

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Helena, Montana 59620-1001

MEMORANDUM

To: RRC Members
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
Darrel G. Zook/Accounting Services Bureau

From: Susan C. Sillick
Manager, Research Program

Date: March 21, 2001

Subject: Summary of Minutes from the February 27, 2001 RRC Meeting

1. **Budget Report:** Attached – No comments
2. **Research Project – current listing:** Attached – No comments
 - 2a. *Crash Test Pin and Loop Connection on the Concrete Median Barrier* –
The discussion of this project will be held at a future RRC meeting, if necessary.
3. **Reports:** No comments
 - 3a. *Highway as Potential Barriers to Movement and Genetic Exchange in Small Vertebrates* – Progress Report 2, January 31, 2001 – Attached
 - 3b. *LTAP* – Quarterly Report – 10/1/00 – 12/31/00 – Attached
4. **Contract Extensions:** None

5. **Proposals:**

5a. *Evaluation of Shoulder Rumble Strips – Attached*

Pierre Jomini met with the RRC to discuss this proposal. The Technical Panel recommends this study to investigate the importance of rumble strips in conjunction with rollover crashes within the state of Montana. The contract is for a 15 month period, costing approximately \$63,000.00. Upon a motion from Joel Marshik, seconded by Kent Barnes, the motion passed unanimously.

6. **Implementation:** None

7. **2001 Solicitation:** Attached

Since the initial presentation by the champions in January, Terry Yarger asked to remove *Limited Work Space, Less Than Optimum Employee Productivity, Poor Long-Term Employee Retention* from the list. Jean Bond, Employee Relations Bureau is addressing this issue.

The rankings of the remaining projects by the DA's and RRC's were discussed. Sue Sillick made a motion to move all the remaining projects on to Technical Panels. Joel Marshik seconded the motion with all present voting in favor of the motion.

New Research Projects are as follows:

- 1) *Transportation Infrastructure Inventory Needs Assessment*
- 2) *Bat Use of Bridge Structures in the MDT Billings District: A Pilot Study*
- 3) *Plant Riprap Demonstration and Research for Streambank Stabilization at Bridges, Culverts, Rivers Adjacent to Roads and Outfalls*
- 4) *Bridge Deck Service Life Prediction Model*
- 5) *Feasibility and Reasonableness of Providing Noise Barriers Along I-90/I-15 in Butte*
- 6) *Rockfall Hazard Classification and Mitigation System*
- 7) *Cooperative Highway Construction Industry Training Program*
- 8) *Impact on the Highway System of Changes in Grain Transportation Operations*

8. Discussion of Administration Division Membership on RRC

Jim Walther submitted a memo to the RRC for them to consider adding a representative from the Administration Division to this committee.

Following a discussion, Joel Marshik made a motion to add such a representative to the Research Review Committee. John Craig seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion.

Sue will send a memo to Monte Brown requesting Administration Division participation on the Research Review Committee.

cc: Craig Abernathy/Pavement Analysis & Research Section
Bruce H. Barrett/District Administrator-Billings
D. John Blacker/Maintenance Division
Monte N. Brown/Administration Division
Michael D. Ferguson/Aeronautics Division
John Horton/Right-of-Way Bureau
Loran Frazier, P.E./District Administrator-Missoula
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
William L. McChesney/District Administrator-Glendive
Russell G. McDonald/Human Resources Division
Kenneth H. Neumiller/Engineering Oversight Bureau
Jeanne Nydegger/Pavement Analysis & Research Section
Brooke Page/Pavement Analysis & Research Section
Carl S. Peil, P.E./Preconstruction Bureau
Timothy W. Reardon/Legal Services
Patricia Saindon/Transportation Planning Division
Robert D. Tholt, P.E./Construction Bureau
Jon S. Watson, P.E./Pavement Analysis & Research Section
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