# **CHAPTER CHATTER**

Spring 2023

## Public Works Makes It Happen









































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# President's Message



Happy New Year to all!

ith the new year upon us, we should reflect on the past to learn and prepare for our future. It is an honor and privilege to serve the New England Chapter of the American Public Works Association as your president for 2023. Many before me have guided this organization since its inception; I am just one person in the long line of past presidents and leaders. I have been lucky enough to call many of them mentors, inspirators and friends throughout my career. I could not possibly touch upon everyone that has shaped my journey to this point, the list is long when you do this long enough. It gets to the point where they may ask you to leave.

It looks like we have finally put COVID-19 behind us. Or it is far enough removed that we can plan for it while limiting potential impacts to our lives. We will still utilize hybrid tools to communicate and engage our membership and executive committee because it makes sense and saves time

and money. The Exec. Com. attempted to use remote communication prior to COVID-19 but it failed miserably a few years ago. In fact, I recently read that COVID-19 advanced remote working conditions in many sectors of business by more than five years when it first hit. Our Chapter will continue to utilize Zoom and/or MS Teams communications for at least five Exec. Com. Mtg. in 2023. While face to face will always be best for collaboration, Zoom and MS Teams save significantly on food, travel costs and rental space for our meetings.

Other than the remote communication for our Exec. Com. Meetings, the initiation of New England Chapter Connects has expanded our training and learning opportunities for our membership. The most recent New England Chapter Connects held in mid-December discussed insights on starting a municipal drone program and their usage in several business lines affecting the Chapter and Public Works in general. I am not implying that our face-to-face Conferences in the Spring, Summer and Fall are useless, far from it; however, New England Chapter Connects has provided an expanded offering on the days that they are held and can be linked to many attendees in Public Works Facilities in all of New England. Later on, there is an opportunity to reconnect through our website for future learning opportunities to view past sessions. We should recognize the Public Works Awareness Committee for the strong investment and support for New England Chapter Connects.

In 2023, the Chapter partnered with our VT Directors for the Vermont Municipal Equipment Show and Field Day (VMESFD) in Barre, VT. There were over 55 vendors and 500 registered attendees on a beautiful day in May. The event was so successful that the VMESFD offered a follow-up Technical Session in Greenfield, MA in November to initiate a new 'Northwest' Committee to attract other groups for

membership in Northern CT, Western MA and Southern VT & NH. There were 30 attendees discussing GIS Applications for Snow Plow Routes and Engaging/Retaining workers in some of our remote areas of Western New England. Lunch was provided and a spirited discussion was had by all in attendance. We hope to continue to promote this event and attract new members through this venue. Spread the word, invite others and get involved with the Chapter any way that you can do it

Just after the VMESFD was held in May, the National Public Works Week Luncheon took place on May 18th at Granite Links Golf Club. Who can forget the tremendous views of the Boston Skyline from Granite Links or that Rich Benevento had car trouble and was unable to present the Awards at the luncheon. Rich had the foresight to contact his team at WorldTech to pick up the box of awards and his 3-ring binder with his speech and deliver them to me at Granite Links. You should also know that I did the best that I could to pare down Rich's 14 page, 45 minute speech and to eloquently paraphrase the primary focus of the event: To recognize and celebrate Public Works. I did the best I could and paraphrased certain elements and got the message across. Few people knew that our Member of the Year, Adam Yanulis, was born in a manger.

We had a successful Summer Conference June 15-17, 2022 at the Red Jacket in Yarmouth but the RJ has been sold. For 2023 & 2024, we will be shifting the Summer Conference to the Sea Crest Beach Hotel in Falmouth. The Planning Committee will be working on the Education program when the Abstracts are selected in January and all of the same great Cape Cod activities will be planned for June 21-23, 2023 at the Sea Crest.

When the end of summer in '23' approaches, PWX will be upon us in the great City of San Diego, CA. PWX

was previously held in San Diego (but known as Congress) in 2003. Consider traveling in advance and putting some well-deserved vacation time in to explore the west coast with the event scheduled for Aug. 27-30. Our advance 'scout' team just returned from their planning trip to identify the recommended hotel and other Chapter event locations. The scout team will be providing suggestions and options to the Executive Committee at our meeting in January. Once we know, we will share with our membership to facilitate your planning activities.

