

MEETING NOTES

RAC Leadership Teleconference
Thursday, December 8, 2016
1:30 – 3:30 pm, EDT

In attendance: Dale Peabody (Chair), Ann Scholz, Elisha Wright-Kehner, Zona Kahkonen
Keppler, John Moulden, Timothy Klein, Cindy Smith, Curtis Bradley

Decisions and action items are underscored.

1. Roll Call

2. Additions to agenda

None.

3. Notes from previous meeting

We did not have enough people present to approve these, so no motion was made. Zona advised that Cynthia said to correct the header of 10/11/16 in the notes, which should be dated 11/10/16.

4. AASHTO Report – Keith Platte

No report.

5. TRB/SCOR Report – Chris Hedges

(Dale Peabody)—SCOR met this past Monday and Tuesday. David Jared presented plans for the Ahead of the Curve training to develop course curricula for elective courses, and SCOR tentatively approved funding (\$125-\$150k pending SOW). Also discussed was the reorganization of AASHTO. This will not likely impact RAC very much at this point. SCOR will become the Special Subcommittee on Research and Innovation, and its function will be similar to SCOR in the past. This new committee will manage AASHTO Innovation Initiative (AII) program (formerly TIG). Keith Platte will present AASHTO Reorg information at the RAC winter meeting at TRB.

Waseem Dekelbab from TRB/NCHRP talked about the proposed process for improving implementation of NCHRP research results, including a flowchart. He proposes that RAC be involved with NCHRP products that are not AASHTO products (example, bridge design procedures). RAC would get information from Waseem, then RAC members would talk with subject matter experts in the agencies to rate interest in implementation and gauge the readiness of the product and the agency to implement. Waseem will present at the RAC Winter Meeting at TRB.

6. **OSTR Report – Tim Klein - UTC announcement**

- UTC Grant Selections
 - o Announced by Secretary Foxx, December 2.
 - o 32 of 35 grants awarded.
 - o To re-compete three Regional UTCs in the new year:
 - Region 1: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont.
 - Region 2: New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands.
 - Region 3: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia.
- Full list at: <https://www.transportation.gov/utc/2016-utc-grantees>
- Five-Year RD&T Strategic Plan
 - In final senior leadership review; to be released no later than end of December.
 - TRB session on RD&T Strategic Plan.
 - Annual Modal Research Plans to be posted by mid-January.
- USDOT Seeks a General Engineer to Join Its Connected Vehicle Research and Deployment Team
 - Position closes December 30, 2016.
 - See: http://www.its.dot.gov/press/2016/cv_engineer_deployment.htm
- ITS JPO Publications on CV Pilots and ICM
 - ITS JPO has released a set of publications on the Connected Vehicles (CV) Pilot projects and Integrated Corridor Management.
 - See: http://www.its.dot.gov/press/2016/its_publications2016.htm
- North American Transportation Statistics Database Update
 - New three-country data was added to the North American Transportation Statistics (NATS) Online Database in the 12th annual website update.

□ Topics include: transportation, the economy, transportation safety, transportation's impact on energy and the environment, domestic and international freight activity, domestic and international passenger travel, transportation infrastructure, and vehicles.

□ NATS Online Database: http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/press_releases/dot145_16

7. FHWA Report – John Moulden

1. Per request of Joe Horton of Caltrans, we posed the question to FHWA Chief Council regarding the Question: When State DOTs use SPR funds to contract with universities to perform services and/or to conduct a research project, are the SPR Subpart B (SPR2) funds considered pass-through to the universities?...there is currently no estimate on when we will receive a response.....
2. It is looking like by the end of the week, Congress will pass another continuing resolution to keep government funded through the end of April 2017.
3. The Pooled Fund Website Migration is now complete. We had issues of an old version of the Data Base being implemented rather than the last version with the previous contractor, as well as a few other bugs, but these have now been corrected. All files, including the latest “Transfers Spreadsheets” (FY 2017 and the final FY 2016 transfers) have now been posted.

Region Chairs/Vice-Chairs Issues

Region 1 - Ann Scholz: Region 1 conference call had six states participate. Task force members reported on current activities. Curtis Bradley, MassDOT, provided a presentation on their Moving Together conference. Region 3 has been mentoring a new member from PennDOT and has offered to have a new member from ConnDOT join the next series. We will have a dinner meeting at TRB. RIDOT is reorganizing and Colin Franco has moved to Planning. Stephanie Dock, District DOT, is now titled as the Research Program Manager, and VTrans has three (3) candidates for the Research Manager position.

