

**NRRA  
Executive Committee Meeting  
July 21, 2016**

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**ATTENDEES & WELCOME**

Glenn Engstrom – MnDOT  
Linda Taylor – MnDOT  
Ben Worel – MnDOT  
Jeff Brunner – MnDOT  
Jerry Geib – MnDOT/Preventive Maintenance Team Chair  
Terry Beaudry – MnDOT/Geotechnical Team Chair  
Lisa Bilotta – MnDOT/Administrative  
Joe \_\_\_\_\_ - CalTrans  
Charles Wienrank – Illinois DOT  
Sheila Beshears – Illinois DOT  
Curtis Bleech – Michigan DOT  
John Donahue – Missouri DOT  
Brett Trautman - Missouri DOT/Rigid Team Chair  
Barry Paye – Wisconsin DOT/Flexible Team Chair  
Bob Orthmeyer – FHWA (Ad Hoc member)  
Steve Krebs – Wisconsin DOT

Welcome to CalTrans as a new member as well as the Minnesota Local Road Research Board. Bob Orthmeyer from FHWA will be giving input as an Ad Hoc member.

The group reviewed the mission and duties of the Executive Committee.

1. Select project teams: The project teams have been selected and are meeting regularly. There are 19 associate members participating on various teams. Members are asked to encourage their local associations etc. to join the NRRA efforts.
2. Select Project for Phase 3 at MnROAD: Will be reported on later in the meeting by the team chair.
3. Set project budgets and timelines: The budget has been set with 65% to research, 30% to tech transfer and 5% to administration.

**NRRA ADMINISTRATION**

The group discussed the administrative tasks necessary to implement and facilitate the NRRA activities. Linda Taylor described the options used by other PF groups managed by MnDOT. Due to the complexity of FHWA tracking requirements and the need for coordination of members across the country, several PF groups use a support contract. Support Contracts can do everything from communication plans, marketing, planning and setting up meetings and seminars wherever needed, websites, as well as many other miscellaneous tasks. They can be set up to do all or just some of these items. This group would need to decide what will be done internally and what tasks will be contracted out. Glenn is preparing a proposal on the administrative needs and potential costs and will distribute to this group soon.

Linda also has a listing of the pre-approved consultants that are on contract and can be used for various tasks such as research, administrative, data analysis, etc. This will be a valuable tool for all the teams. The list can be found at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/consult/documents/certified-lists/trap.pdf>

## **PAVEMENT CONFERENCE**

A date in May or June 2017 is being considered for this conference. Members are asked to use the following doodle link to pick the best date. Other NRRA meetings and activities will be scheduled around this conference so as to get the most out of travel costs. Generally activities for this conference include case studies and a keynote speaker. For 2017 that speaker will be Matt Witczak. Tours of local projects and/or companies could also be arranged.

Please go to this site to select your preferred dates for this conference. There are 8 Thursdays to choose from. Results of the poll will be distributed as soon as possible.

<http://doodle.com/poll/vk29chegymcyzvzy>

## **TIMELINES & TEAM MEETINGS**

Ben reported on the team meeting schedules and progress. There have been 7 meetings so far and communications and collaboration between teams has been excellent. It is important to efficiently blend the needs of all teams into the 2017 MnROAD construction decisions in order to make the March 24 letting deadlines.

Team meetings will be scheduled through July. The meetings for the next couple months will be scheduled soon. Please go to this doodle site to select the best options.

### **Possible Meeting Dates (Aug and Sept)**

4 days (two time choices) each month

<http://doodle.com/poll/xhywxgc3vqs5gwqp>

Teams divided potential projects into 3 categories and voted on priorities within those categories.

Tech Transfer – Items that are ready to be shared with the group. The research is done or there is important information that should be shared before going further.

Short Term Analysis – Items that could be implemented now and are short-term.

Long Term Test Sections – Items that can be started now or soon but will be long-term research.

## **TEAM REPORTS**

### **Technology Transfer Team Report – Steve Krebs**

Steve reported that the TT Team will strive to be flexible in order to deliver what each state needs and look for resources to assist the teams.

The TT budget will be broken down with an estimated amount in each category.

1. Events - \$115,000 per year
2. Communications - \$40,000 per year
3. Research Implementation - \$160,000 per year  
    4 @ MnROAD (\$25,000 ea)  
    6 topics (\$10,000 ea)
4. Equipment - \$25,000 per year

It was noted that ownership of equipment used for PF projects can be difficult to distinguish and is best kept separate from pooled fund money.

The first major undertaking is for Minnesota to go to Missouri to train on VETA intelligent compaction software. Once this pilot is completed they will create a webinar for others and potentially travel to other states to conduct this training.

Flexible Team - <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnroad/nrra/structureandteams/flexible/index.html>

Rigid Team - <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnroad/nrra/structureandteams/rigid/index.html>

Preventive Maintenance Team -

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnroad/nrra/structureandteams/preventivemaintenance/index.html>

Geotechnical Team -

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnroad/nrra/structureandteams/geotechnical/index.html>

The results of each team ratings are detailed on their web pages. Some items to note:

- CalTrans will still need to vote on items. Updated results will be posted to the websites once that has been done.
- Some groups separated the associate votes from the membership votes. In some cases those should be weighed differently. There may need to be more discussion in this area.
- Some groups found that items fell into all three categories – short term, long term and tech transfer.
- Strong first and second place items emerged but then several tied for 3rd or 4<sup>th</sup> place.

Ben will review all team voting for commonalities and how they may work together and with existing MnROAD activities.

## DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

The Executive Committee will do what they can to help these teams to keep moving forward with ideas and implementation.

Thanks to everyone for their efforts and hard work. The teams are working well together and have a good cross section of associate members.