In closing, I want to recognize the recent passing of a close friend and friend to all of Public Works, Dave Hanlon. Dave was a longtime public works director, nationally recognized for his leadership and more greatly regarded for his friendship. He spent 40 years

carrying the torch for public works throughout New England during his public sector career. He was a Director on the New England Chapter Executive Committee for 15 years and served as Chapter Chaplain for many years as well. He will always be remembered for his charisma, charm, and dedication to the Public Works industry. There has been no better friend and no better supporter of public works and the New England Chapter!! He will be greatly missed. Please keep Dave's family in your thoughts and prayers.

Respectfully,

John J. Bechard, P.E..

**NEAPWA** President

Please submit story ideas, articles, or topics of interest to: **Mike Myers**, Editor-in-Chief, mmyers@theengineeringcorp.com

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# **Membership Corner**

Not a member or trying to recruit a friend?

Take advantage of this offer!

1st Time Member Special Offer:

\$99 USD for your first year

Get your first year of individual membership at half price! Any employee or official of a governmental agency, manufacturer/supplier, contractor, or consulting firm who is actively engaged in the field of public works and has not previously been an APWA national association member is eligible for the First-Time Member Special Offer. If you have any questions, please contact the National membership team at 800-848-2792 or memberservices@apwa.net.

## Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors!

For more information on sponsorship, please contact Conrad Leger at cwl@envpartners.com or Adam Yanulis at fayanulis@tighebond.com

#### **Executive Committee**

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# Remembering Dave Hanlon

## A Son's Perspective

**By Patrick Hanlon** 









Looking back on Growing up as an Irish/French Canadian catholic kid in the 70's were some of the greatest memories of my life. Learning how to love your neighbors and respect your elders were traits instilled in me and my two brothers set by amazing parents. My mom, Suzanne, was a rock at maintainingahouseholdwhilemyfather, Dave, worked hard to provide for us.

Dave educated himself with an associate's degree from Wentworth University and later on finished with a bachelor's degree in engineering at Northeastern. I remember vividly him bringing us three boys to one of his finals back then. While we waited in a hallway, he proceeded to pass his final that granted him that degree.

Dave continued to apply and reapply for public works positions to enhance his career while maintaining a stern presence in our household to ensure his wife and boys would grow up taken care of. We never had a lot, but we always had enough.

Through the years of job changes and moving to different parts of New England and the West coast, he never wavered to take care of his family. Leadership through example was his mantra. It was later on in my life when I realized wherever we moved to and/or the position he was in, he was loved by the people he worked with and supported. He always took the high road no matter what challenges he faced and dedicated his time to make sure that the people he knew and worked with so closely were supported succeeded along the way.

In my later years, I had the privilege to work with what he called his public works family. Getting to talk to and know the people he cherished so much was an eye-opening experience and felt so lucky to be a part of such an amazing extension of his life.

I remember - he told me years ago, son you are about to embark on a journey and meet some of the most amazing people who have dedicated their lives to people and public works.

The terms patience, selflessness, accountability and commitment we're all buzz words he spoke of. He was right! Everyone referred to him as the "Master Chief" or just Dave! I'm blessed to be a part of his amazing extended family that he referred to on so many occasions! We/Hanlon's have all gained massive strength from this family with his passing. He loved you all and took a genuine interest in each person's life experience and relationships you have had. Thanks to all of you for sharing your love, support, and heartfelt stories with us. I will miss his presence and guidance!

"I love you dad" - Patrick



# Touch a Truck Event, Williston, Vermont

August 20, 2022



























# PWX National Awards Ceremony

Charlotte, North Carolina



Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE)

New England Chapter



**Donald C. Stone Award** *Marilee Enus* 



Management Innovation Award
Thomas Roy



**Professional Manager of the Year Facilities & Grounds**James McCarthy



Professional Manager of the Year Emergency Management David Lane



**Professional Manager of the Year Transportation**Joseph Ouellette



## Lexington Accreditation

The American Public Works Association announced the reaccreditation of the Lexington, MA Department of Public Works. They were originally accredited in 2014 and this is their 3rd accreditation.



The NE Chapter Connects webinar series has been very popular with our public works community. Did you know we have all of the recordings available for you to view at a time convenient for you and your crew?





