

Value of Research

Draft Minutes—November 8, 2017
11:00a.m.-12:00p.m. Central Time
Conference Call

Attendees – Members:

Bill Stone – Missouri DOT (Chair)
Anne Freeman – Tennessee DOT (Secretary)
Chris Glancy – Texas DOT
David Sherman – Florida DOT
Enid White – Wyoming DOT – Co-Chairperson Performance Measures Working Group
Flavia Pereira – Connecticut DOT
Linda Taylor – Minnesota DOT
Dale Peabody – Maine DOT
Ann Scholz – New Hampshire DOT – Co-chairman Performance Measures Working Group
Timothy McDowell – Wyoming DOT
Michael ????
Cynthia Smith – Mississippi DOT
Cathy McGhee – Virginia DOT
David Huft – South Dakota DOT

Attendees--Associate Members:

Attendees – Friends:

Brian Hirt – CTC & Associates

Welcome/Introductions:

Bill Stone opened the meeting. The July 26, 2017 and September 13, 2017 meeting minutes were submitted for review and approved by the Committee members on November 8, 2017.

Update on TRB Synthesis Panel 49-07, “Managing Transportation Research Programs”

Bill gave an update on the October 5, 2017 Synthesis 49-07 panel meeting held in Washington, DC. As stated in prior VOR meetings the objective was to update Synthesis 300 (Performance Measures for Research, Development, and Technology Programs, published in 2001). The panel discussion focused on updating performance measures, working on workforce skill sets, and

addressing the Ahead of the Curve program. This first panel meeting key points focused on the advantages/disadvantages, executive support/reactions, managing research transportation programs, strategic plans, visions of DOTs, organizational and UTCs relationships. A survey will be sent out by the Consultant to our research partners.

Strategic Plan Subgroup

Ann Scholz and Enid White talked about the Value of Research Strategic Plan. The plan provided an Action Plan for the three working groups, (i.e. High Value Research, Marketing, and Research Project Performance Measures). The Subgroup (Ann Scholz, Enid White, Linda Taylor) started with the actions developed during the summer RAC meeting and eliminated eight (8) actions as they determined they were out of scope for VoR and responsibility was with another RAC Task Force. The Administration Task Force was contacted regarding the format since the strategic plan is now in a table draft format. They were welcome to any ideas. Bill Stone would like to review the draft first before sending on for comments. He would like to have more discussion on the plan with an Ad Hoc group. Bill will reach out to Natassja Linzau. Megan had a handout to explain the process to new members regarding the Sweet Sixteen, i.e. next steps.

Bill asked the group whether the HVR should be kicked off right after the New Year and the group answered a resounding yes. He would like to review this and see what lessons can be learned from last year's cycle. Natassja will talk with the consultant to do this exercise. Ann suggested that the group should look at this to get the process amended. The group also discussed that the dissemination process should be through a professional publication and that someone should be tasked to have this happen. This would help in the future process of trying to find (making the process easier). One idea was to hold a short term Ad Hoc meeting as a possible solution. Enid wanted to know if a possible solution might be to URL link these documents. Everyone thought this would be a good idea.

Bill asked the group if they had any thoughts on a committee and there was no response. However, we will be reviewing the strategic plan relating to HVR. Bill will reach out for volunteers for the Ad Hoc meeting.

Next Conference Calls/Adjourn

Usually our conference calls are bi-monthly on the second Wednesday at 11:00 am to noon Central time. Since the TRB conference will be held in January 2018 and past meetings have shown low participation the group will not have a meeting in January. Therefore, our next conference call will be March 14, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned on time.