

# Research Implementation Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 14, 2012  
SRF Consulting Group, Plymouth, MN  
10:00-3:00 PM

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## **Attendees:**

Rich Sanders, Chair, Polk County  
Farideh Amiri, MnDOT, Research  
Dave Robley, Douglas County  
Tim Stahl, Jackson County  
Mitch Rasmussen, Scott County  
Jeff Hulsether, City of Brainerd  
Maureen Jensen, MnDOT, Lab  
Walter Leu, MnDOT, D1  
Rick Kjonaas, MnDOT, State Aid  
Jim Grothaus, U of M, CTS

## **Consultant:**

Mike Marti, SRF Consulting Group, Inc.  
Rena Kuehl, SRF Consulting Group, Inc.

## **Guests:**

Carole Wiese, MnDOT, Research  
Cassandra Isackson, MnDOT  
Benjamin Timerson, MnDOT  
Darin Mielke, Sibley County  
John Hourdos, University of Minnesota

## **Absent:**

Nicole Peterson, MnDOT, Research  
Klayton Ekles, City of Woodbury

## **1. Chairman's Report**

Mr. Chair thanked everyone for attending. Attendees introduced themselves.

### **Review Agenda**

The following revisions were made to the agenda: MnPAVE was removed from the agenda and Sign Reduction Update was moved to new projects.

**Motion** to approve the agenda was made by Walter Leu and seconded by Jeff Hulsether, Motion Approved.

### **Approve the December 2011 Meeting Minutes**

The December 7th, 2011 RIC meeting minutes were reviewed.

**Motion** to approve the Dec 7th meeting minutes was made by Walter Leu and seconded by Jeff Hulsether, Motion Approved.

Jim Grothaus said that the CSS Complete Street workshop for FY 13 is scheduled and MnDOT Scott Bradley is the instructor.

### **Schedule Next Year RIC Meetings**

Summer Meeting – July 11 and 12 – Two Harbors, Duluth  
Fall Meeting – Sep 19 – SRF, Plymouth  
Winter Meeting – Dec 4 – St. Cloud – MnDOT

### **RIC Membership**

2012 RIC membership rosters were reviewed and new members are: Klayton Eckles and Dave Robley, Tim Stahl is the liaison for both LRRB and RIC.

### **Conference Attendance**

National LTAP – Grapevine, TX - July 30 to August 2, 2012

Farideh Amiri, Jeff Hulsether, Mitch Rasmussen, Rich Sanders, Dave Robley

**Action Item #1:** Farideh will ask Klaton Eckles if he is interested in attending NLTP.

Mid-Continent Transportation Research Forum – Madison, WI - Sep 6 and 7, 2012

**Action Item #2:** Anyone interested in attending Mid-Continent Transportation Research Forum on Sep 6-7, should let Farideh Amiri or Carole Wiese know.

19<sup>th</sup> World Congress on ITS – Vienna, Austria - October 22-26, 2012

Rich Sanders

**Action Item #3:** If a RIC member is interested to attend any of the other listed conferences for 2012, please let Julie Skallman know.

### **Budget Review**

- **2009-2011 RIC Budget** – Farideh reported that tasks on this contract are all completed except for project management and Dust Control. The contract expiration date is March 31, 2012 and will be amended to Dec 30, 2012 in order to collect all national dust control research.
- **2012-2014 RIC Budget** – Farideh reported that \$12,697.21 is added to task 2 of SRF contract and \$11,000 was taken from \$14,503.25 and added to pavement project management.

### **LRRB and MnDOT FY13 Awarded Projects**

Farideh reviewed two spreadsheets

- LRRB awarded 7 of the 15 proposals presented at the December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Three were not funded and five are going to be followed up at the March meeting.
- MnDOT awarded 21 of 24 proposals presented to TRIG on December 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. One is potentially funded and two were not funded.
- Two proposals were funded 50/50 by both MnDOT and LRRB.

## **2. RIC Part of LRRB Strategic Plan and Operation Procedures**

Rich Sanders reviewed the manual changes.

**Motion:** to approve the changes in the RIC part of LRRB manual was made by Jeff Hulsether and seconded by Tim Stahl, Motion Approved.

## **3. PROJECT UPDATE**

### **Task 13 - Truck Weight Enforcement**

Jim Grothaus said:

- The work plan was sent to MnDOT to develop a contract.
- The non-RIC part of this project was developed and a series of training is scheduled for Truck Weight Education through Law enforcement led by Mr. Greg Hay throughout the state.

### **Hot Paver**

Maureen Jensen discussed the quality of samples being taken and the method that the lab currently uses. She noted that an infrared red bar at the rear of a van will not provide uniform density data. She shared the results of a MnDOT study that was funded through the Destination and Innovation Research Fund. It found that temperature differentials across the mat of less than 25 degrees Fahrenheit resulted in density requirements being met less than 50% of the time. MnDOT also evaluated the Mobe Pave-IR system that measures the thermal profile automatically.

