

RAC Region 3 Teleconference Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2008

1:00 – 2:00 pm Central Time

Illinois hosted this conference call.

1. Introductions – Roll Call (Amy Schutzbach)

Iowa DOT – Sandra Larson (Chair), Carol Culver

FHWA Resource Center – Absent

Illinois DOT – Amy Schutzbach, Patty Broers, David Lippert

Indiana DOT – Tommy Nantung

Kansas DOT – Dick McReynolds

Michigan DOT – Laura Nelhiebel

Minnesota DOT – Sue Lodahl

Missouri DOT – Mara Campbell

Ohio DOT – Absent

Wisconsin DOT – Nikki Hatch

2. Approval of January meeting minutes – All

A motion to approve the minutes with no corrections was made by Mara Campbell and seconded by Nikki Hatch. All were in favor.

3. Discussion of RAC Business – Sandra Larson

Sandra Larson noted that Dick McReynolds agreed to sign on to the lab assessment panel. Sandra questioned whether travel restrictions limited other states from participating. Tommy Nantung, Nikki, Sandra, and Amy all noted that this was the case. Sandra discussed the upcoming Intelligent Compaction Workshop that Iowa will be hosting April 2-4. Twenty-two states will be participating. The SCOR meeting will be held March 25-27. Sandra, Amy, and Dick will be attending, but only Dick is an official voting member. Sandra reminded the states to send her information on projects that they would like supported; only Mara has done this so far. Sandra, Amy, and Dick will share this information at the SCOR meeting. There was a RAC Funding Task Group conference call on March 9, and there will be a RAC officers call on March 13. The summer RAC meeting will be held in Portland, Maine July 14-17, and Sandra encouraged everyone to secure out-of-state travel in order to attend.

4. Discussion of TRB Annual Meeting – All

Tommy mentioned that he liked the poster session concept, but that he felt that the quality of the presentations in the technical sessions suffered as a result of a larger number of poster sessions. David Lippert felt that several presentation-only presentations were very good, and that he would like the PowerPoint presentations posted somewhere with open access to all. Sandra asked for comments on the RAC meeting. Mara noted that the RAC meeting on Sunday night is late, with our regional breakout running even later. Sandra will let Wes Lum know how valuable we feel the regional breakouts are, and suggested that we consider meeting 1 hour prior to the RAC meeting for a Region 3 working dinner meeting. She also noted that all Region 3 meeting minutes are shared automatically with Wes and Richard Long and others when we use the RAC listserv. Nikki commented that she appreciated receiving the RAC informational handouts before the meeting. Dick did not feel that the shuttle service to the second-tier hotels was adequate, but the Wisconsin delegation thought that it was. Dick encouraged everyone to turn in the TRB survey if they had not already done so.

5. Discussion of TPF Webinar and Funding Process - All

Dick noted that the examples provided during the webinar were useful, but he was still waiting for the minutes of the webinar that had been promised. Kansas was finally successful at filling out a 1575 form. Dick said that he thought it was helpful if the lead states were cc'd when the 1575 was sent. Tommy was still confused on the old procedures versus the new ones; the webinar promoted old projects using the old procedures and new projects using the new ones, but his division office disagreed and told him that all projects must use the new procedures. Dick thought that Bill Zaccagnino would support the states if they preferred one way over the other. Tommy suggested that a half-day at the summer RAC meeting be spent discussing the pooled fund procedures.

Patty Broers understood that states had the ability to choose to use either the old or the new procedures for existing projects. She mentioned that it was very helpful when the lead states let the contributing states know their intentions in advance. Carol Culver shared Iowa's approach – projects due to finish this year or next will go with the old procedures, and all others will go with the new. There was discussion on the merits of keeping the same number or renumbering a project. After much discussion, Sandra offered the services of Carol if anyone had questions on pooled funds, or she suggested that we contact Joe Conway of FHWA directly. Carol can be contacted by phone at (515) 239-1208, or by e-mail at Carol.Culver@dot.iowa.gov

6. Update on RAC Task Group Activities – All

(A) Pooled Funds – Tommy compiled data from the pooled fund survey and was asked to do some additional analysis.

