

Minutes

Research Advisory Committee, Region 4 Meeting

Thursday, February 15, 2018 1:00 p.m. (MT)

WebEx

Phone Information

Toll Free Call in number: 1-866-453-6246

Participant passcode: 9908730

Roll Call

Present	Name	Organization
	Carolyn Morehouse	Alaska DOT
X	Dianne Kresich	Arizona DOT
	Jim Appleton	California DOT
X	Joe Horton – Chair	California DOT
X	Pete Zaniewski	California DOT
	Aziz Khan	Colorado DOT
	Amanullah Mommandi	Colorado DOT
	Wayne Kawahara	Hawaii DOT
	Ned Parrish	Idaho TD
X	Sue Sillick	Montana DOT
	Mostafa Jamshidi	Nebraska DOR
X	Ken Chambers – Vice Chair	Nevada DOT
X	Randall Soderquist	New Mexico DOT
	Clayton Schumaker	North Dakota DOT
X	Ron Curb	Oklahoma DOT
X	David Ooten	Oklahoma DOT
X	Teresa Stephens - Secretary	Oklahoma DOT
X	Michael Bufalino	Oregon DOT
X	Dave Huft	South Dakota DOT
X	Wade Odell	Texas DOT
X	Rocio Perez	Texas DOT
	Kevin Pete	Texas DOT
X	Cameron Kergaye	Utah DOT
X	David Stevens	Utah DOT
X	Rhonda Brooks	Washington DOT
X	Lu Saechao	Washington DOT
X	Tim McDowell	Wyoming DOT
X	Enid White	Wyoming DOT

Welcome and introductions - Joe

- Ask for help reviewing minutes – Joe
- Thank you, Wade Odell and Rhonda Brooks.

Reminder - RAC 4 2018 Meetings will continue to be held on usually the third Thursday, every other month.

- The schedule dates are:
 - Thursday, April 19, 2018, Noon Pacific
 - Thursday, June 14, 2018, Noon Pacific (2nd Thursday - Moved due to IDEA conflict)
 - Wichita, July 22-26 RAC Midyear
 - Thursday, August 16, 2018, Noon Pacific
 - Thursday, October 18, 2018, Noon Pacific
 - Thursday, December 13, 2018, Noon Pacific (2nd Thursday - Moved up from 20th)

RAC 4 Vice Chair and Secretary - Joe

- Send nominations to our future Chair, Ken Chambers, at kchambers@dot.nv.gov or (775) 846-6324 by Thursday, February 22.
- We plan to do a vote the start of March. Electronic poll - one vote per state
- Secretary is appointed...

Discuss Leadership Call –Ken

- Lori Sundstrom and Natassja Linzau streamline requests for website update.
- John Moulden, National Partnership Program Manager, FHWA – state visits – division offices – Mr. Moulden visited NV – Ken Chambers reported contact with Planning/Research person in the DOT – more casual than TRB program officer visit – will provide pooled fund form to participants.
- Updates on RAC 2018 – Wichita, KS – open and dynamic agenda – Brian Worrell
- 2.5 hours free for spontaneous networking/paneling on topic and questions in response to audience demand.
- Renee McHenry drafted letter about Transportation Knowledge Network (TKN) concerns about AASHTO publications (questionnaire released February 14 in the afternoon) Concerns to be presented by B. Ness to SCRI and others- Joe will forward letter to the region from Dale Peabody to RAC leadership.
- Allison Hardt requested review of web information and update as needed.
- Survey about RAC winter meeting. Inform Sue about broken links, please.
- Send updates to mytrb@nas.edu
- Onboarding webinars – March geared toward leadership and administration

High Value Research Website is now live and available to submit your projects.

- Deadline for submittals is March 31, 2018
- Volunteer to run the voting for RAC 4? Thank you, Utah!
- At least one submittal at a minimum per state...
- Utah will facilitate the ballots and voting
- Top 3-5 topics for consideration

Update RAC Mid-year Meeting Planning for 2019 in New Mexico – Randall

- Last correspondence – AASHTO (Karen) was in town Monday, February 12.
- Viewed hotels and discussed locations...
- Need contract with Drury Plaza hotel – one block from the Plaza
- Offsite meal potentially at history museum
- Karen very excited about obtaining per diem rates
- Randall isn't required to do anything until notified.
- Dates are unknown at this time, but will be on the contract once executed.
- If you plan to add on to your trip, Randall recommends locking in now.

Any updates from Peer Exchanges?

- Montana – Implementation Group meeting discussion –
 - Required to create an implementation plan for the state
 - Many categories were included like value of research.
- New Mexico will be in August.

NCHRP Balloting

- Send your results to Pete Zaniewski at CalTrans so he can consolidate the responses.
- Deadline is floating- hope to get to our representatives a week before committee voting.

Discussion item: Use of a benefit/cost analysis methodology for research projects.

- The group discussed discounted versus not discounted, methodologies required, and standard for researchers to utilize.
- Ms. Sillick will consolidate performance measure implemented in the region. Please send performance measures implemented to her for group consolidation.
- Ms. Sillick discussed NCHRP funding and pooled fund implementation in Montana. (Planning funds >50% of NCHRP participation.) Staff is requested to inform MTDOT research office if implementation is performed within the department and will attempt to calculate a value of research/benefit.
- Tim McDowell stated Wyoming is exploring the B/C Analysis for future discussion.
- MTDOT has done a few analyses and reviewed methods for calculating. Assumptions were documented and confirmed with a university member; qualitative benefits are utilized, too, This ensures that values are realistic and justified.
- TxDOT utilizes this approach (qualitative and quantitative). Utah reviews after more in depth implementation.
- Great topic to discuss in Wichita, KS or Santa Fe.

Wrap-up and next meeting

- Our next Region 4 meeting will be a WebEx on Thursday, April 19, 2018, Noon Pacific.
- Action Items – Vice Chair Nominations, submit HVR projects to Utah, submit top 5 NCHRP votes to California