



The Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing Association

Rocky Mountain High Notes

DECEMBER, 2010

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Letter from the President

Submitted by Danielle Hinz, CPPO, C.P.M.



It is hard to believe that 2010 is already ready to close up shop! It has truly been my pleasure to serve as your President this year, and I look forward to serving as Past President with Jerel Nielsen steering the ship in 2011. This organization is full of members that are passionate about what they do and truly want to be the best and help others to be awesome too!

The Board has been phenomenal this year! You should know that everyone on the Board – officers and committee chairs alike – take their responsibility to serve you very seriously! At our October Board meeting, I wanted to summarize the amazing things that had happened this year. Very quickly, the list became quite lengthy. When you consider that the folks who accomplished this long list of amazing things have full-time (and then some) jobs AND that they don't get paid to serve on the Board, then you realize that their ability to accomplish this amount of success is nothing short of amazing! Please join me in thanking them for their service in 2010! Many of them will be continuing on in 2011, but a special THANK YOU to those that have decided to step aside and allow others to take their turn:

- Terri Kindsfather, CPPB, CPIM – Past President, City of Lakewood
- Sharon Williams, CPPB – Treasurer, City of Brighton
- Mary Jablonski, CPPB – Secretary, Thompson School District
- Traci Burtnett, CPPO – Chair—Chapter Enhancement Committee, Thompson School District
- Tim Wellmann, CPPB – Chair—Communications Committee, St Vrain Valley School District (he will be remaining as co-chair)
- Charlie Geanetta, C.P.M. – Chair—Legislative Committee, State Purchasing Office



Questions about the newsletter? Comments? Contact the editor at msieben@jeffco.us

There were 2 task forces that I was appointed for this year – one worked on developing the concept and ground work for the Business Advisory Community, and the other refined our Student Membership program. Thank you to Terri Kindsfather and Jerel Nielsen for leading those task forces, respectively.

Please see the list on page 2 highlighting the accomplishments of the Board in 2010. If the list has inspired you to volunteer your time in service to this fantastic organization, please contact any of the Board members.

Happy Holidays to you and your families and may 2011 find you with more blessings than you can count!

~ Danielle



2010 RMGPA Board Accomplishments

2010 was a fantastic year for RMGPA, in part due to the following achievements:

- NIGP Large Chapter of the Year Finalist
- Creation of a new Marketing Chair position on the Board
- Strategic session identifying duties and tasks for Marketing Committee and prioritization of same
- Task Force Work –
 - Business Advisory Community: Mission, Vision, Logo. Turning over to the Board (Past President) for 2011.
 - Student Membership: NIGP task force participation. First students to attend RMGPA function (RVTS). Collaboration with school groups for active recruitment. Participated in a panel discussion at Fort Collins High School.
- Continued community service projects at every conference
- Enhancements to budgeting process as transition to 2011 and beyond
- Policies & Procedures for each Board position to ease in transition
- Guidelines for Distinguished Service Award and the new Volunteer of the Year award
- Collaboration with Northern Colorado Business Report's BIXPO event for the Reverse Vendor Trade Show
- New look for the website and the addition of a photo gallery
- No cancelled classes
- Furthered work on Document Retention
- Collaboration with the Colorado Municipal League to provide information to membership regarding November ballot measures 60/61/101
- Enhancement of RMGPA logo
- Increased Membership from 426 to 432
- Three successful newsletters (not including the one you are now reading)
- Collaboration with the National Association for Educational Procurement for Spring Conference
- Electronic surveys for conferences which has greatly increased the response rate
- Reduced membership dues for agencies with only 1 member, and did not raise any membership dues amounts
- Added new membership definitions to better enable the organization to accept members that are not employed in public procurement (i.e., students, instructors, retirees that are still working, etc.)
- Achieved our group tax exemption through NIGP
- Quorum at every Board meeting

We are looking for interested and motivated members to step forward and join a committee. **Get involved and make a difference!**



Education & Professional Development Report

Submitted by Kristen Spicola, Education & Professional Development Committee Chair

2011 Pro D Courses – Registration Now Open

Visit RMGPA's website to register for the following courses:

Developing and Managing RFP's
When: April 13-15
Where: Arapahoe County Sheriff Office
Presenter: Beth Fleming

Register by February 11th to receive a \$75 discount on your registration! Don't Wait – Register today for the first course in 2011.....

Contract Administration
When: July 20-22
Where: Fort Collins City Community Building
Presenter: Jennie Readey

Register by May 20th to receive a \$75 discount on your registration! Don't Wait – Register Today!



The following courses are *tentatively* scheduled:

- May 13 **Manage End Users and Suppliers – It's All About You**
Academy School District 20 in Colorado Springs
- June 1 **Adding Value to the Procurement Process**
Vail – Day Prior to Winter Conference
- October 19-21 **Legal Aspects in Public Procurement**
City of Aurora

Keep checking the RMGPA website to see if a class is confirmed.