(B) Research Coordination and Collaboration – The group is searching for unfunded research needs. The web site has been updated. Dick noted that there is a great deal of overlap with the Conduct of Research Committee, and he mentioned that there will be a Conduct of Research conference call on March 11. Dick later provided the link to the conduct of Research Committee:

<http://www.mrutc.org/COR/> There is also a "wetpaint" community website at : <http://trb-cor.wetpaint.com/?t=anon>.

(C) Future Needs – Dick reported that the Future Needs task group will conduct a joint conference call with the Funding Task Group on March 12.

(D) Reauthorization – Sandra noted that the group will be sharing their recommendations with SCOR. The SCOR Strategic Plan will be discussed at the SCOR meeting.

(E) Education and Training – Nikki stated that the focus of the group has been on RAC 101 write-ups on major programs and on the development of a calendar noting dates of interest to research leaders.

(F) Value of Research – Mara said that this group is not active; she had indicated her concern to Wes Lum, but that he did not seem to be overly concerned. Wes mentioned that after the SCOR Strategic Plan is accepted this group will probably have several assignments, and will then need to be more active.

(G) RAC Administration and Bylaws – Amy noted that there had not been activity lately as far as she was aware, and Dick concurred.

There was discussion that the task groups will have work to do after the SCOR meeting. Sandra will send out brief notes on the SCOR meeting to the region.

7. SCOR Meeting – Sandra Larson

Discussed previously.

8. 2010 Summer Meeting – All

At the breakout meeting at TRB, Sandra indicated that Region 3 was slated to host the 2010 summer RAC meeting and had asked for a volunteer state to host. Mara suggested co-hosting with Kansas for a meeting to be held in Kansas City. Tommy was doubtful that Indiana could commit at this time. Amy suggested Springfield. Sandra asked Mara, Dick, and Amy to discuss the issue, select a location, and report back to her.

9. Other Business, Announcements and Upcoming Conferences/Meetings

Sandra briefed the group on a joint Iowa-CALTRANS pooled fund offering that would be released soon – structural health monitoring implementation for bridges, with Iowa as the lead state. She asked that the group take a look at the rough background documentation that has been developed (attached).

In addition, Iowa is requesting partners for a pooled fund study solicitation, "Improving the Foundation Layers for Concrete Pavements," that has been posted on the TPF web site. The National CP Tech Center will be providing support for this project.

Amy mentioned the upcoming 6th RILEM International Conference on Cracking in Pavements, to be held June 16-18, 2008 in Chicago. There will be a workshop on "Reflective Cracking: Initiation and Propagation Mechanisms and Abating Techniques" that will be held on June 15 in conjunction with the conference. Conference information is attached.

Future Conference Calls

Sandra indicated that Tommy will host the May 13, 2008 teleconference call. Tommy needs to provide a draft agenda to the group by May 6th. Please send any items you would like to see included to Tommy at tnantung@indot.in.gov

May 13, 2008 Indiana is host state

July 8, 2008 Iowa is host state

September 9, 2008 Kansas is host state

With no more business the meeting adjourned at 2:01 pm Central Daylight Time.

Attachments:

IA Pooled Fund Draft on Structural Monitoring Implementation: March 6, 2008 (32.1 Kb)

RILEM Conference Announcement (484 Kb)

Pool Fund Meeting
March 6, 2008
Iowa DOT Headquarters Ames, Iowa

Discussion of
Implementing Bridge Monitoring and Evaluation Methods
And Potential
Iowa DOT/CALTRANS Collaboration

Background:

Professor Robert Bolton, Texas A&M, is currently a visiting professor at Iowa State University, working with Terry Wipf and the Bridge Engineering Center staff to develop collaborative Non-Destructive Damage Detection (NDD) and Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) proposals (NSF, FHWA, etc.). Dr. Bolton has worked successfully with CALTRANS on several NDD bridge projects in the past and has discussed his collaborative efforts with the Bridge Engineering Center with CALTRANS. CALTRANS is interested in joining in a pool fund study on this topic.

Broad Objective:

Initiate a pool fund study (with Iowa in lead using an Iowa bridge/project) with CALTRANS as a minimum, to formalize a working relationship between the Iowa DOT and CALTRANS. Additionally, for this specific pool fund study, it is recommended that Iowa explore the interest of other states in the region (e.g. Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas, Oklahoma) in joining this study.