Here is a sample of the topics that are available:

- Preparing for Hurricanes/Storms Emergency Operations
- Tips for Dealing with the Public
- Sustainable Winter Operations Are you Prepared?
- New Technologies in Public Works

For the complete video library, visit: <a href="http://newengland.apwa.net">http://newengland.apwa.net</a>

# 2023 Chapter Connects Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	TEAM LEAD
April 27th	Facilities & Grounds Hot Topics	Clay Major
May 25th	Electrification of Municipal Public Works Fleets and Equipment	Donna Shea
September 28th	Topic for Mechanics - TBD	TBD
October 26th	Workforce Planning in Turbulent Times – Success Stories from Navigating Turnover	Marilee Enus
November 30th	TBD	TBD

# Fall Conference

#### **By Amanda Bazinet & John Bechard**

The Chapter was pleased to hold its Fall Conference on October 19, 2022 at the Boxborough Regency Hotel and Conference Center in Boxborough, MA. There were approximately 85 attendees from state agencies, municipalities, consulting firms, contractors and vendors throughout New England gathered to network, socialize, visit with vendors at their table top displays and

attend educational sessions between 8:00 am through 2:00 pm. Two concurrent tracks of education sessions were held, for a total of six presentations. Topics included Technology for Modern Snow Fighting, Powered Cut-Off Saws, Repairing Pavement in Wet & Cold Conditions, Sustainable Winter Operations, Porous Pavement in the Real World and a Panel Presentation on

Mutual Aid Web-based Mapping for Resource Distribution and Coordination. All attendees were eligible to receive CEU's for their participation. The meeting also included election of Chapter Officers for the 2023 term commencing 12/3/22 through 12/2/23. In addition, the Executive Committee Board meeting was held 1:00-2:00 to conduct chapter business.





# Northwest Lunch & Learn

#### **By Art Baker**

The newly formed Northwest Committee of NEAPWA hosted their first meeting event in the fall of 2022. It was very well attended by both members and non-members interested in joining the organization. The event kicked off with presentations covering topics on winter liquids for ice control and snowplow route optimization. The event concluded with a great lunch and

an even better roundtable discussion on employment recruitment and retention. There will be more events like this in the spring and fall of 2023. There will also be the annual equipment show in Barre, VT on May 10th that will include a snowplow rodeo and a backhoe competition along with many vendors displays both inside and outside.







# 2023 NEAPWA Chapter Events

DATE	EVENT NAME	LOCATION	CITY/STATE
April 19	Spring Conference	Pratt & Whitney Stadium	East Hartford, CT
April 25	Administrative Assistant Professional Workshop	TBD	Lexington, MA
May 10	VT Municipal Equipment Show	Barre City Auditorium Complex	Barre, VT
May 21-27	Nat'l Public Works Week	-	-
May 24	NPWW Luncheon	Granite Links Golf Club	Quincy, MA
June 21-23	Summer Conference	Seacrest Beach Hotel	North Falmouth, MA
August 27-30	Public Works Expo (PWX)	San Diego Convention Center	San Diego, CA
August 29	PWX Chapter Dinner	Portside Pier Restaurant	San Diego, CA
October 18	Fall/Snow&Ice	Boxboro Regency Hotel	Boxborough, MA
December 2	EC Holiday Board Meeting	TBD	TBD

# Town of Simsbury honored with 2022 Connecticut Creative Solutions Award

**By Donna Shea** 



Each year the T2 Center at UCONN honors municipal agencies innovative solutions to day-to-day problems. The Town of Simsbury was one of three winners in 2022. Here is an excerpt from their award nomination:

Town of Simsbury Protocols for Continuation of Essential Services During Pandemic Why Was It Necessary? To our knowledge, this issue had not been faced by the public works community in modern times and knowing what a typical winter season was like for our area meant we had to come up with some way of keeping our trucks on the road while keeping our staff safe. We didn't know how COVID would spread in a public works facility where staff work and spend so much time in close quarters.

How Does It Work? Protocols were developed to address quarantine and isolation, as well as ample separation of staff in common areas. This included purchase of individual tent set-ups, renting of portable restroom facilities and procedures for isolated work and equipment assignments.

How Does it Perform? The plan was very successful, creating a safe environment for employees and keeping the crew available for the winter season. Employees felt safe coming to work and those quarantined weren't afraid to share that they were exposed.

Benefit to Your Operation: The Department will be keeping this plan in place for future seasons, regardless of the pandemic. The plan continues to develop with additional facets addressing accessing a broader pool of drivers and mutual aid opportunities with neighboring towns.

Cost Estimate: Under \$100 per set up.

