

Minutes
ACEC/KDOT Liaison Committee Meeting
HNTB Corporation, Overland Park, KS
August 22, 2018

Attendees:

KDOT: Catherine Patrick, Ron Seitz, Larry Thompson, Scott King, Steve Bass, Brent Terstriep, Mike Stringer

FHWA: Rick Backlund, Rusty Simerl

KTA: David Jacobson

ACEC: Scott Heidner, Cameron McGown, Mandy Anderson, Adam Stodola, John Riggins, Calvin Reed (guest)

Agenda & Minutes

1. Approval of Agenda – Ron Seitz

- It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda with two changes, the removal of items 7 and 11 and the addition of an item to reschedule the October meeting.

2. Approval of last meeting's minutes – Ron Seitz

- Approval motioned, seconded, and approved

3. Action Item Review – Ron Seitz

- Seitz gave an update from the contracts task force meeting. They are discussing on-call contracts and how firms are selected within the on-call process. KDOT is going to look at the process and see if there is a way it can be streamlined. KDOT is also going to look into options regarding lump sum contracts. At this time, there is no action needed from consultants.

4. Status of KDOT Funding/Transportation Task Force – Catherine Patrick

- The transportation task force has started its meetings, and have 9 total meetings set up around the state. KDOT is providing data to that committee and answering questions that arise out of the meetings.
- Patrick explained the protocol for speakers to sign up to give testimony, noting that information has been distributed to local governments. She also reviewed the process KDOT will use to respond to questions and testimony from the public.
- It is possible that subcommittees will be formed to explore certain topics more in-depth.

- The meetings on November 28th and 29th are set aside for finalizing recommendations for the final report.
- Discussion was had on alternative delivery and the crafting of data to be presented to the task force.
 - McGown is to speak with Burns and McDonnell regarding ACEC's assistance with messaging to the Task Force.

5. Bureau of Local Projects Update – Mike Stringer

- The project scheduling task force has adopted a list of initiatives, including first come/first serve programming. The first projects ready for construction will be the first projects awarded funding.
- KDOT is working on a best practices guide for LPAs. Norm Bowers has agreed to assist. KDOT is also developing a “Working with KDOT” guide for elected officials.
- Ed Thornton is leaving KDOT and will be joining FHWA.
- KDOT has selected the consultant for the local road safety plan. They hope to do 20 counties a year.
- City connecting link improvement program award letters will go out next week.
- Off system bridge, they hope to be announcing projects in September. They are looking at modifying the application process for this.
- New Right-of-Way policy has been submitted to legal. Approval is anticipated very soon.

6. FHWA Update – Rick Backlund

- Many senior positions are getting filled, and several of those leaders are getting out to visit the states. Brandye Hendrickson is still the acting administrator.
- The Executive Director has retired and Cheryl Walker has taken over as interim Executive Director. A final selection will probably be made by around October.
- A 1R policy and a bridge preservation policy have both been approved.
- They are fully staffed at the division level with 15 people with the addition of Ed Thornton, and Javier Ahumada, who took John Knowles previous role.
- The latest EDC program will include advanced geotechnical exploration, collaborative hydraulics, project bundling, reducing roadway departures, drones, and many more.
- KDOT submitted their initial asset management plan, and FHWA is working with KDOT towards completion. They are working to clarify the new rating formulas.
- Notice of Funding Opportunity for bridge bundling is scheduled to be released in November.
- An EIS for the South Lawrence Trafficway should hit the Federal Register in the next few weeks.

- The latest round of BUILD Grant applications is still under review.

7. Contracts – David Nagy absent – No Report

8. Bureau of Road Design Update – Scott King

- KDOT is now committed to doing in-house 3D design, with every squad having a project in 3D. Ben Ware is their group's contact for 3D design.
- 3-D design is expected on all new contracts. Have discussed with impacted consultants about supplemental agreements to add 3D to projects.
- CADD Conform is expected as standard practice for all road projects.
- Geology is moving to 3D as well. SLT is being used as a pilot. Expect to receive geology data earlier in the design process.
- Road design currently has 8 vacancies, but they have filled a couple EA spots with students from KU.
- Expect to have additional pavement restoration projects coming out in the future including some larger rehab projects.
- King encouraged use of the PET evaluation, saying the effective use of those may even become a part of the selection process sometime in the future.
- Review the new guardrail memo, changing parts of the LON formula.
- KDOT will be changing fonts in the near future which will be easier to support.
- Road design is looking for ways to make plan development more efficient, i.e. not putting earthwork on cross sections.
- Road design encourages practical design and continuing to look for ways to be efficient with limited budgets.

9. 3-D Design - Cameron McGown, Calvin Reed

- McGown and Reed discussed ongoing 3D efforts on bridges. Recent changes in software have dramatically increased communication between different project disciplines improving capability in clash detection.
- Seitz said 3D modeling on bridges is the future, and KDOT and consultants need to be on the same page. There is risk if KDOT and the consulting industry are not aligned on procedures and requirements.
- Reed suggested Bentley be part of the discussion, and McGown added there are other platforms as well.
- It was agreed to form a committee to look at this issue. Reed and King agreed to be co-chairs. FHWA offered to participate to bring experience from a national perspective.
- Seitz will discuss integration of Geotech and Bridge with Kyler Halverson and Mark Hoppe.

- There have been instances where consultants feel they were directed to do something different than what's in the road design manual.
- King said he thought he was aware of a specific situation being referenced, and he thinks it is isolated but is more than willing to visit about the specifics.

10. Update from Consultants – Cameron McGown

- Most items of consultant interest already covered by others.
- There have been instances where consultants feel they were directed to do something different than what's in the road design manual.
- King said he thought he was aware of a specific situation being referenced, and he thinks it is isolated but is more than willing to visit about the specifics.

11. Bureau of Structures and Geotechnical Services Update – Mark Hoppe Absent – No Report

12. Legislative Update – Scott Heidner

- November elections will be critical not only to decide who will be in the legislature, but also the impact on leadership elections.
- Heidner urged everyone to vote.

13. KTA Update – David Jacobson

- Traffic continuing the same pattern seen in the last few years
 - Class 2 is slightly down – Largely attributed to construction impacts at I-35 & Kellogg and diverted traffic from I-70 now using SLT.
 - Class 5 is up which contributes to higher revenue
- Electronic toll collection numbers are up over 60% over the last several months.
- Violation rate at 1.29%, which is low compared to national averages. KTA is working to improve collections from violators.
- The southern terminal ORT project took bids last week and had good bids. ORT is done at the eastern terminal and the east Topeka terminal will be done this fall.
- I-35/Kellogg construction is 52% complete and is expected to complete in 2021.
- KTA is noticing increases in asphalt prices in recent bids.

14. KDOT/ACEC Partnering Conference Summary – Mandy Anderson

- Scheduled for October 3rd, at the Capitol Plaza in Topeka
- Registration is supposed to open today.
- The agenda is almost complete.
- There will be sponsorship opportunities for the first time at this year's conference. We are looking ways to generate revenue as a way to fund paid conference presenters in future years.

15. Adjournment – Ron Seitz

- It was agreed to move the October 4 meeting to November 1. The meeting will be held at the KDOT office. The meeting will start at 11am.
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Action Items

- McGown is to speak with Burns and McDonnell regarding ACEC's assistance with messaging to the Task Force.
- Seitz to discuss integration of Geotech and Bridge into the 3-D design committee with Kyler Halverson and Mark Hoppe.

Attachments

None