

Minutes
ACEC/KDOT Liaison Committee Meeting
Eisenhower State Office Building, Topeka, KS
November 1, 2018

Attendees:

KDOT: Catherine Patrick, Ron Seitz, Larry Thompson, Scott King, Steve Bass, Shawn Turner, Jonathon Tronson, Mike Stringer; David Nagy, Chris Herrick, Sue Eiseman, Mike Moriarty, Mark Hoppe

FHWA: Rick Backlund, Rusty Simerl

KTA:

ACEC: Scott Heidner, Cameron McGown, Mandy Anderson, Adam Stodola, John Riggins, Chuck Bartlett, Jim Tobaben

Agenda & Minutes

1. Approval of Agenda – Ron Seitz
 - It was moved and seconded to add 2019 meeting dates, scratch KTA update and approve the agenda. Motion carried.
2. Approval of last meeting's minutes – Ron Seitz
 - It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2018 committee meeting with a correction on page 1 from "distrusted" to "distributed". Motion carried.
3. Action Item Review – Ron Seitz
 - McGown followed up with the consulting community about ACEC messaging on alternative delivery.
 - Seitz worked with Hoppe to integrate Geotech and Bridge into the 3-D design committee.
4. Status of KDOT Funding/Transportation Task Force – Catherine Patrick
 - There are 2 meetings left, November 8th and 9th.
 - Have heard lots of local input testimony and provided a lot of education regarding the agency.
 - Discussed how best to deliver a proposal at the end of the task force meetings – KDOT will provide their own recommendations to the task force on policy and funding. Focused on ending the sales tax transfers.

5. Bureau of Local Projects Update – Mike Stringer

- Nelda Buckley will become a new team leader replacing Ed Thornton.
- Hired Christopher Griffin as a new member of the road team – this puts them back to full staff.
- Scheduling Task Force - Discussed flexible funding options. KDOT programmed \$10 million worth of off-system bridge projects, with \$8 million of funding available. It will be first come, first served on the projects.
- Plan to do the same thing with the High Risk Local Roads Program - \$5M programmed, \$4M in funding available.
- Still soliciting interest in the local road safety plans. Will review 20 counties per year until all counties have a plan.
- The draft right-of-way policy has been submitted to FHWA for review.
- Consultant prequalification submittals are still using construction observer instead of inspection.

6. FHWA Update – Rick Backlund

- Former Executive Director of FHWA retired in May. Tom Everett has been selected as the new Executive Director. He has 20 years of experiencing with FHWA and is well liked internally and has an excellent relationship with Brandye Hendrickson, the acting administrator of FHWA.
- They just concluded their EDC-5 (Every Day Counts) conference, which included several good ideas they may follow up on.
- Backlund attended the recent AASHTO meeting in Atlanta. Bud Wright is retiring.
- AASHTO is developing 11 white papers on a variety of topics. They hope to have those papers done by summer of 2019 to assist with reauthorization of the FASTAct.
- Asset management plan – FHWA has approved KDOT's preliminary plan and granted an extension to mid-2019 for full implementation.
- The environmental review of the South Lawrence Trafficway has started with several stakeholders engaged.
- FHWA recently approved updated 1R and 3R policies.
- Bridge Bundling NOFO – Got 20 applications, but can only submit 3. DOTs are the only entities that can apply.
- BUILD Grant announcements coming in about a month.
- USDOT Sec. Elaine Chao was in the area October 15th. Invited by Rep. Kevin Yoder. Conducted a listening session and bus tour in the KC area.

7. Contracts – David Nagy

- The I-35/Gardner Road has a consultant on board.
- There is a small lighting project out for Douglas and Jefferson County.
- There is a small bridge repair on Auburn Road over I-70 pending.
- Recently selected firm for I-435 VISSIM review.
- The contracts task force has met and discussed lump sum. A meeting will be held with FHWA to advance that conversation. There is an AASHTO/ACEC webinar coming up on the same topic on November 13. Tim Ross will participate from ACEC.
- The new web-based consultant pre-qualification system is under development. 2019 Q3 is the anticipated first usage of the new system.

8. Bureau of Road Design Update – Scott King

- They have had several policy changes, all of which are available on its website. 1R, 3R, Roadside, etc.
- There will be more 1R projects coming with an emphasis on safety.
- They are working on blunt ends, trying to help remove them from the system. Currently mapping out where they exist and will develop plan for how to correct. Some are being addressed with 1R projects. Intend to do 50% of these projects in-house and release 50% of these projects to consultants.
- They attended EDC-5 and learned more about innovative ideas. Kansas is one of the top ten states in the use of federal funds.
- Road design is still actively recruiting and want to add several EAs.

9. 3-D Design – Scott King

- Bridge people are now connected into the group.
- Scott will reach out to Calvin Reed soon to set up a meeting.

10. Update from Consultants – Cameron McGown

- Most items of consultant interest already covered by others.
- The contracts task force continues to meet.

11. Bureau of Structures and Geotechnical Services Update – Mark Hoppe

- They have reorganized down to two design squads and added a hydraulics squad.
- Eric Broom and Amanda Keeney are new engineer hires for the Bureau.
- They have embedded a consultant to help with the set aside program to make up for staff shortfall.
- They have worked with FHWA to get the 1R bridge policy developed and will federalize these projects as much as possible.

- They are bundling some of the set-aside projects into one contract. They have \$20 million to program in FY 2020 and \$35M in FY 2021.
- They attended EDC-5 and they are interested in a couple initiatives from that conference:
 - Advanced geotechnical data collection to supplement borings
 - Collaborative hydraulics
- KDOT is participating in a pooled funds study with IowaDOT and 18 other DOTs regarding BIM standards for bridges.

12. Legislative Update – Scott Heidner

- There is not much activity with all focus on the coming elections.
- The transportation task force has kept infrastructure funding in front of policy makers.
- Heidner urged members to vote next week.

13. KTA Update – David Jacobson – Absent – No report

14. KDOT/ACEC Partnering Conference Summary – Mandy Anderson

- There were 179 attendees this year, which is down a little from previous years. Highest attendance was in 2011 with 284 attendees.
- She reviewed survey results and comments from attendees. Key takeaways
 - Networking was attendees favorite part of the conference
 - New topics were rated well
 - Want to see more project highlights
- It was agreed that October 22 would be the date of the 2019 partnering conference.
- Mark Hoppe, Steve Bass, John Riggins, and Shawn Turner will be the planning committee. Simerl will participate from FHWA. Bass will set up a first meeting date.
- Will look for additional vendors for next conference and will notify earlier.

15. Adjournment – Ron Seitz

- 2019 partnering committee meetings will be as follows;
 - February 13, KDOT office, 11am – 2pm
 - May 14, Burns & McDonnell office in Kansas City, 11am – 2pm
 - August 21, Garver office in Wichita, 11am – 2pm
 - October 23, KDOT office, 9am – 12pm
- Other business
 - KDOT is replacing CMS with and AASJTOWare product. Will have 2 pilot projects with dual entry into both CMS and the new system. Will move to full implementation in late 2019/early 2020.
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Action Items

- McGown – Amend August meeting minutes and redistribute
- King – Schedule 3-D design meeting with Calvin Reed
- Bass - Set up a first meeting date for conference planning committee

Attachments

Revised minutes – Aug 22, 2018 meeting