Region 2 – Elisha Wright-Kehner: The region is still updating its by-laws. Four states are doing peer exchanges within the next 9 months. Most region business is summer meeting planning for 2017.

Region 3 – Zona for Cynthia Jones:

- i. Digital AASHTO publications—Zona receives the available AASHTO publication email as library administrator. Ohio DOT can download them, but there are some issues in some states. At the NTKN conference call, someone said it's possible that AASHTO e-publicationss could be put on ASTM portal. Ohio has an ASTM subscription, but it doesn't include all AASHTO publications. Cindy said Mississippi DOT has some issues printing, but these are probably internal network issues. Curtis reported that, via the TKN task force, AASHTO is making presentation and an FAQ. Curtis is working with Erin Grady of

AASHTO to get these resolved. He will put FAQ on the SCOR/RAC website. AASHTO will put presentation into PDF, but they are still updating this.

ii. TRB AM—Region 3 is planning a dinner at TRB instead of traditional meeting, but they are not yet sure of the venue.

iii. 2018 Summer Meeting: Initial planning has begun, and meeting will likely be in Kansas.

Region 4 – Joe Horton: No Report.

8. Winter 2017 meeting, Administration Task Force – Allison Hardt

Administrative Task Force (Dale)—Region 3 and Allison have prepared latest agenda which was attached to the conference call reminder sent out last Friday (12/2). Keith Platte will talk about AASHTO reorganization. Waseem Dekelbab will discuss implementation of NCHRP reports and products. Ray Derr of TRB will talk about initiatives regarding connected and automated vehicles. Michael Trentacoste of FHWA will present on long-term pavement and bridge performance programs. Kevin Womack will present on changes in the UTC program. Like last year, states who recently had peer exchanges will present short five-minute summaries. Finally, Joe Crabtree, Jason Siwula, and Region 2 will give the 2017 summer meeting announcement.

A decision was made to focus on specific subjects for the meeting rather than just general presentations from our partners. Dale will get with Allison to make sure the agenda is finalized. Time and location: Marriott Marquis, Sunday, January 8, 2017, 6:00 pm Georgetown University Room.

9. Summer 2017 meeting, RAC 2 – Elisha Wright-Kehner

1. The 2017 summer meeting planning committee is working on the following:
 - o The planning committee is having monthly teleconferences. Our last call was November 16, and our next call is scheduled for December 21.
 - o They conducted a survey of RAC membership regarding their experience with RAC meetings and their recommendations for future meetings. We received 27 responses and lots of input! We have a small group of volunteers who have reviewed the results and are synthesizing the information.
 - o They have developed a “save the date” flyer, which will be sent out tomorrow.
 - o They have developed a list of potential sponsors and exhibitors
 - o They have prepared a draft invitation letter to be sent out to potential sponsors and exhibitors. This letter includes the proposed sponsorship levels, what is included in each, and the cost of each.
 - o With our December teleconference, they will turn our attention more to the development of the program/agenda/content.

One tentative session Cindy mentioned is a discussion of directed technology transfer successes (based on NCHRP report 768, full report here <http://www.trb.org/Publications/Blurbs/171082.aspx> and short version

here: <https://sites.google.com/site/trbt2committee/t2-documents>). This session will focus on the use of directed T2, incorporating T2 into all phases of a project to ensure successfully “getting the word out.” Please let her know if you are interested in presenting/being part of a panel discussion on this topic.

10. Task Force Updates – David

Administration – Allison Hardt

No report, except for winter meeting planning.

Coordination and Collaboration – Cameron Kergaye

No report.

Program Management and Quality – Joe Horton

(Dale) David’s article for *Public Roads* magazine is in editorial review. Ryan Culton and Hafiz Munir are writing paper on implementation of research results for *TR News*.

Value of Research – Bill Stone (Cindy and Ann reported)

Ann: update Synthesis 300 request, many people want this.

High-Value Research: Sweet 16, Supplemental poster sessions at TRB. Also, new HVR submission website is being tested. Let Maina Tran of TRB know if you are interested.

Transportation Knowledge Networks – Curtis Bradley

NCHRP 20-97 (Improving Management of Transportation Information) and NCHRP 20-110 (A Guide to Ensure Access to the Publications and Data of Federally Funded Transportation Research), and AASHTO publications were the main topics of conversation in last week’s conference call.

11. Adjourn - Dale and Cindy will cobble notes together. Happy Holidays to everyone, and we hope to see you at TRB!

Next Conference Call: Thursday, February 9, 2017