

MINUTES

Research Advisory Committee, Region 4 Meeting
Monday, July 24, 2017 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (ET)
Louisville, Kentucky
Phone Information

Toll Free Call in number: 1-866-453-6246

Participant passcode: 9908730

Roll Call

Present	Name	Organization
X	Carolyn Morehouse	Alaska DOT
X	Dianne Kresich	Arizona DOT
	Jim Appleton	California DOT
By phone	Pete Zaniewski	California DOT
By Phone	Joe Horton – Chair	California DOT
	Aziz Khan	Colorado DOT
	Amanullah Mommandi	Colorado DOT
	Wayne Kawahara	Hawaii DOT
X	Ned Parrish	Idaho TD
X	Sue Sillick	Montana DOT
	Mostafa Jamshidi	Nebraska DOR
X	Ken Chambers – Vice Chair	Nevada DOT
X	Randall Soderquist	New Mexico DOT
	Ray Chavez	New Mexico DOT
retired	Ron Horner	North Dakota DOT
	Clayton Schumaker	North Dakota DOT
X	Ron Curb	Oklahoma DOT
X	Teresa Stephens - Secretary	Oklahoma DOT
X	David Ooten	Oklahoma DOT
X	Michael Bufalino	Oregon DOT
X	Dave Huft	South Dakota DOT
X	Rocio Perez	Texas DOT
X	Kevin Pete	Texas DOT
By phone	Wade Odell	Texas DOT
X	Cameron Kergaye	Utah DOT
	David Stevens	Utah DOT
	Rhonda Brooks	Washington DOT
By phone	Tim McDowell	Wyoming DOT
X	Enid White	Wyoming DOT

Special Guests in Attendance...

Mary Huie, FHWA
Mary Moulten, National Transportation Library
Keith Platte, AASHTO

Welcome and Introductions

- Ask for help reviewing minutes
Thank you to Rocio Perez (TXDOT) and Ned Parrish (ITD)

Administration Updates

- Pass out RAC 4 roster and Listserv for review and updates
No handout, but updates were received.
- Discuss and finalize dinner plans for Wednesday
We enjoyed a great time at Guy Fieri's Smokehouse with 15 colleagues in attendance.

Membership changes

- Identify any new and outgoing members
Ron Horner (ND) retired; best wishes to him in his new journey.
Clayton Shumaker (ND) was involved in a serious automobile accident and has been part time in the office. Best wishes to him for a full recovery!!

Region IV overview and goals

- What did we accomplish this year?
 - NCHRP Regional Scoring
 - Submittal Deadline is around October 15 at 4 p.m.
 - Region 4's top projects were forwarded through a 2 step balloting process.
 - Tim McDowell and Cameron Kergaye were participants. THANK YOU!!
 - Updated our meeting schedule to every other month
 - Seems to be working for the majority of the membership.
 - Accomplished Peer Exchanges in – CA, UT, TX
 - SD Bus Tour was a success and comments were positive.
 - Discussions – Research Program “Topic of the Meeting”
 - The group feedback on this was very positive and specifically mentioned how helpful the information is to our region partners.
 - Alaska DOT (Carolyn Morehouse) hosted WASHTO in Summer 2017.
- What do we want to accomplish this year?
 - Continue NCHRP Regional Scoring – resounding YES
 - Planned Peer Exchanges in – MT, Other?
 - Montana utilized a third party - CTC
 - Arizona, New Mexico are planning peer exchanges
 - Michael Bufalino (OrDOT) mentioned Peer Exchange Pooled Fund
 - Another option is utilizing the LTAP for assistance with your peer exchange.
 - Another alternative for peer exchanges is a virtual session.
 - Contact John Moulden and Jack Jernigan for more information.
 - A resource is the FHWA Guidance on Peer Exchanges.
 - Continued discussions on ways to improve research activities
 - Research Topic/Project Reporting
 - HVR Submittals
 - Possibility of going through the projects before scoring.
 - Also, John Milton of Washington State is a SCRI member now.

RAC IV Peer Exchanges

- Summary of RAC 4 Peer Exchanges Completed last 12 months
 - California
 - Utah
 - Texas
 - North Dakota
- Identify Upcoming Peer Exchanges and Topics
 - Montana
 - Arizona
 - New Mexico

SCRI/RAC reorganization

- Position Paper
 - Keith Platte discussed the RAC position paper on new AASHTO committee structure. Research will now be a part of the Special Committee on Research and Innovation (SCRI). The term “Special” replaces “Standing” because of overarching functions.
 - Highlights included that one of the catalysts for amending the structure was a need for a quicker response to hot topics. RAC will be reporting to the new SCRI along with the AASHTO Innovation Initiative (formerly of SCOH) and the committee’s composition will change.
 - The committee will meet in Spring and Fall.
 - Funding for future committee research has not yet been established.
 - Discussion continued among the members on how innovation fits with RAC.
- Include “Implementation” as a separate group?
 - Replace implementation with Innovation (from All)
 - Brian Ness, Executive Director of Idaho, will chair the new SCRI with Ned Parrish in a supporting role.
 - It was mentioned that approximately 30 states provide funding.
 - The All began as an offshoot of the first SHRP to promote ideas to other DOTs, but unfortunately were used by a few.
 - Currently, there are four RAC members on the All Steering Committee.
- SCOR becomes Special Committee on Research and Innovation (SCRI)
 - How to include “Innovation” in current Research focused group?
 - Ned Parrish, Idaho, states that RAC and its Task Forces are valuable and would be a good place to help determine this solution.
 - It was mentioned that currently no accountability exists for funding.
 - SCRI Retreat to be held on August 8-9
 - AASHTO Board of Directors meets in September and will likely want feedback from SCRI.

Discussion on Libraries

- AZ, NY, IA, CT, ID, AK: vacant positions/dismantled
 - Mitch Isom (NV) very concerned for future of libraries.
 - Success stories include OK and MT – hiring a librarian definitely adds benefit.
 - Mary Moulton mentioned the National Cooperative Digitization effort and stated it is high priority and has the goal of preventing duplication.
- Pooled-fund project ended. Is this a concern? Is it a TKN task force issue?
 - Not at this time.

RAC Winter Meeting Planning

JANUARY 2018

- Composing the agenda for the winter meeting is our region's turn.
 - Oklahoma DOT will assist in this effort.

Please forward items you wish to see on the agenda to
David Ooten
State Research Engineer
Oklahoma DOT
dooten@odot.org

RAC Mid-year Meeting Planning for 2019

- Looking into hosting the meeting in New Mexico. Randall Soderquist will check with his Director for confirmation.

Task Force Participation

- Remind people to attend task force meetings and volunteer if they can help
- Jason Bittner has completed research on Peer Exchanges. Need a team to help implement the results into the existing guidance documents.
- Presentation on the peer exchanges will be Wednesday of Kentucky RAC meeting.

Wrap-up and next meeting

- Our next Region 4 meeting will be a WebEx on Thursday, August 17th from 12:00-1:00 p.m. PST
 - This was amended by Joe Horton to be held on August 24th instead.