

MEMORANDUM

To: RRC Members
Debbie Alke, Administrator/Aeronautics Division
D. John Blacker, Deputy Director
Mike Bousliman, Operations Manager
Monte N. Brown, Operations Manager/Business Process Solutions Unit
Jeffery M. Ebert, P.E./District Administrator-Butte
Larry Flynn, Administrator/Administration Division
Loran Frazier, P.E., Administrator/Highway and Engineering Division
Jennifer Jensen, Operations Manager
Dwane Kailey, Operations Manager
Jim Lynch, Director
Bob Seliskar/FHWA
Dennis Sheehy, Administrator/Motor Carrier Services Division
Jerry Stephens, P.E./WTI MSU
Jon Swartz, Acting Administrator/Maintenance Division
Lynn Zanto, Administrator/Rail, Transit, and Planning Division

From: Susan C. Sillick, Manager
Research Programs

Date: July 8, 2009

Subject: 2/24/2009 RRC Meeting Agenda (9:00 a.m. MDTCNF Commission Room)

Action Items are bolded

RRC Members Attending: Jim Greil for Debbie Alke, Mike Bousliman, Jeff Ebert, Larry Flynn, Loran Frazier, Jennifer Jensen, Dennis Hult for Dennis Sheehy, Sue Sillick, Jerry Stephens, Jon Swartz, and Lynn Zanto.

Others Attending: Sirous Alavi, Kent Barnes, Cora Helm, Mick Johnson, Ray Mengel, Doug Moeller, Mark Snow, Stefan Streeter, Matt Strizich, and Bob Turner.

1. 2009 Research Project Solicitation – Champions presented their topics. RRC and DAs moved all projects in the below table forward to technical panels. No funding was committed at this stage. Technical panels will evaluate problem statements and determine if a need for research exists and the venue for the research. Potential research topics will be brought back to the RRC for one of three possible actions: 1) Cancel the project, 2) Scope of Work request for approval to issue RFP, or 3) Proposal request for funding approval. Click on titles below to link to the problem statement. See specific issues discussed for each problem statement under the title in the below table.

SUBJECT AREA	PROB NO.	PROBLEM TITLE
Env/Maint	9.001	The Effects of Carcass Composting on Chronic Wasting Disease Note: an informal panel was already formed. The panel met once and developed a plan for FWP approval to use carcass compost. The panel also conducted a survey within the US and Canada.
Planning/Maintenance	9.003	Montana Rest Area Use: Data Acquisition and Estimation Note: This problem statement was already moved forward to the technical panel stage.
Materials	9.004	Research the Feasibility of Utilizing Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP) in Portland Cement Concrete Pavement
Administration	9.005	Motor Fuel Refunds Note: This problem statement contains two parts: 1) BMP development and 2) database development. Research will only consider the first part. The second can be based on the results from part 1, but part 2 must go through the Department's IT process
Maintenance	9.008	Recycling Recovered Sanding Material Note: Need to include an economic analysis (C/B) in the research.
Planning	9.010	Land Use Planning for Traffic Noise – Training Note: Mike Bousliman wants to make sure cities are on board with the training before the project is funded.
Materials	9.014	Synthesis of Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA) Paving Strategies for Use in Montana Highway Construction
Materials	9.015	100% Fly Ash Concrete with Recycled Pulverized Glass Aggregate for use in Transportation Related Applications
Structures	9.016	Steel Pipe Pile/Concrete Pile Cap Bridge Support Systems: Confirmation of Connection Performance

Structures	9.017	Interim Evaluation of Three Instrumented Bridge Decks in Saco, Montana
Structures	9.018	Stress Transfer, Beyond the Strand Development Length of Pre-Stressed Concrete Members, and its Effect on Quantifying the Residual Pre-Stressing Force
Aeronautics	9.021	Integration of User Controlled Webcams to Existing MDT Webcam Facilities for Aviation Purposes

Attendees were asked to submit technical panel nominations to Sue by 3/15/09.

Research staff will form technical panels for all potential research projects listed in the above table.

Sue proposed moving the solicitation process up by two months prior to the next legislative session, with the solicitation ending in October rather than December, and the champion presentations and project approvals occurring in December rather than January to prevent conflicts with the legislative session. The RRC had no problems with this change; it will be made before the next legislative session.

2. Budget Report: Attached

No discussion.

3. Research Project – current listing: Attached

No discussion.

4. Reports: Available Upon Request

4a. 2008 Annual Report for the Montana Department of Transportation Research Program – FHWA/MT-09-001/8010

4b. Bozeman Pass Wildlife Monitoring – Progress Reports – November and December 2008, and January 2009

4c. Effects of Defensive Vehicle Handling Training on Novice Driver Safety. Phase 3: Analysis of Safety Data – Progress Report – January 2009

4d. Impact of Canadian Economic Development on Northern Montana Highways (08.002) – Progress Report – December 2008

4e. LTAP – Progress Reports – September and December 2008

4f. Smart Transportation and Land Use Planning – Cambridge Systematics (07.014) – Progress Report – October, November, and December 2008

4g. Steep Cut Slope Composting: Field Trials and Evaluation (05.010) – Post Construction and Progress Reports - January 2009

No discussion.

5. Contract Extensions: None

6. Proposals: None

7. Implementation/Technology Transfer:

7a. Highway Project Cost Estimating Best Practices (04.018) – Final Report Presentation

Sirous Alavi from Sierra Transportation Engineers presented the results of his research. Project information, including the PowerPoint presentation can be found at http://www.mdt.mt.gov/research/projects/const/project_cost.shtml. A full presentation was made on 2/24/09 from 1-3 in the MDT Commission room.

8. Department/Division Hot Topics – RRC Members Roundtable Discussion

None.

cc: Craig Abernathy/Research Programs w/attachments
Kent M. Barnes, P.E./Bridge Bureau
Kevin Christensen/Highways and Engineering Division
Tim Conway, P.E./Consultant Design Bureau
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
Michael P. Johnson/District Administrator-Great Falls
Tom Martin, P.E./ Environmental Services Bureau
Ray Mengel/District Administrator-Glendive
Doug Moeller/District Administrator-Missoula
Suzy Price/Contract Plans Bureau
Timothy W. Reardon/Legal Services
Stefan Streeter, P.E. /District Administrator-Billings
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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