General Technical Objective/Scope:

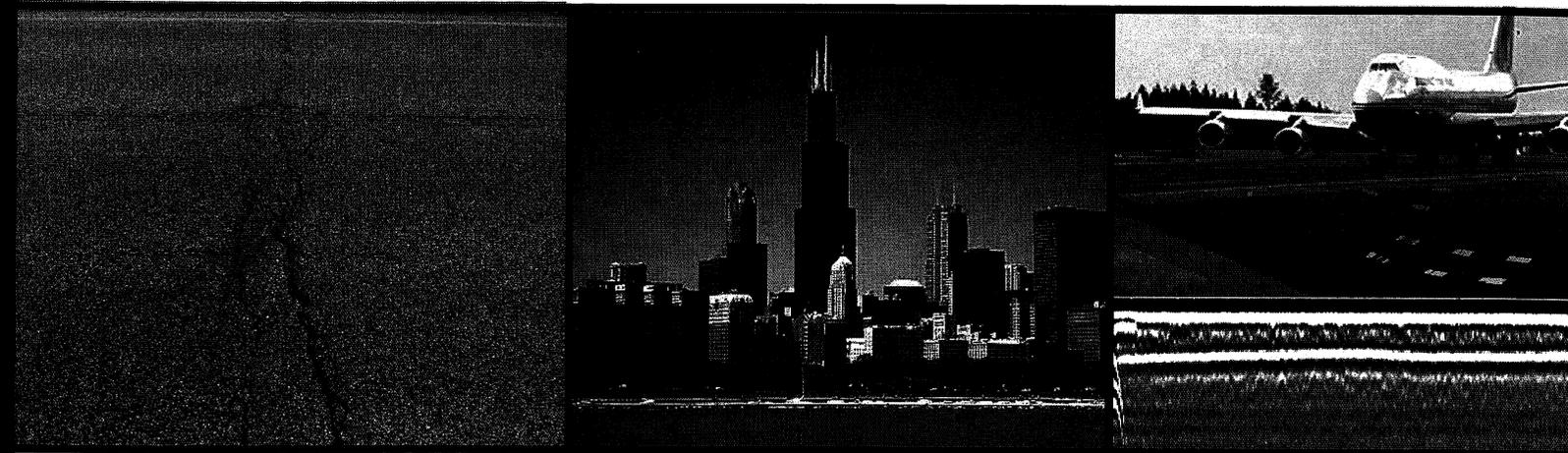
Implement an instrumentation/monitoring/evaluation process on a bridge in Iowa that utilizes, as a minimum, periodically collected static strain (Iowa preference) and dynamic acceleration data (CALTRANS preference). The general scope of the study would be to reliably identify deterioration over time, and provide point-in-time updated capacity evaluations. The pool fund study would "merge" the two different technologies and processing methods used in Iowa and California to quantitatively evaluate structural condition. A more specific scope will be defined following initial consultations between the Iowa DOT and CALTRANS.

Sixth RILEM International Conference on CRACKING IN PAVEMENT

Chicago, Illinois

June 16-18, 2008

www.ict.uiuc.edu/RILEM



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



National
Technical
University of
Athens

This conference focuses on the causes, development and maintenance / rehabilitation of pavement cracking, as well as techniques for abating pavement cracking. It will include contributions on theoretical modeling, experimental research and case history studies on cracks in flexible, rigid and composite pavements. Approximately 150 abstracts were accepted and the authors were invited to submit full papers. All papers will be fully refereed and included in a CD-ROM, as well as in a proceedings volume.

TOPICS

- Initiation and propagation of cracks including modeling, calibration and validation
- Top-down and bottom-up crack mechanisms
- Laboratory testing techniques and evaluation effectiveness
- In-situ experimental studies: field construction and rehabilitation techniques to inhibit pavement cracking
- Performance of crack preventive techniques and pavement service life prediction
- New design and construction techniques and their relation to crack development
- Crack surveys and nondestructive evaluation

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Reflective Cracking: Initiation and Propagation Mechanisms and Abating Techniques
Sunday, June 15 10:00am - 4:30 pm

CONTACTS

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