

**AASHTO RAC Region 4 January, 2016 Meeting at TRB
January 10, 2016**

Participants:

Present	Name	Organization
	Carolyn Morehouse	Alaska DOT
Yes	Jean Nehme	Arizona DOT
	Alicia Urban	Arizona DOT
	Anne Ellis	Arizona DOT
	Coco Briseno	California DOT
	Pete Zaniewski	California DOT
Yes	Joe Horton – Vice Chair	California DOT
Yes	Aziz Khan	Colorado DOT
Yes	Amanullah Mommandi	Colorado DOT
	Wayne Kawahara	Hawaii DOT
Yes	Ned Parrish	Idaho TD
	Sue Sillick	Montana DOT
	Mostafa Jamshidi	Nebraska DOR
Yes	Ken Chambers - Secretary	Nevada DOT
Yes	Randall Soderquist	New Mexico DOT
Yes	Amy Estelle	New Mexico DOT
	Ron Horner	North Dakota DOT
Yes	Gary Hook	Oklahoma DOT
Yes	Teresa Stephens	Oklahoma DOT
Yes	Bryan Cooper	Oklahoma DOT
Yes	Michael Bufalino	Oregon DOT
Yes	Dave Huft	South Dakota DOT
	Dana Glover	Texas DOT
	Rocio Perez	Texas DOT
Yes	Wade Odell	Texas DOT
Yes	Cameron Kergaye - Chair	Utah DOT
	David Stevens	Utah DOT
	Leni Oman	Washington DOT
	Rhonda Brooks	Washington DOT
Yes	Tim M ^c Dowell	Wyoming DOT

Welcome

Cameron Kergaye reminded us the minutes from the December 2015 teleconference, with thanks to Joe Horton for conducting that meeting, are posted on the AASHTO SCOR/RAC web page at: <http://research.transportation.org/Pages/Region-4-Meeting-Notes.aspx>.

Member and New Member Introductions – Members had an opportunity to introduce themselves.

2016 RAC Region 4 Goals and Meetings: - Due to time constraints, Region goals were skipped, and Cameron reminded us that our monthly teleconferences were scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Mountain Time. Cameron recognized that there were both standing and unplanned conflicts, and offered to discuss other options for scheduling around known conflicts. Please contact Cameron with suggestions.

RAC 4 Activities – Per State Updates

- Utah will host a peer exchange within a year.
- Idaho, Wyoming, South Dakota, and Nevada recently held a virtual, multi-state peer exchange, and the format worked quite well.
- South Dakota anticipates a pending organizational change.
 - Is completing six SHRP2 Implementation projects.
- Oklahoma
 - Received 29 problem statements this cycle.
 - Anticipate decreasing the number of new projects funded from about ten to about five, and will increase funding for implementation.
 - Their DOT library has moved to a university.
- Wyoming DOT is experiencing the domino effect in staffing after promoting a new Chief Engineer.
- Idaho has not filled either the Librarian position after Inez's retirement, or the temporary administrative support position.
- Some of Oregon's MPOs have not effectively spent their allocation recently, so that money has been budgeted for use by Research over the next two years.
- Arizona
 - Will have a peer exchange within two years.
 - Has a Librarian position open
- New Mexico's research group has had two internal staffing changes recently, and has a new strategic plan.
- California
 - The Director of Research position is vacant.
 - They will conduct a peer exchange within the year.
 - Their Strategic Plan focuses on innovation and vision.
 - Performance measures are set to encourage engagement via membership on NCHRP panels.
- Texas
 - There is a new Executive Director, which will be a positive for Research
 - There are currently six projects under SHRP2 Implementation Assistance Program
 - And 98 existing + 40 new projects for 2016.
 - Their DOT Library has transferred to a university

Discussion of 2017 NCHRP Problem Statements

Joe Horton facilitated a discussion of the potential benefits of discussing problem statements, particularly their benefits, in order to generate support for those that should be funded. It was agreed that each State representative would identify a “top ten” list of problem statements with a bullet or two identifying reasons to support them. This list will be shared via the listserv for discussion by about February 12th.

RAC 4 Coordination Pooled Fund Survey

Joe Horton reported that to date, only two responses have been received from the listserv survey distributed by Pete Zaniewski of Caltrans on December 17th. They will continue to accept survey responses and will discuss again. Note: Pete resent the survey on January 19th with a due date of Monday, January 25, 2016.

2016 HVR and Sweet Sixteen Voting

The information has just been distributed for submissions, and all are encouraged to participate. Also, current Sweet Sixteen posters will be available in session 243.

Peer Exchanges: Planning for 2016

Peer exchange status was discussed in State updates.

AASHTO RAC Mentor Program

Cameron reminded us that Linda Taylor of Minnesota will be helping Randall Soderquist of New Mexico.

RAC 4 Dinner

Ken Chambers confirmed our reservation at Jaleo for Wednesday Jan 13, 2016, at 6:30 pm.

Questions and Open Discussion

Is Sunday night after the RAC meeting a bad time for the Region 4 meeting?

Our next conference call is scheduled for **Thursday, February 19th** (10:00 Hawaii Time, 11:00 Alaska Time, 12:00 Pacific Time, 1:00 Mountain Time, and 2:00 Central Time)

Please e-mail potential agenda items to Cameron at ckergaye@utah.gov .