AASHTO-Research Advisory Committee (RAC), Region 3
Meeting Minutes

Date	3/8/2016	Time	2:30 pm (Eastern)
Facilitator	Cynthia Jones	Secretary	Michael Townley
Subject	RAC Region 3 Meeting		
Attendees	Member states attending: Illinois – Amy Schutzbach, Megan Swanson Iowa – Brian Worrel, Vanessa Goetz Kansas – Rick Kreider Michigan –Michael Townley Minnesota – Linda Taylor Missouri – Bill Stone, Jennifer Harper, Renee McHenry Ohio – Cynthia Jones, Zona Kahkonen Keppler Wisconsin – Lynn Hanus Member states not attending: Indiana		

No.	Topic	Highlights
	Key Points Discussed	
1.	**Review agenda/roll call**	Agenda approved. Roll call attendance was taken and marked above. The following new official members were welcomed: • Brian Worrell and Vanessa Goetz, Iowa • Zona Kahkonen Keppler, Ohio
2.	**Review previous meeting minutes**	A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. Motion carried.
3.	**Review action items from previous meeting**	Action items were reviewed. Each state was requested to validate their AASHTO website state research program fact sheet. • To Do: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, and Wisconsin. • Email Maina Tran (Mtran@NAS.edu) with either a new document or a request to change your last review date.
4.	**AASHTO Digital Publications**	At a previous meeting RAC Region 3 members voiced a concern that AASHTO e-publications were not sent to libraries. Renee McHenry explained how the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) is tracking e-publications sent to AASHTO committee members via email. A document was distributed prior to the meeting explaining the following process: • MoDOT set up an email address and requested AASTHO copy the address with notification whenever a new e-publication has been sent to a committee member. • MoDOT's library staff contacts the MoDOT committee member who received the report and requests a copy of the e-publication. The library then downloads the e-publication and archives it for future access.

		• Minnesota DOT's legal counsel has indicated that downloading digital documents and archiving them is within the terms of the AASHTO license agreement. • Linda Taylor can also provide documentation on her state's processes for tracking down and archiving e-publications. • Rick Kreider will take the Region 3 concern that this process needs to be simplified to the RAC Leadership.
5.	**US DOT Public Access Plan and what states are doing**	Renee McHenry updated the group on the US DOT Public Access Plan by presenting the following points: • It is the responsibly of a contractor funded by USDOT funds to comply with the US DOT Public Access Plan. • If US DOT University Transportation Center funds are used in a research project, compliance with the US DOT Public Access Plan is required. • There has been and will be continuing education on the US DOT Public Access Plan requirements, including a session at the RAC summer meeting. • Data Management Plan examples were emailed to RAC Region 3 members in advance of the meeting. A question was posed regarding compliance with Public Access Plan requirements for SHRP II, STIC, AID, and other federal funds. It was recommended that Mary E. Moulton, the Digital Librarian of the National Transportation Library, be contacted with specific questions at (202) 366-0303 or mary.moulton@dot.gov.
6.	**High Value Research (HVR)**	Bill Stone updated members on the following HVR items: • March 31, 2016 is the deadline for each state to have HVR submittals in the RPM database. • Passwords should be obtained in advance. The database box should be checked so other states can view each submitted record. • Eight pavement and eight safety projects were identified for inclusion in an HVR brochure. The brochure should be completed by the RAC summer meeting. • The goal is to have next year's project selected by the fall.
7.	**NCHRP Project Rankings for the Standing Committee on Research (SCOR)**	NCHRP ballots were submitted in February. NCHRP used the ballot input to rank the projects. A document summarizing the rankings was distributed by Cynthia Jones through the RPPM website calendar for the RAC meeting. The top 20–25 projects are in better standing to move forward. The SCOR will meet to make the final project recommendations. Voting members from SCOR are divided up into smaller groups A, B, and C. These groups discuss pending NCHRP projects and priority projects are identified. They report back the next day and the larger group begins identifying projects receiving at least two priority votes from two separate

