges—is highly visible, while other public works contributions—like maintaining water and sewer systems—are sometimes hidden from view. Together, these efforts form the foundation of thriving communities, reminding us that every project, seen or unseen, powers the connection between service and the people it supports.

LC provided link: [National Public Works Week \(NPWW\) - American Public Works Association](#)

New Business:

JM winter meeting in Canada last week. Not able to attend Jeremy Spicher did represent the PA chapter . speakers for PW for stormwater accreditation program \$960 per event and need to apply 30 days before the event to YP to attend PWX, Does anyone want to got to PWX? If no one identified by the 30th it will go in a pool.

New Initiative Program and career link for career zone.

Links from LC:

[New Initiatives Program 2026 Now Accepting Applications](#)

careerzone.apwa.org

[Public Works Radio - American Public Works Association](#)

[The Movement to Recognize Public Works Professionals as First Responders – American Public Works As...](#)

<https://youtu.be/X6DbSihMjPQ?si=HLdKbNxANIMOtGhN>

Branch Reports:

Lancaster Branch - NS

NS flagger training yesterday 40 booked 5 municipalities maybe 6. Needed every 3 years. Question asked if flagger training can be transferred between states? Ed said no. \$25 fee was charged but would be \$100 or \$150, if not. As far as reaching out they have a lot of demand and since it is a legal requirement by the employer.

From JP to Marty Williams - Recently the Lancaster Branch held a Flagger ReCertification Training Class. It is the law that those who flag traffic in PA have to undergo recertification every 3 years. It was a full class with 40 employees attending from 5 different municipalities. Normally the cost per student is \$90. Between the Branch & the Chapter the fee per student was only \$25 & included lunch.

Golf balls order by MW through PA One Call. Will deliver them to KD at the York SD.

Capital Branch – LC

No Update

Meeting on Yelp outing. She was unable to attend BG attended and said they have not picked a date and are shooting for June and are looking at alternative courses. At beginning stages of the plan. April 15th is the PennDOT meeting.

York Branch – DB (JP reported for DB)

Held Meeting March 19th

York Township Municipal Complex
Pesticides Training Class

Upcoming Meeting April 9th

11:00 a.m.
Quaker Steak and Lube – York
Trenching Technology

May 8th York Golf Outing

9:00 a.m. Briarwood Golf Course
Shot gun starts at 10:00 a.m.
MW ordered golf balls from PA One Call
They will be sent UPS to Robin Kohler

July 9th On-site Manhole Lining Demo

Standing Committees

Chair Plus

A. Audit Nothing (2 members)
Nothing

Ron Jones & Jim Close

B. Nominating (3 members)
Nothing
Weill get together and talk soon.

Maria White, Liz Cheeseman & George Schwarz

C. Awards (3 members)
Nothing
Waiting on Nominating Committee
Reference Notes about APWA Legacy Service Memorial Award under New Business.

Maria White, Liz Cheeseman & Kay Dohm

Keep for reference:

BP reported free pins we can order and ordered what we needed to order of 5, 10, 20 and 25 years would like to honor anniversaries and invite them to dinner, no cost. 17 people LC said 15 and above in increments. Still do the pins. Lifetime members. 20 years and retired. On website. \$56 if retired but not lifetime. Look at website for more information. Table from BAP. We all agree good idea and give out free pins just need to discuss who gets a free dinner at our annual meeting.

D. By-laws (3 members)

Robin Kohler, Blaire Prough & Maria White

Met and proposed some changes to the bylaws for keeping people in certain positions to align better with National. Tabled until next meeting. The committee made some changes mostly to terms to allow the positions to be filled for 2 or more years (3 years for Treasurer, for example) and this will be shared at the next meeting.

Please review the proposed changes which are an attachment to the notes.

E. Membership Engagement Committee (2 members) Elizabeth Cheeseman & Maria White
Nothing

F. Education (3 members)

Ed Kauffman, Neil Stoltzfus & Jeremy Miller

Ed Kauffman, Rettew
Safety Training Manager
Office: 717-516-7487
Cell: 717-760-9168
ed.kauffman@rettew.com

If anyone has any suggestions for me, please let me know. I would be glad to help out.

No issue with Training - insurance.- Board agreement on Ed Kaufman from Rettew, Chair and NS is a member and JM is an advisor.

G. Government & Professional Relations

Jim Phipps

Made contact with our Legislators regarding recognizing National Public Works Week this year. Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill (R) will assist in trying to get one from the Senate.

