

Fellow BCxA NW Chapter Members,

Wow. What a rollercoaster ride 2020 was. Amongst other things, the majority of us learned to work remotely, many of us have likely helped kids figure out how to learn remotely, and we've all had to learn how to juggle our personal and professional lives without the ability to always be with one another in person.

And yet, with the lessons learned over the last year, I hope we've all gained insight into the value that we add as commissioning providers by showing that we can facilitate finding innovative solutions to continually evolving problems and keep our teams moving forward. After all, we are ultimately problem solvers and team leaders, so tackling these tough times is just part of what we do!

Thus, in the spirit of taking on new challenges, it's my honor to step up to the plate as your 2021 chapter president. Along with the chapter board, we want to work to facilitate your ability to do your best work and to build our industry's reputation by educating the public on what we do and how we add value to projects for owners. As I've recently taken on a career change putting me into the owner's shoes, I'm looking forward to leveraging my new role to educate fellow owners on the value of commissioning and the values of the BCxA and will be looking to you to facilitate that same conversation with your peers and colleagues as well.

To support these conversations, we have set up four lunch-n-learn virtual meetings to get together as a chapter, discuss chapter business, and catch up on the latest technical advancements in our industry. We're also discussing some exciting ways to keep our discussions going in virtual channels for as long as the COVID situation or geography and time-zone difference prevents us from getting together in person.

Lastly, one of my goals this year as president is to work to further develop our chapter's connection with *all* parts of our region, especially those that might feel more remote from the larger Seattle and Portland regions. Even though your work might not be in a major metropolitan area, it's no less important and your input to our chapter's efforts is so very valuable. I'm hopeful that our increased use of virtual meetings throughout our lives will help us build greater opportunities for all of us to participate and I look forward to having your voices added to our discussions.

Here are some of the highlights of the coming year:

- We'll be picking up the planning and execution of the virtual BCxA chapter conference in the next few weeks, with a target date to be determined. More information will be available at the March 18th meeting. To help with this conference, contact Treasa Sweek.
- Informal meet-ups will start sometime this year, outdoors if necessary. Will you host a meeting in your city? We are also holding out hope that we can have a holiday party this year. Do you want to host it, or do you have some fun ideas about how to do it virtually? Contact Angela Templin if you are interested.
- Our website has recently been updated by national, so we are in the process of getting our chapter page updated with recent relevant information such as; chapter news, chapter

documents, presentations, energy code links, and event information. Check it out at <https://www.bcx.org/northwest/>. If you have any comments or questions on the website, connect with our chapter webmaster, Mike Bigelow.

I am looking forward to another year of exciting industry collaboration and seeing the results of our continued outreach to the next generation of commissioning providers through our student outreach efforts. Please contact me at any time to chat or discuss how you can get involved.

### **Board Members for 2021**

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| Travis Lynn, President   | <a href="mailto:travis.lynn@bms.com">travis.lynn@bms.com</a>                         |
| John Herboth, President Elect, Membership & Advocacy Sub-Committee Sponsor | <a href="mailto:johnh@nvesi.com">johnh@nvesi.com</a>                                 |
| Scott Henderson, Treasurer   | <a href="mailto:ScottHe@mckinstry.com">ScottHe@mckinstry.com</a>                     |
| Jeremy Bromley, Secretary  | <a href="mailto:jeramybromley@keithlybarber.com">jeramybromley@keithlybarber.com</a> |
| Michael Bigelow, Webmaster   | <a href="mailto:MikeBi@mckinstry.com">MikeBi@mckinstry.com</a>                       |
| Scott Usselman, Member at Large  | <a href="mailto:Scott.Usselman@eeiengineers.com">Scott.Usselman@eeiengineers.com</a> |
| Angela Templin, Meet-Up Sub-Committee Sponsor                              | <a href="mailto:Atemplin@glumac.com">Atemplin@glumac.com</a>                         |
| Caleb Aring, Member at Large   | <a href="mailto:caleb@elevatebcx.com">caleb@elevatebcx.com</a>                       |
| Treasa Sweek, Educational and Conference Sub-Committee Sponsor             | <a href="mailto:treasa@sweekengineers.com">treasa@sweekengineers.com</a>             |

### **Sub-Committees**

Throughout my life, in a wide array of scenarios including 4-H and the Marines, I've been told that you only get out of life what you put into it. The same is true for membership in the BCxA. Although you may not currently be a board member, one of the best ways to add more value to your professional life is to contribute some of your energy into our chapter. In addition to helping drive the direction of the BCxA NW Chapter activities, you'll also be building your commissioning skillset through interpersonal communication and collaboration with other peers in the Cx industry, which will also help expand your personal network. We have four sub-committees sponsored by the board this year, and all have openings for members to get involved, whether as a subcommittee member or as the chair. Here are brief descriptions of what each committee is working on. If you're interested in throwing your hat in the ring or curious about the level of engagement, don't hesitate to reach out to the board sponsors listed below for more information.

#### **Meet ups**

Sponsor: Angela Templin. This sub-committee will be coordinating local meet ups to encourage networking and collaboration of our membership. There is a need for representative help in each location where members could potentially meet in groups from Anchorage Alaska to Bozeman Montana or if someone is willing to fly, meet our one member, Jeff, in Honolulu Hawaii once we can travel safely again! Even if all our meet ups are virtual this year, local representation helps facilitate better

coordination and increases local engagement. Reach out to Angela with any questions about how you can help.

### **Educational/Conference**

Sponsor: Treasa Sweek. The chapter worked very hard last year to put together a killer conference agenda with some amazingly knowledgeable speakers, but as we all know, the circumstances and ever changing public health situation ended up with us making the tough decision to postpone from our initial October date. This subcommittee will be leveraging much of the existing agenda and knowledge gained through 2020's planning process to put together a virtual format conference for 2021, and the efforts will include developing our budget and revenue goals, identify partner organizations and sponsors, and updating our educational program. Reach out to Treasa if you'd like to leverage your skills to help us put on an outstanding educational event later this year!

### **Advocacy**

Sponsor: John Herboth. The Advocacy Sub-Committee is building on the strong momentum gained through the work in 2020. As our chapter includes members from Idaho, Alaska, Montana, Oregon, Washington, & Hawaii, we are hoping to continue to expand our industry's reach and impact as states continue to enact regulations and codes concerning commissioning.

We are collecting legislative information that is impacting commissioning, especially energy code updates. Then we will be disseminating that info to our membership as well as national. One large goal of ours is to create a "commissioning for code officials" presentation. Pilot planned for Bozeman, Montana, more to come with your help.

### **Membership**

Sponsor: John Herboth. This group is responsible for greeting new members and checking in with current members so we make this chapter work for its member's changing needs. We'll also reach out to attendees at BCxA and supporting organization events to grow the chapter's network and membership base. If you are interested in growing your personal network and engaging with other chapter members, please contact John to be a sub-committee member or volunteer to be the representative for your state or region.

Thank you for your continued support of our chapter and I look forward to speaking with you all at our first quarter meeting.

Sincerely,

**Travis Lynn**

BCxA NW Chapter President  
Travis.lynn@bms.com

c 206-225-1376

