

RAC REGION 2 TELECONFERENCE DRAFT MINUTES

March 8, 2016

10:00-11:30 am Eastern/9:00-10:30 am Central

Attendees: Elisha Wright-Kehner (Arkansas, Chair), Cindy Smith (Mississippi, Vice Chair), Joe Crabtree (Kentucky Transportation Center UTC), Terry Swygert (South Carolina), Tyson Rupnow (Louisiana), Sam Cooper (Louisiana), Darryll Dockstader (Florida)

Membership News

Congratulations to David Jared, who is the new RAC Vice Chair. We are pleased to continue Region 2's representation in the RAC leadership.

SCOR Update (Dockstader/Jared)

SCOR's next meeting is March 17-18, 2016. They will select the FFY17 NCHRP projects. Tanisha Hall (Tennessee), Roger Healy (Alaska), and Cameron Kergaye (Utah), Rodger Rochelle (North Carolina) are new SCOR members. David will be at SCOR meeting, but Darryll had a conflict and cannot attend. Please let David know if you have any NCHRP projects you wish him to push forward at next week's meeting.

Southeast Transportation Consortium (STC) Update (Rupnow)

STC's next meeting is scheduled for June 14-15, 2016, in Atlanta, Georgia, with June 13 being a travel day. Please let David know if you will attend. The hotel rate is \$138/night at the Crowne Plaza, and the meeting will take place at One Georgia Center, GDOT's central office. Contractor is working on the performance measures project. The question was raised as to whether GDOT will handle travel arrangements since Louisiana is the lead state. Louisiana will ultimately pay travel costs, but the transfer of the money will be worked out. LADOTD will send out email advising that the pooled fund will pay for one attendee for each state.

Task Force Updates

Administration—Please update RAC website DOT research program fact sheets. Send updated documents to Allison Hardt. Cindy sent an email on 2/19/16 about this, and a few states have submitted theirs (GA, SC, MS that we are aware of). Cynthia Jones has sent a couple of survey requests regarding TRB winter meeting feedback and Your Role in RAC for this year's summer meeting. Maina Tran of TRB has replace Natassja Linzau. Please coordinate with Maina on website posting, such as surveys, minutes, etc.

Coordination and Collaboration (C&C)—No report.

Program Management & Quality (PM&Q)—The next PM&Q conference call is March 10, 2016, at 10:00 am Central/11 am Eastern. New leadership is under discussion but not finalized.

Technical Knowledge Networks (TKN)—This task force has not met since November. Leni Oman and Curtis Bradley are co-chairs.

Value of Research (VoR)—High-Value Research nominations are due March 31, 2016 (see Bill Stone's email). Every state is encouraged to nominate 2-3 projects. The Marketing Working group is working on supplemental brochures for areas of safety and pavement, with LTRC doing the layout. Please check email and vote on these. The Performance Measures Working Group is chaired by Jason Siwula. The next VoR conference call is tomorrow (March 9, 2016) from 11:00 am-noon Central/Noon-1:00 pm Eastern.

SHRP2 Update (All)

LADOTD is working on the north Louisiana precast pavement project, construction on which will likely start in December or January. Arkansas would like to come and visit this project, and Tyson will let Elisha know.

UTC Update (Crabtree)

Recompetition RFP (OST-R)—The rules are similar to previous years: There will be 5 national UTCs, 10 regional, and up to 20 Tier One UTCs. Some of the previous restrictions have been changed: A university cannot lead more than one UTC in same category, and can only lead one Tier One UTC. UTCs selected might be funded for next 5 years because of the FAST Act. There is a conference coming up in Knoxville, Tennessee, March 31-April 1, hosted by the Southeast Transportation Center. The name of the conference is the 2016 UTC Conference for the Southeast Region. Joe advised that in the last conference call, there were 70 posters scheduled for the conference, as well as good representation across the focus areas of safety, mobility, sustainability. Ten schools are making presentations, but we are not sure if these schools represent all ten southeastern states in the UTC region. Joe is going and Darryll is sending one person. The UTCs sometimes have a difficult time getting DOT staff to conferences.

Summer 2016 RAC Meeting

Registration/hotel booking for the 2016 Providence, Rhode Island, meeting are now available on RAC website. Meeting website is running. We will coordinate the regional agenda and dinner later on.

Summer 2017 RAC Meeting (Crabtree)

Jason is working with Martha Horseman, the LTAP director, on the arrangements.

Items for RAC Leadership

The RAC leadership call is Thursday from 12:30-2:30 Central (1:30-3:30 Eastern). Minutes from the 2/26/16 call are available—if interested, please ask Elisha, Cindy, David, Dale Peabody, or other national or regional chairs and vice chairs.

Peer Exchanges for 2016-2017

Arkansas, Florida, and Kentucky are due to have peer exchanges in 2016-2017. There is a pooled fund mechanism for peer exchanges. Elisha proposed a joint peer exchange with Arkansas—please let her know if your state is interested.

Other business

In lieu of a conference call, the region will meet again in person at the STC meeting in June since the regular conference call would have been fallen in June. Elisha will send Outlook invitations for the remaining conference calls this year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.