APWA Central PA Chapter Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Contacted Governor Shapiro's (D).
Representative Caro Hill-Evan's(D)
York Mayor Sandie Walker (D)
York County President Commissioner Julie Wheeler (R)
Will follow up with each Legislator closer to Public Works Week.
NPWW May 17-23

March 20, 2026

JP sent emails to the following;
Congressman Lloyd Smucker
Senators: Fetterman & McCormick

962 Senate 1469 eliminate school property taxes
6% to 8% and raise personal income
Help senior citizens on a fixed income

Jim thanked BP for sending out the
Survey for public policy

Good article in the magazine regarding York Branch - Name the Plow

Messages from Marty Williams:

Please take action and get your chapter active - The House Public Works and Infrastructure Caucus is up and running for the 119th Session of Congress - The Caucus has proven to be a valuable tool in educating members of Congress and Congressional staff about the essential services and public works projects communities across the country depend on daily – including roads and bridges, drinking water, emergency preparedness and response, flood control, wastewater and stormwater, recycling, solid waste removal, parks and recreation, and public fleets and buildings. With Congress beginning consideration of what will come after the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), it is now more important than ever that elected officials and their staff remain knowledgeable and engaged in their oversight and awareness of both IIJA and infrastructure and public works more broadly. **If you don't see your Member of Congress on list below, reach out to them to ask them join – WE WANT TO CRANK UP THE NUMBERS!** If you have not yet reached out to your Member(s) of Congress OR have any questions please do not hesitate to let me know as you have a powerful voice in reaching out to your Member(s) of Congress!

Please continue the following efforts and actions:

1. Reminding your chapter members to respond to APWA Government Affairs requests seeking comments or feedback on federal regulations or legislation (extremely important the public works share their expertise)
2. Encouraging your chapter members to respond to APWA Legislative Action Alerts – Members of Congress need to know that you are engaged
3. Help facilitate and look for opportunities for APWA Government Affairs to participate either virtually or in person at chapter events
4. Coordinating with your chapter leadership on opportunities to highlight member accomplishments

5. Coordinating with your chapter leadership on opportunities to submit information on events/gatherings/networking opportunities

6. Looking for opportunities to submit blogs, articles in chapter publications highlighting/emphasizing the importance of public works – these need not be long articles, even a few paragraphs can do the trick.

Take the APWA Public Policy Priorities Survey—Make Sure You Have a Say

- APWA Government Affairs is seeking your input regarding the association’s advocacy priorities for the next Congress that will be sworn into office in January;
- [Click here](#) to take the survey and help shape APWA’s policy priorities;
- The public policy priority documents are APWA’s advocacy roadmap for working with Congress and federal agencies on key legislation and regulations impacting public works;
- APWA’s [current policy priorities](#) are Emergency Management, Transportation, and Water Resiliency;
- ***If you have questions, contact APWA Director of Government and Public Affairs Andrea Eales at aeales@apwa.org.***

H. Membership

Blaire Prough

Total membership- 171

5 new members

- Emailed 03/10/2026
 - Jim Bruno
 - Lawrence Carl
 - Anthony Desalle
 - Tara Hitchens
 - Shane Pepe

4 expired members on individual membership

- Emailed on 03/10/2026
 - Nathan Bragunier
 - Charles Bubb
 - Jeremy Miller
 - Danielle Simoneaux

0 expired members on group membership

I. Newsletter and Outreach

Blaire Prough

Releasing April 1st need flyers from golf outing or whatever you want in newsletter

Please send info to BP ASAP

J. Social Media

Liz Cheeseman

Make sure to send stuff to LC right away!
88 searches
Last 7 days 122 followers
2 unique visitors
Last 30 days
3 page views

K. Chapter Socials

Blaire Prough

6 members with 18 total registrants
Koebel's 9/12/26 – Pavilion B
Knoebels received deposit

L. Website

Robin Kohler & Bob Gardner (assisting)

Robin is keeping the website updated, so please send any updates to her regarding events, board positions, etc.

M. Young Professionals (YP)

Open

Looking for a new YP

Ideas for future YP:
Target Engineering Firms
JM said to reach out the National YP for a playbook
Trade shows, tech schools, and Brownfields

LC provided a link: [Young Professionals Committee – American Public Works Association](#)

Technical and Other Reports

Kay Dohm & Robin Kohler

a) 2026 Symposium

Thursday September 17th
Robin and Kay visited Hellam township for initial visit for possibly holding the 2026 Symposium.
The township has been approved
The entire symposium committee will meet at Hellam Twp on April 28th to begin planning.

b) Annual Membership Meeting

Robin Kohler, Maria White & Liz Cheeseman

Nothing New
Regarding Penn State: November 7th away 14th and 21st are home GAMES.

c) 2026 May Trip

George Swarz

May 20th hour to hour and 1/2 tour.
Marysville Moose Lunch?
Harrisburg Ag Building Tour
PennDOT Equipment Division

d) PA One Call Safety Days



- e) State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) Liaison
Nothing new to report

Ron Seybert

Other Business:

APWA have a podcast Now. See latest issue of APWA magazine.

JM APWA looking for public works podcast speakers– need ideas
From PA One Call – Coordinate PA (CPA)

Bill put forward for Emergency Responders. See notes under Government and Professional Relations

Snow conference in Cleveland April 26-29.

Next Meeting:

11:30 a.m. Friday April 17th, 2026
Marzonis – 4929 Ritter Road Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Virtual Option – MS Teams Link

Motion to Adjourn 12:45 p.m.
Motion made by: JP
Seconded by: NS
Discussion: None
Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Maria A. White
04/04/26