Hello IPPA Membership!

On May 17th, 2018 our President, Renee Funk, completed her biggest procurement project to date. At 4:03 am Renee gave birth to a daughter, Brooklyn Elizabeth Funk (pictured on left), who was 8 pounds 8 ounces and 20 inches long at birth. We are expecting Renee to be back at the helm in August.

As Vice-President I have had the opportunity to fill in for Renee. At the spring meeting the excellent work of the four agencies hosting the meeting was evident in a tremendous educational and networking experience. At board meetings, I get to work with a wonderful team of professionals dedicated to improving the IPPA. At the June Board meeting it was reported that we have reached 84 members. Congratulations to Karen Server and the IPPA Membership Committee on achieving this milestone. With a steady influx of new members the IPPA will be able to offer more educational opportunities further promoting Procurement in our state.

- James Tanzosch

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Legal Aspects**  | June 13-15, 2018 | Des Moines
- **Intro to Public Procurement**  | October 22-24, 2018 | Des Moines
- **2018 Fall Membership Meeting**  | October 17, 2018 | Iowa City
- **FEMA Procurement Requirements and Reimbursements**  | Fall 2018 | Ames
- **Practical Specification Writing**  | Fall 2018 | Ames

Watch the IPPA website for more information as classes are scheduled so you can take advantage of the $25 early registration discount per class by registering 60 or more days in advance. A late fee of $50 is assessed for registrations received within 30 days of the class.

Contact an Education Committee member with questions.

Heather Mell, h.mell@cedar-rapids.org, board liaison
Mary Nitchel-Hegwood, mary-nitchel@iowa-city.org
Christine Weinard, chris-weinard@iowa-city.org
Tracie Gutknecht, tgutknecht@c.r.k12.ia.us

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They shared about the many procurement projects that have been required as the City of Cedar Rapids works toward full ADA compliance in accordance with an agreement between the City and the United States Department of Justice.

The spring meeting and training conference for the IPPA was held on April 18, 2018 at the Hiawatha Community Center. The City of Cedar Rapids, City of Hiawatha, and Cedar Rapids Community School District co-hosted the meeting. In spite of unusually snowy weather, approximately 30 purchasing professionals from throughout the state attended the meeting.

Following a welcome by IPPA Vice-President James Tanzosch and Hiawatha Mayor Bill Bennett, the day began with a presentation on Purchasing Across Multiple Jurisdictions by Bill Micheel, Assistant Community Development Director for the City of Cedar Rapids, and Kim Downs, City Administrator for the City of Hiawatha, both representing the Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMPO). The CMPO includes representatives from the cities of Cedar Rapids, Hiawatha, Marion, Robins, and others, as well as Linn County, with purchasing services provided by the City of Cedar Rapids when the organization needs to utilize a competitive solicitation process.

The next session was a presentation on The Iowa Card Consortium: Exploring Card Payment Options, by Tracie Gutknecht from the Cedar Rapids Community School District and Anna Milbach, Vice President and Commercial Relationship Manager for U.S. Bank. Several agencies that participate in the IPPA utilize the Consortium and the information shared was interesting and informative.

Karl Wendt, Purchasing Manager for DAS, shared a presentation called Contracting Begins with Your RFx about the many things that need to be considered in a solicitation to increase the probability that the process will result in a successful contract. It is important that our solicitation documents (RFP, RFP, etc.) draw as much information as possible from our vendors to reveal any shortcomings that need to be addressed in the contract. This was a very relevant topic with very helpful information provided. We had additional discussion regarding RFPs later in the day with Karen Server, Purchasing Manager for the City of Ames, and June Nasby, Buyer II for the City of Iowa City, joining Karl as our panel of experts.

Diane Muench shared a brief presentation about volunteering for IPPA and encouraged everyone to consider getting more involved in our Chapter. The more we contribute to the organization the more we benefit! We then enjoyed lunch provided by Olive Garden followed by our business meeting.

The afternoon began with a presentation by Jody Jacoby, CPP, Contracts Manager for the Metropolitan Council in Minnesota and our NIGP Chapter Ambassador for IPPA. Jody shared an overview of the benefits of NIGP and provided information about the path to Certification to help those who are currently working toward their CPPB or CPPO Certification. It was a pleasure to have her visit our Chapter and spend the day with us.

Last but not least, we enjoyed a presentation about ADA Purchasing and Contracting by April Wing, Project Coordinator, and Jeff Koffron, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor, both of the City of Cedar Rapids. They shared about the many procurement projects that have been required as the City of Cedar Rapids works toward full ADA compliance in accordance with an agreement between the City and the United States Department of Justice. Many lessons learned along the way!

It was a full day of learning and networking as the snow fell outside. Thank you to all who attended!

Submitted by Rebecca Johnson
The Nominating Committee has been busy preparing the slate of candidates for the election to be held at the Fall IPPA meeting, October 17, 2018 in Iowa City. There are 6 positions on the ballot, including Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

In addition, the various committees are always looking for volunteers. Committees are:
- Education Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Membership Committee
- Audit Committee
- Awards Committee

How much of a time commitment is required to serve on the board or a committee? Surprisingly, very little! Committee members spend from 4-25 hours per year serving, generally all by conference call - no travel required. Board members meet once per month via conference call and once per year at an in-person meeting. Board members also act as liaisons to the various committees.

A big thank you to all who have volunteered to run for a board position this Fall, to be effective January 1, 2019.