For more information on the CT award program and our other 2022 winners, the Town of Ellington and the City of Waterbury, visit our webpage at: CT Creative Solutions Award Program | T2 Center (uconn.edu)

## **BETA Announces Senior Management Promotions**

Earlier this year, BETA announced several senior management promotions. These individuals have exhibited a commitment to growing the firm, served as mentors to staff, and helped identify and implement ways to improve the quality of our work. Through their example they motivate project staff to provide outstanding client service.

Please join us in congratulating these recent additions to our leadership team:



#### Robert Drake, PE - Senior Vice President

Bob has 39 years of experience coordinating and expediting a variety of water and wastewater projects. Bob is known for his attention to detail, his ability to resolve potential conflicts prior to construction, and completing proposed designs on schedule and under budget.

#### **Kien Ho, PE, PTOE – Senior Vice President**

Kien has 38 years of experience specializing in all aspects of traffic and transportation planning and design. Kien oversees collaboration and communication efforts among the entire Traffic Engineering staff companywide, and has published technical papers on a variety of traffic engineering topics.





#### **Christine King – Vice President**

As BETA's Director of Business Development, Christine has over 20 years of integrated marketing and communications experience. She has worked closely with numerous municipal and agency officials providing a valuable link between BETA staff and clients.



# **EP Celebrates Recent Leadership Promotions**

Environmental Partners' leadership continues to evolve with some exciting Leadership Promotions to share!

#### Dave Patangia PE, Director of Operations | Senior Principal

With over 13 years at EP, Dave has excelled in technical leadership, project delivery and mentorship. As Director of Operations, he will oversee our day-to-day operations, quality assurance, and risk management.

#### Conrad W. Leger, Director of Growth | Principal

Conrad has extensive experience in our industry as a leader in business development and client management. As Director of Growth, Conrad will continue to elevate and lead EP's growth plan, oversee marketing and strategic initiatives, and ensure client satisfaction on every project.

Conrad and Dave join the Senior Leadership team with Ryan Trahan, Ziad Kary and Paul Millett. Bringing unique talent with a range of cross-disciplinary experience, each one of these Senior Leaders uphold the core values of EP's dedication to its staff and its clients. With more exciting news to share, we introduce Helen T. Gordon PE, BCEE, MCPPO and Scott D. Turner PE, AICP, LEED AP ND as our newest Principals and Ziad F. Kary PE, MCPPO



Conrad W. Leger

Dave Patangia, PE

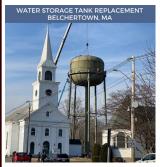
taking on further leadership as our Regional Manager out of our Quincy, MA office.



Please join us in celebrating our EP leaders!

envpartners.com

# Fuss & O'Neill Secures Funding thru MVP Program





As a leading provider of climate resilience services throughout New England, Fuss & O'Neill has partnered with more than 30 Massachusetts municipalities to secure over \$12 million in grant funding through the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program since its inception in 2018. The MVP Program provides funding for Massachusetts cities and towns to plan for climate change impacts (flooding, extreme heat, drought, etc.) and implement priority actions to help communities adapt and become more resilient to climate change. Fuss & O'Neill works with municipal public works and engineering staff, along with other municipal departments and community leaders, to develop projects that align with the priorities outlined in a community's MVP plan and prepare successful Action Grant applications. These projects address vulnerable critical infrastructure, community services, and ecological resources, with a strong focus on climate vulnerable populations, robust community engagement, and the use of nature-based solutions to enhance communities. Successful Action Grant projects have involved planning, design, and construction of nature-based and hybrid infrastructure improvements. Recent examples include riverine and drainage-related flood mitigation, dam removal and river restoration, road-stream crossing improvements, green stormwater infrastructure,

stormwater harvesting/reuse systems, and water storage tank replacement to increase water supply resilience.



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## indus Latest Edition to their Toolkit

Our latest treatment to the indus toolkit is Paver-placed Stabilized Full Depth Reclamation (PPSFDR). Like Cold In-Place recycling and with the same equipment and crew, we are now able to recycle your existing asphalt with subbase material up to 8" deep with PPSFDR.

We started in 2022 with a very successful project in Dartmouth, MA:

"After doing Paver-Placed Stabilized Full Depth Reclamation for the first time, it far exceeded my expectations. Similar to Cold-In-Place recycling, there was very little disturbance to the



residents. Additionally, the cost was about 10% less than a traditional FDR project and we performed structural testing that proved the recycled layer met the design strength."

