

MEMORANDUM

To: RRC Members
Debbie Alke, Administrator/Aeronautics Division
D. John Blacker, Administrator/Maintenance Division
Mike Bousliman, Administrator/Information Services Division
Monte N. Brown, Operations Manager/Business Process Solutions Unit
Robert E. Burkhardt/Federal Highway Administration
Jim Currie, Deputy Director
Jeffery M. Ebert, P.E./District Administrator-Butte
Larry Flynn, Administrator/Administration Division
Loran Frazier, P.E., Administrator/Highway and Engineering Division
Jim Lynch, Director
Dennis Sheehy, Administrator/Motor Carrier Services Division
Sandra S. Straehl, Administrator/Rail, Transit, and Planning Division

From: Susan C. Sillick, Manager
Research Programs

Date: December 11, 2007

Subject: Summary of Minutes from the May 29, 2007 RRC Meeting

The following RRC members were present: Debbie Alke, John Blacker, Mike Bousliman, Monte Brown, Bob Burkhardt, Loran Frazier, Dennis Sheehy, Sue Sillick, and Sandy Straehl.

1. **Budget Report** – Attached
2. **Research Project – current listing** – Attached
3. **Reports:** Available Upon Request
 - 3a. **Developing a One Stop Shop for Traveler Information in Montana** (05.013) - Progress Report – April 2007
 - 3b. **Business Market Analysis** (05.009) – Progress Report – April 2007
 - 3c. **Summer Training Institute** – Progress Report – April 2007
 - 3d. **Warm Water Fish Passage in Montana Culverts** – Progress Reports – March 2007
 - 3e. **Fish Passage in Montana Culverts Phase II** – Progress Report – March 2007

3f. **Experimental Assessment of Aggregate Surfacing Materials** – Progress Report – March 2007

3g. **LTAP** – Progress Report – March 2007

3h. **Automated Cost Recovery: A Feasibility Study** – Progress Report – March 2007

3i. **A High Fidelity Driving Simulator as a Tool for Design and Evaluation of Highway Infrastructure Upgrades** – Final Report – FHWA/MT-07-005/8117-33

3j. **Wildlife-Vehicle Collision and Crossing Mitigation Measures: A Toolbox for the Montana Department of Transportation** – Final Report – FHWA/MT-07-002/8117-34

3k. **Evaluation of Organic Matter Addition and Incorporation on Steep Cut Slopes: Phase II Test Plot Construction and Performance Monitoring** – Final Report – FHWA/MT-07-001/8176

4. **Contract Extensions: None**

5. **Proposals:**

5a. **LTAP Work Plan and Budget**

Steve Jenkins, LTAP/MSU-Bozeman presented his work plan and budget for the coming year.

Steve noted that last year LTAP had a one time \$50,000.00 increase in federal funding. This year without the \$50,000.00 and with the 12% ICAP, there will be less money in the budget.

In response to Loran Frazier's question regarding rumors that LTAP will no longer provide training for MDT, Steve said that he has been giving MDT staff train-the-trainer classes so that MDT could conduct work zone safety training. In addition, he will provide training for MDT listed in the work plan.

Sandy Straehl asked if LTAP provides training to Tribal members. Steve indicated he does and will continue to work with BIA staff in the training of Native American individuals. He recently had a training workshop where 45 of the participants were either from the Crow or Northern Cheyenne Tribes.

John Blacker asked Steve why he didn't ask for more funding to make up for the \$50,000.00 decrease in funding. Steve indicated that he does have requests out for more money; he has submitted a proposal for \$50,000.00 to conduct rural safety audits.

Sandy urged Steve to coordinate his safety training with Duane Williams/Traffic Safety. She also suggested that Steve get in touch with Priscilla Sinclair to discuss the process for requesting 402 funds.

Monte Brown asked Bob Burkhardt to check on the ICAP for Gas Tax Funds to determine if this funding category be charged ICAP or not.

John Blacker made a motion to accept the budget as presented providing resolution of the ICAP issue from Bob Burkhardt/FHWA. Sandy Straehl seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion.

5b. Evaluation of Test Methods for Permeability (Transport) and Development of Performance Guidelines for Durability – Pooled Fund Study

Matt Strizich/Materials Bureau attended the meeting and spoke in favor of this proposal.

The primary purpose of this project is to develop a test procedure that directly evaluates the permeability (transport properties) of concrete and relates these to anticipated performance with the use of exposure condition. This consists of the following distinct objectives:

- ▶ Evaluation of existing permeability (transport) test procedures;
- ▶ Development of new, or improvement of existing test, procedures to evaluate permeability (transport) properties of concrete;
- ▶ Correlation between permeability (transport) properties and measured material response to existing durability tests; and
- ▶ Develop guidelines to relate permeability, exposure conditions, and field performance for use in specifications and quality control processes.

This study will provide MDT with a testing procedure to evaluate the permeability (transport) properties on concrete. The procedures can be used to relate how concrete may perform under specific exposure conditions on MDT's roads.

Loran Frazier made a motion to participate in this study committing MDT to \$25,000.00 per year for three years and \$12,000.00 for the fourth year. Monte Brown seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion.

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

7. **Department/Division Hot Topics – RRC Members Roundtable Discussion -** None

cc: Craig L. Abernathy/Research Programs
Lisa Autio/Research Program
Kent M. Barnes, P.E./Bridge Bureau
Bruce H. Barrett/District Administrator-Billings
Kevin Christensen/Highways and Engineering Division
Lisa Durbin/Construction Administration-Bureau
Mike Dyrdaahl/Highways and Engineering Division
Paul R. Ferry, P.E./Highways Bureau
John Horton/Right-of-Way Bureau
Paul Jagoda, P.E./Construction Engineering Bureau
Jennifer Jensen/Human Resources Division
Michael P. Johnson/District Administrator-Great Falls
Dwane Kailey, P.E./District Administrator-Missoula
Tom Martin, P.E./Consultant Design Bureau
Ray Mengel/District Administrator-Glendive
Jeanne Nydegger/Research Programs
Suzy Price/Contract Plans Bureau
Timothy W. Reardon/Legal Services
Dan Smith, P.E./Environmental Services Bureau
Matt Strizich, P.E./Materials Bureau
James A. Walther, P.E./Highways and Engineering Division
Duane E. Williams, P.E./Traffic & Safety Bureau
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