

*****APPROVED*****

Minutes

ACEC/KDOT Liaison Committee Meeting

KDOT, Topeka, KS

August 19, 2020

Attendees:

KDOT: Burt Morey, Calvin Reed, David Lutgen, Larry Thompson, Mike Moriarty, Scott King,
Mike Stringer, Brent Terstriep, Mark Hurt, Chris Herrick,

FHWA: Rick Backlund, Richard Jurey, Chris Bruntz

KTA: David Jacobson

ACEC: Scott Heidner, Rob Krewson, Brian Armstrong, David Church, Howard Lubliner, Jim
Toboben, Shawn Turner

Agenda & Minutes

1. Approval of Agenda – Reed
 - Due to schedule conflicts, Reed asked to reorder the Agenda to allow Morey to present the “Status of KDOT Funding & Update” as the 1st item
 - Agenda was approved with no other changes
2. Status of KDOT Funding & Update – Morey
 - FY20 ended with \$10 MM in ‘extra’ revenue
 - KDOT revenue streams - motor fuel tax was down, sales tax was up
 - FY21 revenue projections
 - Current projections for motor fuel tax are higher than originally feared at \$260-270 MM, but that is significantly less than the \$309 MM budgeted
 - KDOT can still meet commitments with this funding level provided there are no further reductions from other sources (federal funding, sales tax)
 - KDOT is not anticipating any federal “gap” or stimulus funds at this time
 - Morey announced that Larry Thompson is retiring on 9/6/20 and thanked him for him many years of dedicated service to KDOT
3. Approval of Last meeting’s minutes – Reed
 - Approved as presented
4. Action Item Review – Reed/Krewson
 - Execution of Updated KDOT/ACEC-KS Partnering Agreement and Strategic Plan – *Completed and posted on ACEC-KS website!*
 - Updates on the Online Portal for 1050 Pre-Qualification – *see Lutgen report below [Keep as a Pending Action Item]*
 - Standard of Care/Quality - Continue making progress on updates to the Consultant Evaluation (PET) Process ***[Keep as a Pending Action Item]***

- “Task Force” led by Stringer is working on updates; next meeting is 9/10/2020
- Draft updated Constructability form is close to complete
 - Reed is working to revise the Consultant Evaluation Form to both simplify and try to make it work for the variety of projects and project phases; using examples from other state DOTs and previous KDOT forms
 - King asked to be included in the update process along with Deb Tanking
- Draft forms and KDOT implementation process still need to be worked through
- Confirm need for Special Attachment No. 7 (Certificate of Final Indirect Costs) during LOI/RFQ stage **[Keep as a Pending Action Item]**
 - Reed reported that he had discussed with Hall and Lutgen and they do not believe this form is necessary to return as part of the LOI/RFQ process, but they are confirming with FHWA
 - Hall/Lutgen are also reviewing the other Special Attachments to see if they are necessary; they believe they are but are checking to confirm
- Consideration for sharing KDOT organization charts and/or current contact lists for KDOT Officials/Staff at HQ and District/Area at least quarterly (due to ongoing changes) **[Keep as a Pending Action Item]**
 - This is still something KDOT is interested in doing, but has not yet started
 - Thompson noted that KDOT is currently updating the phone directory so that might be helpful
 - Hurt noted that KDOT’s PMC partners may need to also be considered
- Consideration for making available a consultant services contract summary report at least quarterly **[Keep as a Pending Action Item]**
 - This is still something KDOT is interested in doing, but has not yet started
- Concern related to provisions of KDOT’s Construction Inspection contract related to a provision regarding “Stop Work” orders **[Keep as a Pending Action Item]**
 - Reed noted that KDOT was reviewing this contractual terminology but that their intent is not to put undue risk or responsibility on the consultant but to work together to make sure projects are safe for everyone.
 - KDOT will work with ACEC to understand and review this concern

5. Bureau of Local Projects – Stringer

- All BLP staff remain working remotely
- Kim Marotta is the new Federal Fund Exchange, Programming contact
- Off System Bridge Program period closes 8/31/2020
- Bridge Improvement Program call for projects will be out soon

