

MINUTES
ACEC KANSAS/KDOT LIAISON COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 25, 2007
MANOR CONFERENCE CENTER
TOPEKA, KANSAS

Present were Mike Hess, Dan Scherschligt, Tom Swenson, Mark Stock, Neil Rusch, David Church, David Kocour, Rick Kreider, Karla Waters, Catherine Patrick, Freddie Simmons, Mike Bowen, Sue Darling, Jim Kowach, Ron Seitz, Scott Uhl, David Nagy, Mel Chapman, Jerry Younger, Sandra Tommer, and Scott Heidner.

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2007 committee meeting. Motion carried.

Seitz gave an update on local projects. The subcommittee hasn't met recently, but Local Projects is looking at changing language in CE agreements and will need consultant input when a draft is ready, so a meeting could be scheduled in the near future.

Seitz gave a report on the transportation revolving loan fund. The first loan went out in December, 2003, and there have been a total of 52 loans since that time. The total in executed loans now stands at \$62.8 million. Younger added that KDOT has historically served as a "bank" for many small communities, and that such a practice may not be viable moving forward.

Kowach reported that the CADD Standards Manual is complete and available online. Kowach also reported on the integrated design environment, saying KDOT is still trying to implement Project Wise internally, and that KDOT will eventually want to bring consultants in for part of that process. Kowach also announced that the HEEP conference for 2008 will be hosted by KDOT.

Kowach reported on 2007 specification implementation. New projects are coming in, and KDOT is asking that consultants be more diligent in getting the correct bid items included. Younger asked the status of the roughly 80 projects scheduled for the "2010-2012" window, and Rusch said about 30 of them use consultants, and most contracts have been signed.

Bowen gave the FHWA report. Secretary Peters is emphasizing safety, 21st century solutions, and congestion as her top three priorities. Kansas City will host the national roundabout conference in 2008. There are three reviews scheduled for 2008: 1) use of QA/QC specs, 2) construction staffing, and 3) load postings and inspection frequency.

Rusch reported on a draft policy for consultant standard of care. A new draft standard was distributed, and Rusch asked for input from consultants by no later than January 1.

Simmons reported on efforts of the Accountability Task Force, and distributed a handout detailing their efforts. The committee is working on quality control requirements, draft checklists for KDOT plans, standard of care policy, and the current PET form. Simmons received much feedback and many suggestions from the committee, and indicated he would incorporate those and bring them back.

Nagy reported on “on call” agreements. He said there has not been much progress on this issue since the last meeting because the attorney managing this project has been very busy.

Rusch reported on contract review, including a written handout. Attorneys at KDOT would like to add proof of professional liability insurance to the prequalification process for consultants. That change will likely occur in 2008. Rusch and Church also had handouts on workplace safety procedures.

Swenson gave a report on the 2007 Annual Partnering Conference. He said attendance was near a record high and that things went well. More would be known after ACEC staff had a chance to tabulate the evaluations.

Heidner announced that John Halbgewachs with Kirkham Michael and David Kocour with URS will be the two new ACEC Kansas representatives on the committee, replacing Tom Swenson and Mike Hess. Scott Uhl will take over for Tom Swenson as the ACEC Kansas co-chair.

Heidner announced the dates of the partnering committees and Annual Conference for 2008 as follows:

February 12, Topeka
May 20, Salina
August 12, KC
October 28, Annual Conference, Topeka
October 29, Topeka

Rick Kreider will chair the 2008 Annual Conference planning committee. Mel Chapman, Ron Seitz, Scott Uhl, Karla Waters, and James Dietzel will also participate.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.