

Minutes of the
KDOT/ACEC Kansas Liaison Committee
August 16, 2005
Wichita, Kansas

Present were David Comstock, Rick Kreider, Neil Rusch, Sandra Tommer, Larry Emig, Jim Kowach, David Church, Wendall Meyer, Gary Schock, Kenzil Lynn, Mike Hess, Mike Olson, Tom Swenson and David Beach.

The minutes for the May 17, 2005 were approved as submitted.

David Comstock thanked Gary Schock and PEC for providing their offices for the meeting.

Mike Olson updated the group on the Annual KDOT/ACEC 2005 Conference. A draft agenda was handed out. Minor adjustments are still to be made with the order of the speakers. It was decided to invite the leadership of APWA to the conference instead of a general invitation to all locals because of size restrictions for the conference.

Jim Kowach reported on consistency in design. Communication is still at the heart of the problem. The committee recommended putting more emphasis on the PET evaluation, formalized internal & external training, having a standing committee for consultants and KDOT project managers to meet quarterly and the need for team work and an empathetic attitude to reach the goals of the project. Kowach will participate in several Pet evaluations to reemphasize the need for face to face communication. Consultant's representatives will be invited to both the Road and Bridge staff meetings. Swenson will coordinate for ACEC. The agenda will need to be available one week before the meeting. The Road meeting is the Monday of the first full week of the month and the Bridge meeting is the third Wednesday of the month.

Jim Kowach reported on Integrated Design Environment. We are completing a pilot of Project Wise with Bentley this week. There are still a lot of details to be worked out. In the long term there may still be problems as systems continue to change rapidly. Microfilm still may be best for long term storage. Project Wise should help with the transfer of files during the project. ACEC is to submit names for a committee to work out the details. Geotechnical information is to be posted online prior to the letting for the contractors use in bidding. A disclaimer may be needed that the information is specific to the project and is not to be used for other projects. Let Jim know if there is problem with providing this information.

Kenzil Lynn reported on KCE/KDOT/KCA plan format and design information. The committee met with various KDOT staff and contractors. The contractors would like to have the horizontal & vertical alignment control, design surfaces in SOE, and earthwork calculations in Excel. They use this information to develop models before bidding the

projects and use GPS to build the projects. The committee's final report will be presented at the October meeting

Larry Emig reported on proposed changes to the construction inspection contracts to allow for fee adjustments to reflect the actual work performed. These adjustments could either increase or decrease the fee. Larry also emphasized the importance of keeping the locals informed on changes to the bid cost.

Larry Emig distributed a handout showing the activity of the revolving loan fund.

Wendall Meyer reported that after 12 extensions the highway bill was finally passed. There were 6,000 discretionary projects in the bill. There are more questions than answers. It will take at least a month before the details will be available. Check the FHWA website for updates. The FHWA will be relocating to the old CFS building at 6111 SW 29th Street.

David Comstock reminded us of the mission/future of the Liaison Committee. He stated the committee is still addressing issues of importance to both organizations and that we need to continue to find areas for continuous improvement.

The Annual Partnering Conference will be on October 18. The next meeting of the Liaison Committee will be on October 19, 2005 at 8:00 AM in Topeka.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55.