2010 Class Schedule a Success

The **Protests and Disputes: What's a Buyer to Do** course was held November 4-5th in Durango, Colorado and was well received by our southern members. Our New Mexico attendees especially appreciated the closer location as recent classes have been confined to the Denver Metro area.

The **Risk Management in Public Procurement** course finished off our year with 13 members taking advantage of this worthwhile course.

A special thank you to Bill Taylor, his assistant Maria Sandoval, of Division of Central Services in Denver; Diana Wilson and Karen Herman of City of Durango for their help in coordinating the October and November Pro D Events. The courses couldn't have been a success without your help!

Thanks, too, to YOU, RMGPA members and the entire Pro D Committee, for another successful year without any course cancellations!!! The committee would also like to thank members for responding to the 2011 educational survey.

Education & Professional Development Report—

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Submitted by Kristen Spicola, Education & Professional Development Committee Chair

2011 CPPB and CPPO Exam Dates

May 2 – 14, 2011 Exam

Apply by **January 31, 2011**

Register for Exam by March 28, 2011

October 17 – 29, 2011 Exam

Apply by July 18, 2011

Register for Exam by Sept. 12, 2011

The coveted Certified Public Purchasing Officer (CPPO) and Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB) credentials, recognized throughout the public procurement profession, demonstrate an individual's comprehensive knowledge of public procurement.

Scholarships Take Advantage of RMGPA's Scholarship Program

RMGPA awarded \$2,825 in scholarships for the 2010 Pro D year. Congratulations to everyone who was awarded scholarships and we want to encourage members to take advantage of this opportunity especially during tough economic times. The scholarship application can be found on RMGPA's website under the Membership tab.

Please contact Kristen at kspicola@pueblowater.org if you are interested in being a part of this exciting committee, are interested in hosting a course in 2011, or have any questions about the scholarship program! We are looking forward to another successful Pro D year!

2010 UPPCC Agency Certification Award Application Deadline Approaching

Each year the UPPCC recognizes public entities that have demonstrated their commitment, support and dedication to excellence in public procurement through professional certification.

Achievement of the UPPCC Agency Certification Award speaks volumes about an agency's professional expertise. Such an accomplishment results in increased credibility and recognition from elected officials and the citizenry you serve.

To find out what it takes to qualify for the Agency Certification Award and the recognition your agency deserves, [download](#) the application today.

Be sure to submit no later than December 31.

If your agency previously earned the Agency Certification Award, be sure to apply again as the Award is bestowed annually. Agencies holding the Award for three consecutive years automatically qualify to receive the UPPCC Sterling Agency Award.

For more information about professional certification, visit www.uppcc.org.

UPPCC: New Strategic Plan...

New Name, New Certification Requirements

November 15, 2010 (Herndon, VA)...The UPPCC announced today that it has officially **changed the name of the organization to the Universal Public Procurement Certification Council (UPPCC)**. Previously known as the Universal Public Purchasing Certification Council since its founding in 1978, the members of the UPPCC Governing Board, UPPCC's policy making body, decided that a name change was in order for the organization during its 2010 strategic planning process which concluded in April.

To coincide with the changes made to the name of the organization, the Governing Board also **changed the name of its senior-level certification program to Certified Public Procurement Officer (CPPO)**. The Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB) certification name remains unchanged.

The strategic planning process also brought to light the desire of the organization to renew its commitment to elevating the importance of certification within the public procurement profession. To support this initiative, **the UPPCC is introducing new certification eligibility and recertification requirements. These new requirements will become effective as of January 1, 2014.**

New Certification Eligibility Requirements

The new eligibility requirements will be based on minimum requirements that will apply to all applicants. These minimum requirements will replace the current eligibility schedules which are based on a sliding scale directly related to the applicants' level of formal education.

Highlights of the new eligibility requirements include the following:

- A **formal educational degree** from an accredited college or university is **required**
- **Accredited college/university level procurement coursework** is **required**
- **Only coursework and training completed and experience obtained within the previous ten (10) years of submitting an application for certification** will be **applicable** toward meeting the minimum eligibility requirements.

This ten year limitation does not apply to formal educational degrees earned by the applicant; formal educational degrees are applicable toward meeting the minimum requirements for certification regardless of the year in which they were earned.

New Recertification Requirements

The new recertification requirements will be based solely on participation in activities that contribute to a certificant's continued professional development or to the field of public procurement in general.

Highlights of the new recertification requirements include the following:

- **Membership category eliminated** as a potential source for earning recertification credit
- **Recertification Credit** must be **earned in a minimum of 2 out of 3 categories:**
 - ? Continuing Education – Accredited
 - ? Continuing Education – Non-Accredited
 - ? Professional Contributions
- Current Lifetime Status replaced with a **new Retired Status**

Although new certificates will not be issued to previous certificants, they may be purchased individually for a small fee.