- There have been several instances of project schedules and milestones not being met; requests ACEC firms help to communicate the importance of this to local agencies and assist with keeping projects on schedule
6. FHWA Update – Backlund
- Introduced Richard Jurey who recently joined the FHWA team in KS
 - Catherine Patrick also recently took at position with the FHWA KS team
 - FAST Act expires on 9/30/2020; best guess is that will be extended with continuing resolutions with elections looming in November; if CR is handled similar to in the past it will be prorated at the current FY20 funding level
 - No update on a new transportation program or Infrastructure stimulus funds
 - Notice sent to KDOT regarding the interim rule related to the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act regarding the prohibition on certain Chinese made telecommunication products
 - Still no FHWA travel; working 100% virtually
7. Contracts – Lutgen
- Hired an Assistant Contracts Engineer to help with workload
 - Online Pre-qualifications portal is still “in progress” KDOT is aware of some issues and intends to address soon
 - Solicitation process has been amended to allow firms to submit their 1050 prequalification forms during the LOI/RFQ process for sections they wish to be considered for and may not be currently listed on the “pre-qualified” list
8. Bureau of Road Design Update – King
- Shared updated Road Design Organization Chart dated
 - Heavy volume of work for the current staff; everyone is very busy
 - Road Design meeting will be restarting on Monday 8/24/20
9. Technical Committee for 3-D Design – Scott King
- Ben Ware is the KDOT liaison on this committee
 - Working with Lochner to implement the workspace, training and other aspects to implement into future design process; includes both road and bridge
 - There would still be a process for collaboration and sharing best practices
 - KDOT requested input from ACEC member firms during this process and possibly a list of technical subject experts to restart the 3D Technical Committee **[Action Item]**
10. Update from Consultants – Krewson
- Most items were covered in the “Action Items” noted before
 - ACEC is carefully watching and engaging in the statewide election process to advocate for KDOT and the need to maintain funding for the IKE Program
 - Passed along ACEC’s appreciation for the pace with which KDOT has restarted the T-Works projects and are initiating the IKE projects

- ACEC recognizes that many at KDOT are working extremely hard and offers our support in any way possible
11. Bureau of Structures and Geotechnical Services Update – Hurt
- Bureau Chief posting closes on Friday (8/21/20)
 - Most continue to work remotely
 - Direct Communication with Bureau is encouraged on Bridge/Geotech matters to help facilitate timely communication on these fast-track projects
 - Working to get projects, including Set Aside projects, out sooner
 - Ask ACEC firms to offer any SOP suggestions to incorporate into the Bridge Manual update that is ongoing
12. KTA Update – Jacobson
- Update on Traffic – passenger vehicles (PV) and truck (T) counts continue to be down
 - June PV down 22% from prior year; Trucks down “only” 2%
 - July PV down 19% from prior year
 - Projecting PV will level off at 12-15% down from prior year
 - Maintenance furloughs are over; still some ticket booth employees that are furloughed
 - FY21 Budget – suspended a couple design/planning/construction projects but all current contracts were maintained
 - Kellog 90% complete; Turner 53% complete; Bridge raise 40% complete
 - Electronic Tolling 12-month running avg. 63% - aiming for 70+%
 - Continue to plan for 100% E-Tolling by 2024
13. KDOT/ACEC Partnering Conference Summary – Church
- See attached *draft* Partnering Conference Agenda
 - Planning Committee Members:
 - Alison Connell (ACEC)
 - Steve Bass (KDOT Road), Co-Chair
 - David Church (WSP), Co-Chair
 - Scott Uhl (PEC)
 - Jim Stanek (TranSystems)
 - Karla Waters (Schwab-Eaton)
 - Calvin Reed (KDOT Division of Design)
 - Currently Scheduled for Wed October 21st at Manor Conference Center in Topeka
 - Church requested feedback on holding the conference in-person or virtually
 - Backlund noted that FHWA would likely not be able to attend in-person
 - General feedback was virtual would likely be the more conservative to plan for given the uncertainty
 - Most other conferences have made the decision to either postpone or be held virtually
 - Suggestion was made that if conference was held virtually to break up the conference into smaller time periods potentially over a couple days

or even a couple weeks since it is hard to sit through an all-day virtual conference

14. Legislative Update – Heidner/Krewson

- KS Primary elections tended to favor conservative Republican candidates over moderate Republican candidates
- General Election in November likely to draw more voters due to the Presidential and US Senate elections

15. 2020 Liaison Committee Meeting Schedule – Reed

- Thursday, October 22, 2020 @ 9:00 – KDOT Topeka HQ

16. Adjournment – Reed