		smaller groups. At this point SCOR members can speak up for projects of importance. Tommy Nantung and Amy Schutzbach are in group A and can help influence rankings for that group. Cynthia Jones would have been in group C, but since she is not attending, it was recommended that another Region 3 member move to group C and take Cynthia's place in order the distribute Region 3 priorities.
8.	**July Region 3 Chair and Vice-Chair Voting**	The Region 3 Operating Guidelines section 1.D.1 indicate: • The Vice-Chair "becomes Committee Chair upon confirmation by Committee members." • The secretary is appointed. Michael has served for four years. • Send nominations for Vice-Chair and Secretary to Cynthia.Jones@dot.ohio.gov.

9.	**State-by-State Update**	Illinois:
		• Megan Swanson indicated that IDOT is being reorganized. A new research section is being created and it will be located in planning rather than in the materials area.
		• A study is underway on roadway lighting impact on soybeans. Iowa is joining the research panel. Other states are welcome to participate.
		• Amy Schutzbach is retiring this year. She is leaving the end of April or June.
		Iowa:
		• Brian Worrel indicated that their state librarian is leaving state employment to work for USDOT.
		Michigan:
		• Michael Townley highlighted a Bulb-T project spotlight.
		    o www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-9622_11045_24249_24251-347552--,00.html
		• A transportation pooled success stories document was shared highlighting projects in the following areas:
		    o Information technology and digital messaging to improve operational efficiency. ENTERPRISE Program.
		    o Crack-free bridge deck study to save maintenance and replacement costs.
		    o Hand-held thermographic bridge inspection technologies usage to improve customer safety and mobility.
		    o Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS) providing cost-effective, integrated, and sustainable transportation solutions.
		    o Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council program usage to recruit, develop, and retain a high-performing workforce.
		    o https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/PooledFundSuccessStories_WEB_511630_7.pdf
		
		Minnesota:
		• Linda Taylor reported on the following research findings:
		    o Willow shrubs have proven to be a fast-growing effective snow fence at a fraction of the cost of other "living snow fence" plants (see story and Technical Summary).
		    o A driver-assist system piloted in MnDOT District 8 helped plow drivers navigate winter storms and rescue stranded motorists (see story).

		o A new software system that uses traffic loop detector data to determine when traffic has returned to normal and to stop plowing was developed and successfully tested (Technical Summary). o TRS160 alternative to Seal Coats. o (http://www.dot.state.mn.us/research/TRS/2016/TRS1602.pdf) o A new asphalt cracking prediction tool (the DCT Test) was evaluated on three construction projects. MnDOT is conducting follow-up research and evaluating how to add this testing requirement for all its asphalt pavement construction projects. (Technical Summary) Missouri: • Bill Stone reported on an infrared scanning system for pavement as it is placed. In addition to the infrared data, the system can collect paver movement and operation data concurrently. This data can be used by a contractor for construction logistics and planning. A June 1, 2016 workshop is being offered to view the scanner in use. Bill Stone should be contacted if people are interested in attending. • Bill Stone will be conducting a survey of Region 3's training needs that might be met through the Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council. • Jennifer Harper reported on research project bridge joints. Finger joint and flat plate designs were studied. The project identified construction and design improvements that should be applied for these joints. Wisconsin: • Lynn Hanus reported that several staff are being hired soon. • A pooled fund is underway on axle length analysis and effects on average daily traffic. Ohio: • Cynthia Jones announced a new pooled fund on spray applied pipe liners. Those interested should contact her.

10.	**Next conference call**	Tuesday May 10, 2016
		     1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Central; 2:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m. Eastern
		     GoToMeeting

Action Items			
No.	Action Item	Owner	Target Date
1	Each state needs to validate state fact sheets – Email Maina Tran (Mtran@NAS.edu) with either a new document or request to change your last review date.	Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Wisconsin	March 2016
2	Speak to the RAC leadership about Region 3's concern that the AASHTO e-publication distribution methods need to be improved.	Rick Kreider	March 2016
3	Send nominations for Vice-Chair and Secretary to Cynthia.Jones@dot.ohio.gov.	All Members	May 10, 2016