*The UPPCC will be accepting applications for initial certification and recertification under the existing requirements until the new changes take effect in 2014. The **next application submission deadline is January 31, 2011 for the May 2-14, 2011 testing window.***

Communications Committee Report

Submitted by Tim Wellmann, CPPB, Communications Committee Chair

2010 Year End Update

- RMGPA Website Re-Design (**COMPLETE**) – We hope RMGPA members are please with the new look of the RMGPA website. The re-design consisted of a new home page, internal page templates, images and color palate. During the website re-design, we captured how regionally diverse our organization is by including images on the front page that represent Wyoming, Colorado Springs, downtown Denver, the western slope and most areas in between.
- Addition of a Photo Gallery (**COMPLETE**) – Photos of RMGPA and NIGP events can now be viewed by clicking on the RMGPA Photo Gallery link located under Member Services on the front page of our chapter website.
- Transition to electronic surveys and conference evaluations via Survey Monkey (**COMPLETE**) – This has proved to be very beneficial to the chapter. Membership response has increased dramatically and the feedback has been outstanding. Hats off to the Danielle and Committee chairs for their efforts!
- Post Historical Information on the RMGPA Website (**IN-PROCESS**) – This has been a bit challenging this year. The Historian Committee is in the process of determining Past Presidents, previous Buyer/Manager of the Year and Distinguished Service Award Recipients. Lists are continuing to be circulated for additional input.
- Add Specifications Library to Chapter Website (**IN-PROCESS**) - This is still in the works with our website provider.

2011 Goals

- Continue work on Historical Information and Specification Library goals.
- Add COOP Module to Chapter Website – Central repository for cooperative contracts. Parameters to be defined.
- Introduce quarterly “Website Hints” or “Did You Know” articles.
- Recruit more members to serve on the Communication Committee.

Members Making Ch-ch-ch-CHANGES...

<u>Member</u>	<u>Former Agency</u>	<u>New Agency or Status</u>
Jim Walker	Adams 12 Five Star Schools	State Purchasing Office
Charlie Geanetta	City of Thornton	State Purchasing Office
Sherri Gibson	Boulder Valley School District	State Purchasing Office
Tim Wellmann	City of Arvada	St. Vrain Valley School District
Kelly Wooden	St. Vrain Valley School District	Adams 12 Five Star Schools
Mary Kirschmer	South Metro Fire District	Aurora Public Schools
Ryan Harter	Denver Public Schools	Adams 12 Five Star Schools
Jennifer Bergman	Auraria Higher Ed Center	City of Brighton (Independent Contractor)
Manny Ben	Denver Public Schools	Dept. of Corrections
Jennifer Jones	City of CO Springs	50 th Contracting Squadron, Schriever AFB
Phil Tinsley	Littleton Public Schools	RMPGA Lifetime Member

2010 Winter Conference at a Glance



The 2011 Executive Board



Ruth Smith, winner of the 2010 Distinguished Service Award!



2010 Board Members in attendance

**THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN
GOVERNMENTAL
PURCHASING
ASSOCIATION**



Visit us on the web at www.rmgpa.org

Dedicated to Excellence in
Public Purchasing

Rocky Mountain
Regional Chapter of



**Winner of NIGP's Large Chapter of
the Year in 2006 and 2009!**

THE LAST WORD

Hi-res.JPG file download - Resolution 5000x3750px - www.psdgraphics.com



Photo submitted by proud grandmother, Sharon Williams, who says, *"This is my granddaughter Kimberly and my newest grandson, Bradin Keith Williams, born 10/11/10. He missed being born on 10/10/10 by a few hours."*



Winter Wonderland
Indian Peaks near Brainerd Lake



2010 RMGPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

POSITION	OFFICER	E-Mail	PHONE
President	Danielle Hinz CPPO, C.P.M.	danielle.hinz@ci.longmont.co.us	(303) 651-8494
Vice President	Jerel Nielsen CPPO, CPPB	jnielsen@psdschools.org	(970) 490-3554
Secretary	Mary Jablonski CPPB	jablonskim@thompson.k12.co.us	(970) 613-5149
Treasurer	Sharon Williams CPPB	swilliams@brightonco.gov	(303) 655-2001
Past President	Terri Kindsfather CPPB, C.P.I.M.	terkin@lakewood.org	(303) 987-7673

STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	E-Mail	PHONE
Awards	Marsha Peterson CPPO	peterson_marsha@stvrain.k.12.co.us	(303) 682-7309
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2010 COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS			
COMMITTEE	CO-CHAIR NAME	E-Mail	PHONE
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Programs	Cheryl Dye, CPPB	chedye@lakewood.org	(303) 987-7885

Holiday Greetings