### **Pavement Maintenance Manual**

Maureen asked if RIC would like to fund updates to the “Flexible Pavement Distress Manual” or “Asphalt Pavement Maintenance Field Guide” or “Seal Coat Application.”

**Action Item #4:** Rich Sanders will ask at the County Engineers Board Meeting if they need to update The “Pavement Maintenance Manual.” He will present the scope and cost at the summer meeting.

Maureen Jensen will send the related links about the pavement maintenance to RIC.

### **Pavement Rehab Training/CIR FDR Training**

Maureen Jensen shared the training class outline with RIC.

### **Garbage Hauler**

Rick Kjonaas said that Dr. Jim Wilde is behind on this project.

## **LUNCH – ALL**

## **4. FUTURE PROJECTS**

### **Field Evaluation of Traffic Monitoring Options**

#### **Traffic Monitoring Improvements**

These two need statements were presented by Darin Mielke, Ben Timerson and Cassandra Isackson. The two projects will evaluate the existing traffic monitoring devices that are capable of measuring and collecting counts, speed, classification and vehicle weight on county roads. These projects will also look at what local needs are, do a traffic monitoring inventory data collection and recommend best practices on the local roads for data monitoring. Sibley, St. Louis and Jackson County will be the pilot counties.

**Motion:** to proceed with Traffic Monitoring project was made by Walter Leu and seconded by Dave Robley.

**Action Item #5:** The TAP chair (Darin Mielke) for Traffic Monitoring project will present the project scope, budget, schedule and the hiring consult at the summer meeting. Farideh will coordinate with Darin and will send him the agenda.

### **Speed Impact of Occasional Hazard Residential Street Warning Signs**

This was a LRRB funded project that was researched by the University of Minnesota and the City of Bloomington. John Hourdos shared the findings from this project. Thirteen warning signs were installed in three different locations: Colorado Ave south from West 94<sup>th</sup> to West 9<sup>th</sup> street, Chicago Ave south from East 90<sup>th</sup> St to East 92<sup>nd</sup> St, Columbus Ave south from East 100<sup>th</sup> St to East 102<sup>nd</sup> St. All three locations were observed and the results indicated that the signs had a minimal effect on reducing speed. The next steps are to observe the

signs for a longer time period and to conduct more studies at the human factor lab at the U of M. This is another tool in the tool box for practitioners.

### **Dust Control Specs**

Rich Sanders said that Dust Control Specification was one of the TRB nuggets that Bruce Hasbargen recommended that RIC develop.

**Action Item #6:** Maureen Jensen will bring more information about Dust Control Specification for different products to the next RIC meeting.

### **Sign Training/Sign Project**

Tim Stahl said that the sign TAP met the same morning and discussed the sign training project. This will be similar to Gravel Control and On-Line Training presented by Mindy Carlson at the December meeting and similar to Motor Grader Training. The training will address the sign person at each county.

**Motion:** to approve sign person on-line training project was made by Mitch Rasmussen and seconded by Walter Leu and was approved.

**Action Item #7:** The TAP chair (Tim Stahl) for sign project will write up the need statement, meet with TAP, select consultant and present scope, budget and schedule at the summer meeting.

### **Other projects**

Farideh Amiri shared the 2011 and 2012 lists of projects completed and noted that reports are available. She asked RIC if any implementation need to be done on any of these projects.

## **5. 2009-2011 CONSULTANT CONTRACT UPDATE**

Renae Kuehl led a discussion reporting the status of each active task which was also summarized on the Quarterly Report SRF submitted to the RIC. Following is a brief summary:

### ***Task 6.7 – Dust Control***

- The survey was distributed nationally via the LTAP listserv in December
- Final survey totals: 253 people completed the survey (72 local, 181 nationwide).
- On 2/15/12, the second survey was sent out to 47 people from the first survey that indicated that they would be willing to take a follow-up survey. As of the survey deadline (2/24/12), 32 people have taken the survey.
- TAP member Mark Nahra (Woodbury County, Iowa) also sent the survey to a listserv of Iowa County engineers. 29 people have filled out the survey.
- Survey results from the 1st survey have been summarized and were reviewed with the board
- Results from the second survey are in the process of being synthesized.
- During the January TRB meeting, a few LRRB-RIC members met and discussed expanding the scope of this project to address application rates of some of the products used for dust control (MgCL<sub>2</sub> and CaCL<sub>2</sub>). In response to this; we are in the process of assessing if this information is readily available to synthesize and if it is feasible to include within the current project/report.

