

MEETING NOTES

RAC Leadership Teleconference

Thursday, September 14, 2017

1:30 – 3:30 pm, EDT

In attendance: Dale Peabody (Chair), David Jared (Vice Chair), Carl Andersen, Ken Chambers, Stephanie Dock, Allison Hardt, Chris Hedges, Joe Horton, Cameron Kergaye, Tim Klein, Rick Kreider, John Moulden, Michelle Owens, Emily Parkany, Ned Parrish, Keith Platte, Cindy Smith, Bill Stone , Lori Sundstrom, and Brian Worrel

1. Roll Call

2. Additions to agenda

No additions.

3. Notes from previous meeting

A **MOTION** (Kreider/Stone) to accept the June 2017 meeting notes was **APPROVED**.

4. AASHTO Report – Mr. Platte

Mr. Platte reported that some of the new committees will meet at the AASHTO Annual Meeting on Sept. 25-28, 2018. He noted that since AASHTO has rewritten the governing documents, each committee is being asked to review its Charter. RAC may not have to do this, and Keith will verify that.

Mr. Platte reported that an SP&R Waiver Letter has been sent to FHWA concerning a new Technical Services Program on design publications; FHWA is reviewing the request for approval. Two more requests for waivers will be sent, one each for MTAP and the Rail Technical Service Program.

Mr. Platte discussed a draft letter for R&I Chair Brian Ness to send to each AASHTO committee's leadership (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and AASHTO Staff Liaison) requesting that each committee consider how R&I and RAC can engage with them. Some opening language about common goals will be added. A decision about final content and delivery will be made after Mr. Ness's presentation to the AASHTO Board of Directors at their meeting on September 25-28, 2017.

5. TRB/SCOR Report – Mr. Hedges

Chris Hedges noted that AASHTO staff and TRB staff work have closely together for years, but that there are always things we don't know about each other's organization and the

various ways in which we both serve the state DOTs. In October, AASHTO staff are going to visit TRB and present “AASHTO 101”; this is especially timely because of AASHTO’s reorganization. TRB will reciprocate by visiting AASHTO.

Mr. Hedges reported that the use of digital format is on the increase with panels and contractors asking to use different digital formats and vehicles to convey NCHRP research results. Cooperative Research Division staff will hold a “Digital Products Forum” in mid-October to identify issues associated with their production, including the need to develop technical guidance for contractors.

Mr. Hedges report that the R&I retreat—held on August 8-9, 2017—was extremely valuable to NCHRP staff, and that he thought the discussion produced a lot of very helpful information. R&I has formed 4 working groups to working on (1) accelerating the delivery of research results, (2) how to estimate a return on investment for research, (3) how NCHRP research funding is are allocated, and (4) integrating the AASHTO Innovation Initiative as part of R&I. Each working group is expected to produce some recommendations at R&I's next meeting on December 4-5, 2017.

Mr. Hedges also reported that R&I Chair Brian Ness is interested in collaborating with the 8 state DOT CEOs that sit on the TRB Executive Committee as a way to create synergy between the leadership of both AASHTO and TRB; Mr. Ness is committed to ensuring that NCHRP funding decisions are aligned with the priorities of AASHTO’s leadership.

Lori Sundstrom announced that she has hired an NCHRP Implementation Program Manager: Mr. Sid Mohan will be start on October 2, 2017. Mr. Mohan has a background in program evaluation and project management, and comes from the World Agroforestry Center where he has worked since 2008 tracking and analyzing best practices implementation for small-acreage forest lands in Eastern and Southern Africa. Before that, he was a Business Analyst at the Maryland State Highway Administration where he worked on performance management and trends analysis. Mr. Mohan has a Master of Public Management from the University of Maryland, and a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Baltimore.

CRP Publications June 2017 – August 2017

NCHRP

- Research Report 845: Advancing Automated and Connected Vehicles: Policy and Planning Strategies for State and Local Transportation Agencies
- Research Report 850: Applying Risk Analysis, Value Engineering, and Other Innovative Solutions for Project Delivery
- Research Report 851: Proposed AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications for Light Rail Transit Loads
- Research Report 854: Guide for Identifying, Classifying, Evaluating, and Mitigating Truck Freight Bottlenecks

- Research Report 856: Specifying and Measuring Asphalt Pavement Density to Ensure Pavement Performance
- Research Report 849: Strand Debonding for Pretensioned Girders.
- Synthesis 511: Relationship Between Chemical Makeup of Binders and Engineering Performance
- Synthesis 513: Evolving Debt Finance Practices for Surface Transportation
- Web-Only Document 233: Mainstreaming Transportation Hazards and Security Risk Management: CAPTA Update and Implementation
- Web-Only Document 235: Quantifying the Influence of Geosynthetics on Pavement Performance
- Web-Only Document 236: Incorporating Slab/Underlying Layer Interaction into the Concrete Pavement Analysis Procedures
- Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis (IDEA) Project 184: Synthetic Household Travel Data Using Consumer and Mobile Phone Data

