



Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Memorandum

To: RRC Members
Steve Albert/WTI
Debbie Alke, Administrator/ Aeronautics Division
Mike Bousliman, Administrator/Information Services Division
Jeffery M. Ebert, P.E./District Administrator-Butte
Larry Flynn, Administrator/ Administration Division
Dwane Kailey, Administrator/Highways and Engineering Division
Bob Seliskar/FHWA
Jon Swartz, Administrator/Maintenance Division
Mike Tooley/Director
Duane Williams, Administrator/Motor Carrier Services Division
Pat Wise/Deputy Director
Lynn Zanto, Administrator/Rail, Transit, and Planning Division

From: Susan C. Sillick, Manager
Research Programs

Date: February 27, 2018

Subject: July 20, 2017 RRC Meeting Notes

1. **Research Projects - current listing**

No discussion.

2. **Reports:** Available on Research [website](#)

- a. Investigation of Prefabricated Steel Truss/Bridge Deck Systems (12-010)- Task 2 Report
- b. Advanced Methodology to Determine Highway Construction Cost Index (14-022)- Final Report and Implementation Presentation

No discussion.

3. **Proposed Research Projects (attached) -**

- a. Building Information Modeling (BIM) for Bridges and Structures

Kent Barnes was present to discuss this pooled-fund study. He indicated we are moving into 3D design. We need a specification for portability to 3D and indicated this is not a big-ticket item. Also, Kent stated participation will give us a voice in scoping this project.

Dwane suggested we let this sit for a while to determine if other states are interested.

Mike B. expressed his support for this pooled-fund study, but he also stated if this would be tightly coupled to AASHTOWare, there may not be as big of a benefit. Kent added that we are using AASHTOWare for structural modeling. Mike B. stated this is along the lines of what we need as determined by the Enterprise Architecture project. Kent stated this project will modernize the AASHTOWare code, which is an expensive task.

It was decided to wait to determine the interest of others prior to committing funds to this pooled-fund study.

4. **Federal Fiscal Year 2018 Work Plan Development**

Due to the lower ranking of the AASHTO TSPs, Dwane indicated he likely didn't express the importance of the participation in these efforts. He stated we need to do a better job of explain the importance, including performance measures such as B/C and ROI.

Since there are sufficient funds for all projects, Dwane made a motion to approve all projects. Mike T. seconded the motion. All RRC members and District Administrators present voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed. **Sue will proceed with forming technical panels for the six new MDT SPR-funded research projects. Sue will also pay the AASHTO TSP invoices for those approved projects. Finally, Sue will post the new commitment for WAQTC pooled-fund (TPF) study on the TPF website and will transfer the funds when FFY 2018 opens.**

Dwane also made a motion that an annual presentation on the value of participation in the currently funded TSPs and WAQTC will be given, and, unless otherwise indicated by these annual presentations and discussion, these projects will by default be funded. Jon seconded the motion. All RRC members and District Administrators present voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed. New requested TSPs and other TPFs will be ranked. Bob added that even though this decision was made, it's not bad to rate these annually as well.

5. **Implementation/Performance Measures/Technology Transfer: None**

6. **Department/Division Hot Topics - RRC Members Roundtable Discussion**

Bob mentioned that Research will hold a peer exchange in September on implementation of research results, research performance measures, and the value of research. These peer exchanges are required as per CFR.

Tom Martin indicated DOTs and resource agencies will gather for wildlife summits to keep the conversations going.

Copies: Craig Abernathy/Research Section
Audrey Allums/Grants Bureau
Kent M. Barnes, P.E./Bridge Bureau
Kevin Christensen/Highways and Engineering Division
Kris Christensen/Research Section
Ryan Dahlke, P.E./Consultant Design Bureau
Lisa Durbin/Construction Administration Bureau
Mike Dyrdaahl/Engineering Operations Bureau
Ed Ereth/Data and Statistics Bureau
Paul Jagoda, P.E./Construction Engineering Services Bureau
Tom Martin, P.E./Environmental Services Bureau
Kraig McLeod/Multimodal Planning Bureau
Shane Mintz/District Administrator-Glendive
Roy Peterson, P.E./Traffic & Safety Bureau
Suzy Price/Contract Plans Bureau
Dustin Rouse, P.E./Highways and Engineering Division
Ed Toavs/District Administrator-Missoula
Lesly Tribelhorn, P.E./Highways Bureau
Jim Skinner/Planning and Policy Analysis Bureau
Rob Stapley/Right of Way Bureau
Jerry Stephens, P.E./WTI MSU
Stefan Streeter, P.E./District Administrator-Billings
Matt Strizich, P.E./Materials Bureau
Matt Ulberg, P.E./LTAP
Doug Wilmot/District Administrator-Great Falls
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