- The MnDOT library is currently conducting a literature search on dust suppressant application rates to determine if there are studies that have been completed on this topic.
- Many national dust control experts have been contacted and responded with recommendations of studies that exist on recommended application rates.
  - Tom Broadbent – Envirotech
  - Al Brooker – Former aggregate specialist and chemist at Koch
  - Bethany Williams – USGS
  - Pete Bolander – Forest Service
  - Clark Milne – State of Alaska
  - David James – University of Las Vegas
  - Roger Surdahl –FHWA
- Mike Marti updated the board on the no-cost time extension that was requested and approved prior to the meeting. The contract will be extended to 12/31/12. Reasoning for the request was:
  - There are two reports that are still not complete (reportedly near completion) that we are waiting for to reference in our report. Both authors have communicated that they are in the final stages and should be completed soon, however we do not have a definite completion date for either.
    - *National Scan of Best Practices for Road Dust Control and Soil Stabilization – R.Surdahl and A.Kociolek*
    - *Environmental Effects of Dust Suppressant Chemicals on Roadside Plant and Animal Communities – B.Williams*
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> survey (requesting detailed feedback on the performance of each dust suppressant) is scheduled to be complete on Friday Feb 24<sup>th</sup>. We have already extended the time to respond to this survey and still have low response rates; we will continue to encourage and solicit responses in order to have good data to synthesize. Once the survey process is completed we will need additional time to process the results, write and edit the report and get approval from the TAP.
  - At TRB in January, a few LRRB-RIC members met and discussed expanding the scope of this project to address application rates of some of the products used for dust control; we are in the process of assessing if this information is readily available and whether it is feasible to include within the current project/report.

## 6. 2012-2014 MAIN CONSULTANT CONTRACT

Renae Kuehl led a discussion reporting the status of each active task which was also summarized on the Quarterly Report SRF submitted to the RIC. Following is a brief summary:

### ***Task 1 – ADA Transition Plans***

- Summarized first survey results and received copies of the transition plans that were referenced in the survey.
- Developed questions for second survey
- Reviewed second survey at the 1/10/12 meeting.
- TAP meeting was held 1/10/12.
  - Finalized “process” flow chart, with minor edits. This flow chart was not in the original scope, but was requested by the TAP. The TAP and chair feel that this is an important and worthwhile addition to the final deliverable.

- Reviewed survey results. TAP gave direction to wait to send the second survey until the writing of the “sample model transition” plan was underway, in case questions arose that we’d want to ask the cities/counties.
  - Discussed the content for the first five sections of the model transition plan.
- TAP gave direction to wait to send the second survey until the writing of the “sample model transition” plan was underway, in case questions arose that we’d want to ask the cities/counties.
- The model transition plan template (outline) was developed and approved by the TAP. Example transition plans from locals were reviewed and used to modify content for template.
- Drafted introduction and sections 1-5 of the “sample model transition plan” and updated “process flowchart” to reflect TAP edits; sent to TAP to for review.
- Next meeting schedule for 3/19/12.

### **Task 2 – Complete Streets**

- Held TAP meeting 1/9/12 to discuss content for section 1.
- Drafted section 1 of the report and sent to the TAP on 2/7/12 for review.
- Requested TAP members to vote on agencies to include as “examples” in report for section 2.
- Next meeting scheduled for 3/26/12. Agenda items:
  - Finalize section #1
  - Finalize agencies for section #2
  - Review section #3
- Developed a list of agencies for possible “examples” of CS implementation; sent to TAP for vote.
- Drafting section #3 of report will be sent to TAP for review prior to 3/26 meeting.

### **Task 6 – Outreach**

- Newsletter: March newsletter in draft form, submitted to LRRB for review.
- Professional Article:
  - Working with Mindy Carlson at LTAP to write article on the online Gravel Road Maintenance Training
  - J. Grothaus reported that the training is still not active, waiting for the contract with the contractor to be finalized before activating. Hopefully within the next month.
  - Working to determine what magazine to publish the article in.
  - Worked with MnDOT in getting CRSP article re-published in MN Construction Bulletin.
- Conference Presentations:
  - Developed PPT presentations for J. Hulsether at CEAM in January 2012.
  - Developed PPT presentations for R. West/R. Sanders at MCEA conference in January 2012.
  - Developed PPT presentation for R.Kjonaas and M. Marti on Best Value for MCEA in January.
  - Developed PPT for R. Kuehl for ATSSA “How To” Conference on previous Rural Road Safety Workshop, summarizing the broadcasted webinar

### **Calendar/Future Tasks**

- Future tasks and the start of the TZD task will be discussed at the July Meeting.
- Mike Marti plans to talk to MnDOT Traffic Safety staff to see if they are interested in developing a video (as part of the TZD task) similar to the one that Commissioner Sorel showed at the recent ACEC conference.

## 7. ROUND ROBIN

Farideh – TRS and state of practices are what RS can do through the contract they have with CTC.

Maureen – Wisconsin is more involved than Minnesota in the effect of Husbandry.

### ADJOURN

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting made by Tim Stahl and seconded by Jim Grothaus, Motion Approved.

### **List of Action Items for March 14, 2012 RIC Meeting:**

**Action Item #1:** Farideh will ask Klaton Eckles if he is interested in attending NLTP.

**Action Item #2:** Anyone interested in attending Mid-Continent Transportation Research Forum on Sep 6-7, should let Farideh Amiri or Carole Wiese know.

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