ACRP

- Research Report 178: Guidance for Usage of Permeable Pavement at Airports
- Research Report 176: Generating Revenue from Commercial Development On or Adjacent to Airports
- Research Report 175: Improving Intelligibility of Airport Terminal Public Address Systems
- Research Report 174 – Green Stormwater Infrastructure.
- Synthesis 79: Funding Industrial Aviation
- Synthesis 80: Estimating Truck Trip Generation for Airport Air Cargo Activity
- Synthesis 81: Food and Beverage and Retail Operators: The Costs of Doing Business at Airports
- Synthesis 82: Uses of Social Media to Inform Operational Response and Recovery During an Airport Emergency
- Synthesis 84: Transportation Network Companies: Challenges and Opportunities for Airport Operators
- Synthesis 85: Alternative Fuels in Airport Fleets
- Web-Only Document 32: Improving AEDT Noise Modeling of Mixed Ground Surfaces

TCRP

- Research Report 191: Public Transportation Guidebook for Small- and Medium-Sized Public-Private Partnerships
- Research Report 192: Decision-Making Toolbox to Plan and Manage Park-and-Ride Facilities for Public Transportation: Guidebook on Planning and Managing Park-and-Ride

6. OSTR Report – Mr. Klein

- **UTC Grant Re-competition to Re-compete three Regional UTCs (Regions 1, 2, and 3)**
 - 13 proposals received for the three grants (proposal due date 08/18/17).
 - Technical review team work complete; waiting to schedule selection briefings with Deputy Secretary and Secretary.
 - Hoping for selection announcement by end of October.
- **2017 UTC Spotlight Conference, September 26 - 27**
 - “Rebuilding and Retrofitting the Transportation Infrastructure”
 - <http://www.trb.org/Calendar/Blurbs/174721.aspx>
 - Registration still open.
 - No UTC Spotlight Conferences in 2018 – 2019 due to reduced budget flexibility.
- **Volpe Speaker Series: The Ongoing Transformation of the Global Transportation System**
 - Jeffrey Schnapp – Co-Director, Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society, Founder/Director, metaLAB@Harvard
 - “Autonomy for Humans”
 - Thursday, September 21, 2017; 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.
 - Full slate: <https://www.volpe.dot.gov/events/transforming-transportation>

7. FHWA Report – Mr. Moulden

Mr. Moulden introduced Carl Andersen as the Acting Office Director for Corporate Research who will temporarily succeed Ms. Deb Elston who retired in August. Mr. Michael Trentecoste will retire Oct. 1, 2017, and Ms. Monique Evans will be named as the Acting Associate Administrator. Chief Scientist Jonathan Porter will become the Acting Director for Safety Research & Development. Mr. Paul Trombino, president of McClure Engineering and former Director of the Iowa DOT, has been nominated by the President for FHWA Executive Director.

8. Region Chairs/Vice-Chairs Issues

Region 1 – Ms. Dock reported that Massachusetts has a new member; their regional list is being updated. Emily reported that Radhta Gomez is being mentored by Cynthia Jones. Lisa Tarson from Pennsylvania has joined.

Region 2 – Ms. Smith reported that she is now Chair, Michelle Owens from Alabama is the new Vice-chair, and Cathy McGhee is the new Secretary. In addition to Ms. McGhee, Anne Freeman from Tennessee and David Sherman from Florida are all new members of Region 2. Region 2 is assisting Region 3 with planning for the 2018 RAC meeting.

Region 3 and **Summer 2018 Meeting** – Mr. Krieder thanked Cindy Smith and Keith Platte for their contributions to the RAC Annual Meeting planning committee. Randall is also joining in so Region 4 can start preparing for 2019. The hotel contract has been signed. Keith Platte and Brian Worrel are updating the survey. Planning and preparations are

proceeding on or ahead of schedule. He suggested that the Region is going to “try something different”.

Region 4 – Mr. Horton reported that New Mexico will be the location for the RAC 2019 meeting, with a preference for Santa Fe or Albuquerque. He noted that Kansas is on the “no-fly” list for California.

9. Task Force Updates – Mr. Jared

Administration – Ms. Hardt:

- Please let Natassja Linzau know if they are planning a peer exchange so this can be added to the website. There are still some issues with the AASHTO website changes; please let Natassja know if you see anything that needs to be addressed. Changing “SCOR” to R&F” will need to be done throughout the website, but will wait to do this until after the AASHTO Annual Meeting in two weeks.
- The first on-boarding call topic is about the TRB Annual Meeting.

Coordination and Collaboration – Mr. Kergaye: He reported that they are still working on integrating TKN into the task force. There are some website alignment issues to be worked on, and Natassja Linzau is working on this. He reported that during the Conduct of Research Meeting Committee last month he reported that Utah wants to deliver the Ahead of Curve Training to staff. David Jared noted that the first cycle of Ahead of the Curve certification is supposed to be delivered by the end of next year.

Program Management and Quality – Mr. Horton: He reported that they met in June, and at the mid-year meeting. They are updating their action plan. The RPM website has been updated. When the final report for NCHRP project 20-111G on peer exchanges guidance is published, the next step will be to consider drafting recommendations to FHWA about peer exchanges.

Value of Research – Mr. Stone: The task force met on Sept. 13, 2017, and heard presentations from Minnesota (Linda Taylor) and Texas (Chris Glancy) about how to estimate research project benefits. They have working groups on marketing and on performance measures. There are a few new members, and the group is helping them understand the process. A small ad hoc group has starting updating the action plan. Mr. Stone is working on the TRB Annual Meeting Poster Session, and noted that presenter names are needed by mid-October.

10. Adjourn

Next Conference Call: Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 1:30 pm Eastern.