

RAC Region 2 Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2017

Attendees: Cindy Smith (MS), Rhea Vincent (MS), Elisha Wright-Kehner (AR), Neil Mastin (NC), Anne Freeman (TN), Terry Swygert (SC), Meryl Zwanka (SC), Tyson Rupnow (LA), Michelle Owens (AL), Cathy McGhee (VA)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cindy Smith just after 9:00 am Central/10:00 am Eastern. She began with a roll call of attendees on the call and acknowledged that it was likely that our colleagues from Georgia and Florida were likely busy dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

Membership News: There is no new membership news since our meeting in July. No one is aware of any progress on a new representative from West Virginia since Mike's move to a new role.

Old Business: The updated minutes from the July meeting were distributed earlier today. If there are any comments on the minutes, please send them to Cindy/Cathy.

Assisting Region 3 with annual RAC Meeting planning: Cindy stated that there would be a planning call later today to begin the working on the 2018 Annual RAC meeting. Anyone from Region 2 who participated in the 2017 meeting planning who would be interested in helping out should let Cindy know and she will make sure you are included in future meetings.

SCOR Update: There was no one on the call to provide a SCOR update.

STC Update: Tyson informed the group that the contractor from West Virginia has requested a no-cost time extension. He believes that the extension is to allow the contractor to review the recently released Value of Research report from Minnesota and ensure that there aren't any missing items. The pooled fund study ends in December but will likely ask for an extension (with no additional funds request) to spend remaining funds. A conference call will be scheduled soon to discuss possible synthesis topics.

Task Force Updates: Cindy briefly described the activities of each task force and encouraged participation from Region 2 representatives. This is especially important for C&C where we don't have much active participation. The majority of the work of RAC happens in these task forces so get involved.

- **Administration**
- **Coordination and Collaboration (C&C)**
 - **Transportation Knowledge Networks (TKN)**
- **Program Management and Quality (PM&Q)**
- **Value of Research**

UTC Update: Neil shared with the group that he has been asked to put together a roundtable to coordinate among the participating universities in North Carolina. Although UTCs typically "go their own way", some coordination could improve benefits for NCDOT. There was some discussion about whether

100% SPR dollars could be used to match UTC funds (as opposed to 80/20). Cindy agreed to check with Joe Crabtree to get a definitive answer.

Items for RAC Leadership Call (Thursday 9/14): Cindy asked if there were any items to be shared with David Jared for inclusion in the RAC Leadership call. There were none raised.

Peer Exchanges: Neil has a peer exchange scheduled for September 25-26th. He has representation from each region participating and will be focusing on “Dealing with Change, Change Management”. He is using the services of TTI through the Oregon PFS and they have been helpful with logistics but the burden of program development has remained his. TTI will be providing a moderator, taking notes, and writing the report which will be very helpful.

Arkansas, Alabama, and Kentucky will be having a joint peer exchange in late October. Details to come on that.

Mentor/Mentee: Cindy mentioned the value of having a mentor as a new RAC member. If anyone would like to have one (from Region 2 or another region), just let her know.

With no other new business raised, the meeting was adjourned.