Submitted by Diane Muench

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT

HTTPS://WWW.RIDEDART.COM/BUSINESS-CENTER/PROCUREMENT

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority, or DART, is the largest public transit agency in Iowa, serving 19 member governments in and around Polk County. DART operates 29 Fixed Routes, Paratransit and On Call service as well as provides resources for those who vanpool, walk or bike. Our fleet of nearly 150 buses and more than 100 RideShare vans travel thousands of miles daily throughout the Greater Des Moines region, transporting people to work, events, shopping, school and home.

DART receives capital and operating assistance from a variety of sources, including the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) of the United States Department of Transportation, the State of Iowa, the Regional Transit Authority levy and a number of other fund sources.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN IPPA?

We are looking forward to the networking and professional development opportunities that IPPA facilitates.

STAFF INFORMATION

One (1) Procurement Manager, Mike Tiedens
One (1) Contract Administrator, Dan Clark - .6 FTE
One (1) Buyer, Jena Johnson - .6 FTE

MOST SUCCESSFUL OR UNIQUE CONTRACT CATEGORIES

Rolling stock – various sized buses and vans for revenue purposes. Other than that, we procure professional and non-professional services, construction, and commodities.

OFFERING OR IMPLEMENTING THE FOLLOWING:

eProcurement - NO
Vendor Scorecards - NO
Online Bidding and Contract Management System - NO
Requisition or PO System - Paramount Workplace

NEW MEMBERS

18 new Members this year!
Welcome to IPPA, we are excited to get to know you.

1) Cate Brehmer
   State of Iowa
2) Amanda Capanema
   University of Iowa
3) Dan Clark
   DART
4) Christine Conroy
   Davenport Community Schools
5) Emily Flammang
   Iowa City Community Schools
6) Joshua Hannan
   University of Iowa
7) Rebecca Huff
   Davenport Community Schools
8) Jennifer Jark
   University of Iowa
9) Jena Johnson
   DART
10) Allison Milikin
    City of Cedar Rapids
11) E. Vivian Moore
    Davenport Community Schools
12) Aaron Proctor
    University of Iowa
13) Greg Snipes
    University of Iowa
14) David Stenersen
    University of Iowa
15) Michael Tiedens
    DART
16) Doris Vaske
    University of Iowa
17) Chandra Wojno
    University of Iowa
18) Kui Xiao
    University of Iowa
DON’T WAIT, NOMINATE! - - 2018 IPPA AWARDS

The **Member of the Year Award** recognizes an individual’s contributions to the Iowa Public Procurement Association.

The **Professional of the Year Award** recognizes an individual’s contribution to the Procurement Profession.

We all feel that it is “very important” that IPPA members be recognized for their accomplishments and contributions to their agency and to the public procurement profession.

We all frequently hear purchasing professionals say that they don’t feel acknowledged by their agency and that many view them as a roadblock rather than a valued resource. One of the first steps to overcome this perception is to acknowledge each other in positive public ways.

- Do you know a member who has devoted endless hours to the Iowa Public Procurement Association? Served as a board member or officer, served as a committee chair or committee member, served as a project leader, served as a meeting host or organizer, served as newsletter editor or webmaster, recruited chapter members, or submitted articles to the chapter newsletter or website.

- Do you know a member who developed an innovative resolution of a critical procurement issue?

- Do you know a member who has worked in the background in order to further the goals of our profession?

- Do you admire a member of the association for his or her dedication to the profession?

- Do you know a member who has demonstrated innovation in changing procurement concepts, policies and procedures to improve efficiency?

Within the next few weeks, IPPA members will be receiving an email with information on how to submit a nomination. I encourage you to take 15 -20 minutes and nominate one of your fellow IPPA colleagues for “Professional of the Year” or “Member of the Year”.

*Submitted by June Nasby*

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**IPPA MEMBERSHIP**

Come join our organization today. Our membership fee is only $20. You can register through the IPPA website at https://www.ippanigp.org/.

The IPPA is dedicated to enhancing the level of professionalism in our careers by: biannual chapter meetings and trainings, networking opportunities, volunteer opportunities, CEU courses, training by NIGP leaders, classes to prepare for the CPPB/CPPO certifications, and so much more.

The IPPA is a wonderful outlet to our members for professional counsel. The networking aspect of what this organization has to offer can take a little stress off a difficult decision you might have to make at your workplace. We offer each other support by sharing ideas, processes, forms, our experiences with a variety of procurements, and discussions of outcomes in our challenging profession.

You may know someone in procurement in a surrounding community in your area, or have other colleagues that would benefit in what the IPPA has to offer. Please invite them to the next meeting.

If your membership has expired, don’t worry, it’s simple to renew. Go to the IPPA website at https://www.ippanigp.org/. All procurement professionals are welcome!

Karen Server, IPPA Membership Committee, kserver@city.ames.ia.us or 515-239-5127.

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**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

The **IPPA Chapter Connection** newsletter is a quarterly publication. Newsletters will be published in March, June, September, and December.

*Re-certification points are given for any newsletter articles that are submitted for publication.*

You may submit articles to Jamie Albertsen via email at jamiea@iastate.edu

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**CELEBRATING 10 YEARS WITH IPPA**

**October 17, 2018**

**IPPA Fall Meeting**

Come take a stroll around the pond.

Exciting events to come!

Visit the scenic Terry Trueblood Recreation Area

[Image of a pond with a bridge]

**www.ippanigp.org**