

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Helena, Montana 59620-1001

MEMORANDUM

To: Kent M. Barnes, P.E./Materials Bureau
Robert E. Burkhardt/FHWA
John D. Craig/Transportation Planning Division
Jim Greil/Aeronautics Division
Dennis A. Hult/Motor Carrier Services Division
James E. Hyatt/Maintenance Division
Joel M. Marshik, P.E./Environmental Services
Stefan Streeter, P.E./Billings District
James A. Walther, P.E./Highways & Engineering Division

From: Susan C. Sillick
Manager, Research Program

Date: December 18, 2000

Subject: Summary of Minutes from Tuesday, October 31, 2000 RRC Meeting

1. **Budget Report:** Distributed at meeting – no additions
2. **Research Project – current listing:** Distributed at meeting
3. **Reports:**
 - 3a. *Literature Availability Assessment for Relevant Interactions between Highways, Wildlife, and Fisheries in Montana* – Progress Report – 9/26/00 – Attached
 - 3b. *Landslide Inventory Project* – Progress Report – 7/1/00 to 9/30/00 – Distributed

Craig Abernathy, a member of this Technical Panel, told the RRC that the project was progressing well and indications look favorable in obtaining a good end product. Edie Wilde, PI, will be making a presentation during the next Teleconference on Research. Craig will inform the RRC prior to the presentation.
4. **Contract Extensions:** None

5. Proposals:

5a. *Sodium Chloride use in Maintenance Sand Stockpiles & Storage of Stockpiled Sanding Materials, Phase II – Attached*

Dan Williams and Stan Sternberg were present to support this proposal. Due to last year's warm winter, the consultant was not able to determine stockpile workability. Also, due to a design flaw, the consultant was not able to evaluate SS1 as a stockpile cover material. These two items are addressed in the current proposal. Dan also mentioned that a future project may involve evaluation of stockpile workability in a controlled freezer environment.

Jim Hyatt made a motion to approve continuation of this study into Phase II allocating an additional \$18,258.83. Kent Barnes seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion.

5b. *LTAP Work Plan and Budget – Revised Work Plan and Budget sheet* was distributed at the meeting.

Steve Jenkins, LTAP Director, met with the RRC and presented his 2001 proposed Work Plan and Budget for the ensuing year. This past year, LTAP's new accounting system provided them with the necessary information needed to keep track of their expenditures and billing process; enabling them to add programs, streamline training, and provide additional on-site technical assistance. Results of LTAP Needs Assessment Survey led to the development and addition of the following workshops for 2001: MUTCD-Training of New Manual, Roadway Sign and Theft Vandalism, Deicing Agents, Use of Asphalt Millings, and New Regulations on Crusher and Screening Plants.

Steve informed the RRC that during the next Legislative session LTAP would be trying to raise their share of the state gas tax from \$54,000.00 to \$100,000.00. He assured the RRC it would not involve MDT's funding, as the increase would come from state gas tax allocated to Montana Cities & Towns and Counties. Upon his clarification, Steve was asked to notify Jim Currie, Deputy Director and Patricia Saindon, Administrator of Transportation Planning with this information prior to the beginning of the current Legislative Session.

Sue questioned Steve's matching funds. Sue and Steve will discuss this issue. When this issue is resolved, Sue will send an e-mail ballot to the RRC for a final vote on approval of LTAP's Work Plan and Budget

6. Implementation:

6a. Valuation of Temporary Losses of Use of Transportation Facilities – Attached

1) A law student from the U of M conducted a legal literature review regarding legal precedence in claiming monies for temporary loss of use of transportation facilities. Currently, there is no legal precedence.

2) Jim Lewis asked for help in improving tracking of funds used to handle temporary loss of use of transportation facilities. It was suggest that this item be taken to an Administrative Staff meeting.

3) The RRC suggested the panel do a literature review on User Costs.

7. Wildlife Ecology and Transportation – MOA – Distributed at Meeting

In February, this agreement was brought before the RRC where it received a favorable approval-in-concept vote. Since the RRC just received the final copy at today's meeting, Sue will send out an e-mail ballot so everyone gets a chance to read the agreement prior to voting.

cc: Craig Abernathy/Pavement Analysis & Research Section w/attachments
Bruce H. Barrett/District Administrator-Billings
D. John Blacker/Maintenance Division
Russell G. McDonald/Human Resources Division
Loran Frazier, P.E./District Administrator-Missoula
Michael D. Ferguson/Aeronautics Division
Jason Giard, P.E./District Administrator-Butte
Gary A. Gilmore, P.E./Highways & Engineering Division
Michael P. Johnson/District Administrator-Great Falls
Joseph P. Kolman, P.E./Bridge Bureau
Drew F. Livesay/Motor Carrier Services Division
Robert E. Fischer/Right-of-Way Bureau
William L. McChesney/District Administrator-Glendive
Kenneth H. Neumiller/Engineering Oversight Bureau
Jeanne Nydegger/Pavement Analysis & Research Section w/attachments
Brooke Page/Pavement Analysis & Research Section w/attachments
Carl S. Peil, P.E./Preconstruction Bureau
Timothy W. Reardon/Legal Services
Patricia Saindon/Transportation Planning Division
William G. Salisbury/Administration Division
Robert D. Tholt, P.E./Construction Bureau
Jon S. Watson, P.E./Pavement Analysis & Research Section w/attachments
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