

MEMORANDUM

To: RRC Members
D. John Blacker, Administrator/Maintenance Division
Robert Burkhardt/Federal Highway Administration
Monte N. Brown, Administrator/Administration Division
Jim Currie, Deputy Director/Department of Transportation
Dave Galt, Director/ Department of Transportation
Joel M. Marshik, P.E., Administrator/Highway and Engineering Division
Drew F. Livesay, Administrator/Motor Carrier Services Division
Patricia Saindon, Administrator/Transportation Planning Division

From: Susan C. Sillick
Research Section

Date: March 12, 2003

Subject: Summary of Minutes from Tuesday, February 25, 2003 RRC Meeting

The following RRC members were present: Monte Brown, Bob Burkhardt, Joel Marshik, Drew Livesay, Dick Turner (attending for Pat Saindon), and Sue Sillick.

1. **Budget Report:** Attached - No Comments
2. **Research Project – current listing:** Attached

2a. *Road Sand Management on Highways Adjacent to Streams (02.004)* – Distributed at Meeting.

Eric Stimson/Environmental Services Bureau attended the meeting, presenting a brief synopsis of the proposed Scope of Work. The Technical Panel is requesting an approval-in-concept to issue an RFP to the Universities for an MPART Small Project. The proposed Scope of Work involves a literature review and survey of BMP's to keep road sand out of waters.

Joel Marshik made a motion to approve this project in-concept. Drew Livesay seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

2b. *Cutslope Stabilization through Organic Matter Addition (98.019)*

Sue presented the RRC with a brief update of this project, which previously had been approved-in-concept.

The Technical Panel is working with MSU on proposal language. The purpose of the project is to evaluate the effects of different amounts of compost and different compost incorporation methods on plant growth on steep slopes. An E-mail ballot will be sent to the RRC in the near future.

3. **Reports:** Available Upon Request

3a. *Use of Dynamic Modulus (E*) in Hot-Mix Designs* – Pooled Fund Study – Advisory Panel Meeting Number 4 Minutes – January 12, 2003

3b. *Field Evaluation of the Performance of Three Concrete Bridge Decks on Montana Route 243 (High Performance Concrete – Phase II)* – Quarterly Progress Report – 10/01/02 – 12/31/02

3c. *Extending the Season for Concrete Construction and Repair* – Progress Report – February 2003

4. **Contract Extensions:** None

5. **Proposals:**

5a. *Air Quality Analysis of MDT Transportation Improvements* – (02.008) - Attached

Tom Steyaert/Transportation Planning Division attended the meeting as Chairman of the Technical Panel in support of this project, which previously had been approved-in-concept.

The Technical Panel selected the proposal of Dr. Debbie Niemeier, University of California, Davis. Dr. Kevan Shafizadeh, University of California, Davis, will be a subconsultant.

The object of this proposal is to determine what improvements have been or will be made in air quality resulting from implementing MACI. A correlation between types of projects and pollutants will be used in decisions for future CMAQ allocations.

Dick Turner made a motion to approve this proposal for \$88,875. Joel Marshik seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

6. **Implementation:** None

7. **Alternative Fuels** – Jim Currie - Attached

Sue reported that she would be meeting with Dave Galt next week to define the scope of the Alternative Fuel study.

8. *MDT Research Solicitation* - Attached

The committee reviewed the rankings (see below).

SUBJECT AREA	PROB #	PROBLEM TITLE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL SCORE			RANK		
				RRC	DA	RRC&DA	RRC	DA	RRC&DA
Maintenance	03.008	Pavement Marking Condition Assessment	See Problem Statement	2.71	3.00	2.74	2	1	1
Administration	03.012	Determine the Current Rates of Motor Fuel Tax Evasion in Montana	See Problem Statement	2.86	1.50	2.71	1	6	2
Maintenance	03.009	Pavement Marking Materials and Techniques	See Problem Statement	2.61	3.00	2.66	3	1	3
Construction	03.002	Impact Analysis of Construction Quality on Life-Cycle Performance of Pavements	See Problem Statement	2.55	2.70	2.57	4	2	4
Right-of-Way	03.014	Integrated Right-of-Way Permit Management Platform for MDT	See Problem Statement	2.15	2.50	2.19	5	3	5
Environmental	03.013	New Bioengineer Stream Restoration Method to Correct Channel Alignment at Bridge Crossings	See Problem Statement	2.06	2.00	2.06	6	4	6
Transportation Planning	03.011	Development of Site-Specific Traffic Loading and Classification Estimates	See Problem Statement	1.94	1.70	1.91	7	5	7
Transportation Planning	03.015	Determine Passenger Transportation Funding and Reporting Procedures	See Problem Statement	1.68	1.70	1.68	8	5	8

Sue informed the committee that, as per Dave Galt, project number 03.014 is removed from consideration for Research. This project will be addressed through ISB.

Sue reminded the RRC that projects approved at this point will move forward to Technical Panels. No funds are committed at this time.

Sue recommended that the RRC approve the top 4 problem statements. Overall, these four projects scored higher than 2.5 higher (out of a total score of 3). Also, this would result in the approval of most of the RRC, DA, and Dave Galt's top ranked problem statements.

Joel Marshik made a motion to proceed with overall ranked projects 1, 2, 3, and 4. Monte Brown seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

cc: Craig Abernathy/Research Section
Debbie Alke, Administrator/Aeronautics Division
Brooke Amestoy/Research Section
Kent M. Barnes, P.E./Materials Bureau
Bruce H. Barrett/District Administrator-Billings
Jeffery M. Ebert, P.E./District Administrator-Butte
Linda Francis/Business Plan Administrator
Loran Frazier, P.E./District Administrator-Missoula
Dave Hill/Environmental Services
John Horton/Right-of-Way Bureau
Michael P. Johnson/District Administrator-Great Falls
Joseph P. Kolman, P.E./Bridge Bureau
William L. McChesney/District Administrator-Glendive
Russell G. McDonald/Human Resources Division
Robert D. Morgan, P.E./Traffic & Safety Bureau
Kenneth H. Neumiller/Engineering Oversight Bureau
Jeanne Nydegger/Research Section
Carl S. Peil, P.E./Preconstruction Bureau
Timothy W. Reardon/Legal Services
James A. Walther, P.E./Highway and Engineering Division
Mark A. Wissinger, P.E./Construction Bureau
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