

MEMORANDUM

To: RRC Members
Debbie Alke, Administrator/Aeronautics Division
D. John Blacker, Administrator/Maintenance Division
Monte N. Brown, Administrator/Administration Division
Robert E. Burkhardt/Federal Highway Administration
Dick Clark, Administrator/Information Services Division
Jim Currie, Deputy Director/Department of Transportation
Loran Frazier, P.E., Acting Administrator/Highway and Engineering Division
Drew F. Livesay, Administrator/Motor Carrier Services Division
Jim Lynch, Director/Department of Transportation
Priscilla Sinclair/Traffic Safety
Sandra S. Straehl, Administrator/Rail, Transit, and Planning Division

From: Susan C. Sillick, Manager
Research Programs

Date: May 3, 2005

Subject: Summary of Minutes from April 26, 2005 RRC Meeting

The following RRC members were present: Debbie Alke, John Blacker, Monte Brown, Bob Burkhardt, Jim Currie, Loran Frazier, Jim Lynch, Sue Sillick, Priscilla Sinclair, and Sandy Straehl.

Sue Sillick welcomed Priscilla Sinclair as a new RRC member.

1. **Budget Report** – No discussion
2. **Research Project – current listing** – No discussion
3. **Reports:** Available Upon Request

Sue distributed *Project Summary Report 8144 - Performance of Steel Pipe Pile-to-Concrete Bent Cap Connections Subject to High Transverse Loading: Phase II*. The purpose of these new summary reports is to give an overview of each completed research project, a marketing piece that can be used to quickly “tell the story” for the legislature, public, etc.

3a. *Evaluation of Wildlife Crossing Structures on US Highway 93 Evaro to Polson* – Progress Report – March 2005

3b. *Fish Passage in Montana Culverts Phase II – Passage Goals* – Progress Report – March 2005

3c. *Warm Water Species Fish Passage in Eastern Montana Culverts* – Progress Report – March 2005

3d. *Field Evaluation of the Performance of Three Concrete Bridge Decks on Montana Route 243* – Progress Report – March 2005

4. **Contract Extensions:** None

5. **Proposals:**

5a. *Preventive Maintenance Treatments: A Synthesis of Highway Practice* - MPART Small Project Proposal

Jon Watson, P.E./Materials Bureau attended the meeting to discuss this proposal.

The purpose of this research is to identify the adequacy of existing data and methodologies in terms of: 1) establishing appropriate preventive maintenance treatments, 2) evaluating the effectiveness of these treatments, and 3) examining the reported life-cycle cost of various alternates. This will be accomplished through survey of the states, literature, and research in progress.

Sandy Straehl indicated that this project was initiated because Eli Cuelho indicated that pavement preservation might not be cost effective. She wondered if this synthesis project would answer this question. It was pointed out that this statement was made in connection to a crack sealing project and that this project is a first step to answering this question. Sandy requested that the report include recommendations for next steps.

John Blacker moved to accept this proposal for \$25,000.00 (\$20,000.00-MDT, and \$5,000.00-MSU). Debbie Alke seconded the motion, with all but Jim Currie voting for the motion.

5b. *Effects of Defensive Vehicle Handling Training on Novice Driver Safety: A Case Study in Lewistown, Montana – Phase 2: Presentation of Advanced Defensive Driving Training*

Mike Kelly/WTI-Bozeman attended the meeting to discuss Phase 2 of this project.

This proposal was previously approved-in-concept so that WTI could continue to move forward with Phase 1, namely advertising the driver training to potential students.

Phase 1 of this project began in October is scheduled to be completed this fall. This phase included the development of a training curriculum, recruitment of students, and preparation for the training.

Phase 2 of this project would involve presenting the training to an experimental group of 200 students. The control group will also include 200 students. Students will be assigned to each group randomly.

Twelve students will be trained a day for three weeks this summer, utilizing five instructors and six training vehicles. Three sedans will be outfitted with leased SkidMonster equipment. One of these vehicles will be outfitted with a video camera to record eye movements and other driver responses. Training will occur at the OPI Driver's Education Facility at the Lewistown Airport.

400 hundred students from Lewistown and surrounding areas will be enrolled in this project. Jim Currie asked about the numbers of youth coming from Fort Belknap. He was told that they were still working on that issue. Jim said he would like to have a firm number of Native American students taking part in this training. Mike Kelly was asked to find out whether there would be any Native American instructors.

After much discussion, the RRC opted to lease the SkidMonster for three months as opposed to purchasing them.

Jim Currie made a motion to approve Phase 2, option B in the amount of \$146,899.00 that includes a three-month lease of the three Skid Monster attachments. Phase 2 is to be contracted separately from Phase 1. Jim Lynch seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion.

5c. *LTAP*

Steve Jenkins/LTAP attended the meeting to make a presentation on LTAP's work plan and budget for the coming year.

Loran Frazier moved to approve the work plan and budget. Jim Currie seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion.

6. **Implementation/Technology Transfer:** None

7. **RRC Initiatives:**

7a. *Substitution and Voting Rights*

Jim Currie will talk to the Director regarding this item and will let Sue know the results of this discussion. Sue will forward this information to the rest of the RRC.

7b. *District Representation on RRC*

Loran wants a District Representative on the RRC. Sue will discuss this with the District Administrators at their May meeting.

cc: Craig L.Abernathy/Research Programs
Suzy Althof/Contract Plans Bureau
Kent M. Barnes, P.E./Bridge Bureau
Bruce H. Barrett/District Administrator-Billings
Lisa Durbin/Construction Administration Bureau
Jeffery M. Ebert, P.E./District Administrator-Butte
Paul R. Ferry, P.E./Highways Bureau
John Horton/Right-of-Way Bureau
Paul Jagoda, P.E./Construction Engineering Bureau
Michael P. Johnson/District Administrator-Great Falls
Dwane Kailey, P.E./Acting District Administrator-Missoula
Ray Mengel/District Administrator-Glendive
Victoria A. Murphy, CPA, CFE/Highway and Engineering Division
Jeanne Nydegger/Research Program w/attachments
Timothy W. Reardon/Legal Services
Jean A. Riley, P.E./Environmental Services Bureau
Paula Stoll/Human Resources Division
Matt Strizich, P.E./Materials Bureau
James A. Walther, P.E./Highways and Engineering Division
Duane E. Williams, P.E./Traffic & Safety Bureau
Mark A. Wissinger, P.E./Highways and Engineering Division
File