Paul Pacheco Dartmouth, MA

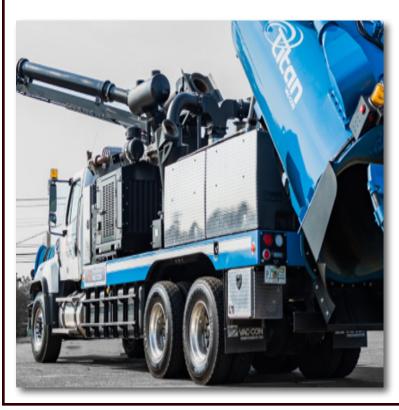


#### **Benefits of PPSFDR:**

- This is a fully engineered process to recycle and reinstall in one continuous pass
- No windrows or motor graders are necessary
- Greatly reduces time and disruptions commonly found with traditional FDR
- Stabilizers add a structural benefit to the recycled layer
- Reduces Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 60% compared to traditional FDR

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## **TEC Welcomes John McVann**

#### John McVann, Senior Advisor – Major Infrastructure Projects

John was formerly the **Director of Project Delivery U.S. DOT** – **Federal Highway Administration (FHA).** John brings over 35 years of experience in delivering roadway and bridge projects to support an annual \$700+ million in Federal aid grant programs in Massachusetts. He has advised federal aid highway policy and program guidance to municipal and state representatives. He has ensured the timely delivery of high-quality, cost-effective roadway and bridge projects to Massachusetts residents, meeting all local, state, and federal requirements. TEC is humbled to have John be a part of our team as a resource to our clients and their roadway and bridge infrastructure projects. Please join us in welcoming John to TEC.



#### **New Headquarters Update**

In 2022, we moved into our brand-new Headquarters at the Pavilion at Riverwalk in Lawrence with the capacity to seat up to 100 people. We are excited to report that the adjacent buildings and site construction is complete, offering new office, retail, and restaurant amenities to TEC in 2023.







theengineeringcorp.com

# Weston & Sampson Roadway Improvements in Watertown, Connecticut



Weston & Sampson completed the design of roadway improvements to about a half mile of Sylvan Lake Road and Falls Avenue in Watertown, Connecticut to improve the intersection sight distances and provide better traffic movement in the area. The project also involved construction inspection of almost 2,000 linear feet of full depth pavement structure replacement with hot mix asphalt and fresh granular base materials. New bituminous lip curbing, reconstructed driveway aprons, and additional catch basins, pipe and drainage outlets were also included, and the installation of a new concrete sidewalk along the southwest side of the roadway was a key feature.

Two precast concrete deck slab bridge structures founded on GRS-IBS substructures were installed at two roadway crossings of the East Branch of Turkey Brook and a new headwall was added to an existing 60-inch RCP culvert carrying the West Branch of Turkey Brook under Sylvan Lake Road. Construction costs for the improvements were about \$2.5 million.

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# **Sean James Named 2023 New Hampshire Engineer of the Year**





Sean James, PE has been selected as the 2023 New Hampshire Engineer of the Year. The Structural Engineers of New Hampshire (SENH) association nominated Sean based on his record of professional accomplishments, service and contributions to the engineering profession and his community volunteering efforts. Sean is a Senior Vice President and Division Manager for Hoyle Tanner's Ground Transportation Group. As Division Manager, he delivers bridge and roadway engineering projects to a diverse group of clients including state agencies, municipalities, and private clients. He leads a team of 36 professionals that includes structural and transportation engineers, designers, and permitting specialists.

HOYLE TANNER
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# PeopleGIS Announces Matthew Berube as New Implementation Director



PeopleGIS is pleased to announce the arrival of Matthew Berube as Implementation Director at PeopleGIS. Matt comes to us with over twenty years of municipal public works experience, is a licensed treatment plant operator, and has developed a love for asset management technology having worked with SimpliCITY Software Services for nearly two decades.

# PEOPLEGIS

where people and GIS come together **peoplegis.com** 

## Welcoming WorldTech Engineering



Has Joined Tighe & Bond

Tighe & Bond welcomed our new colleagues from WorldTech Engineering, a full-service transportation and civil engineering firm, through an acquisition earlier this year. WorldTech's expertise bolsters our transportation services across a complementary base of municipal and private clients. The acquisition augments our current offices in eastern Massachusetts with a Woburn location, bringing the total number to 13 across Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Maine. APWA's Region 1 Director, Rich Benevento, serves as Senior Vice President and Tighe & Bond's Transportation Business Line Leader.



tighebond.com