

# **Advocacy Council for Tribal Transportation**

## **Final**

### **Meeting Minutes**

Mn/DOT Arden Hill's Training Center, Friday, April 18, 2008

9 AM – 2 PM

A meeting of the Advocacy Council for Tribal Transportation (ACTT) was held on April 18, 2008 at 9:00 AM at the Mn/DOT Arden Hill's Training Center, Shoreview, MN.

Jason Hollinday, Co-Chair, ACTT (Fond du Lac Reservation), called the meeting to order and welcomed the ACTT members and guests to the meeting. Introductions were made around the table.

#### **Members Present:**

Jason Hollinday, Fond du Lac  
Marc Mogan, Co-Chair, Prairie Island  
Donald May, Red Lake  
Jim Walker, Red Lake  
Sam Strong, Red Lake  
Scott Hanson, Mille Lacs Band (Alt)  
Dawn Sherk, White Earth (Alt)  
Cheryl Martin, FHWA – MN Division  
Cheryl Cloud, Mich TTAP

Linda Aitken, Mn/DOT  
Dave Trooien, Mn/DOT  
Mike Robinson, Mn/DOT  
Brian Freeberg, City of Bemidji  
Tom Fronk, BIA (Alt)  
Millie Baird, USFS (Alt)

#### **Members Absent:**

Travis Leenerts, Upper Sioux Community  
Lester Morris, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux  
Community  
Annamarie Hill, MN Indian Affairs Council  
Dave Danz, Grand Portage  
Karen Bogan, Lower Sioux Community (Alt),

David Enblom, Cass County  
Evelyn Howard, Leech Lake  
Marty Connor, Bois Forte

#### **Guests Present:**

Sue Groth, Mn/DOT OTSO  
Dave Kopaz, FHWA  
Kathy Burke Moore, Dept of Public Safety  
Dave Engstrom, Mn/DOT OTSO  
Teresa Chapman, Mn/DOT OIM

Thomas Martin, Mn/DOT TDA  
Dennis Parker, USFS  
Craig Genzlinger, FHWA Mont Div.  
Susan Herbel, Cambridge Systematics

#### **Review & approve agenda**

Motion – Marc Mogan, second – Cheryl Martin. Carried

#### **Review & approval of the January 18, 2008 meeting minutes**

Linda Aitken: According to the minutes of the 1.18.08, an ACTION item was to invite the Civil Rights Office to make a presentation regarding the OJT program – this will be requested for the next meeting. Motion – Cheryl Martin, second – Marc Mogan. Carried

## **Old Business:**

**Roadside Vegetation Management:** Scott Hanson, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

Scott Hanson provided an update on behalf of Mille Lac's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan. The plan has not been completed to this date. Scott Hanson will be meeting with District 3 staff soon regarding the communications plan and management process.

**Update:** Cheryl Cloud, Program Manager, Mich Tech TTAP.

Cheryl

**Toward Zero Death:** **Dave Kopaz**, FHWA

Dave provided an overview of Highway Safety improvements.

**Data Collection & Accident data collection:** **Kathy Burke Moore**, Office of Public Safety

Kathy's presentation was in response to White Earth's concern that all crash data within reservation boundaries may not be reported to the DPS. This is also a concern by Mn/DOT because of the importance of crash data in determining safety solutions. The key elements in the PPT were: reporting based on criteria; what data is collected; the importance of crash data; what MN crash data tells us; and the privacy of crash data. Kathy will follow-up by meeting with White Earth and other public safety authorities within the WE Reservation boundaries.

**Traffic counts, crash data and traffic counts:** **Dave Engstrom**, Office of Traffic, Safety, & Ops

**TZD Implementation:** David Engstrom, Office of Traffic, Safety & Operations

Dave presented the goals for TZD and sources of funding for implementing safety solutions for transportation safety. He also presented Examples of HSIP Intersection Proactive/Systematic Strategy Deployments, i.e., high priority - pavement markings – sight distance improvements, rumble strips – new guardrail; to low priority – interchanges – divided roadways.

**White Earth's GIS system:** Dawn Sherk, GIS Technician/Transportation Planner, White Earth Band

Dawn's presented a demonstration of WE's GIS system, ESRI. The Transportation Department has mapped the WE reservation, using the GIS system for such things as IRR road inventory, road signs inventory. They are also working with local counties, cities, state to integrate information on their system. Other tribes inquired about funding and acquisition for their reservations.

**Functional classification:** Teresa Chapman, Sr. State Program Administrator, Mn/DOT

The Statewide Functional Classification Update is in the last stages of corrections. Plans are to have maps for the Out state counties and cities on line by the end of May, 2008. Corrections will then be processed for the Metro counties and cities.

Dawn Sherk, the GIS technician/planner for White Earth, Thomas Martin, from TDA- Mn/DOT and Teresa will be working an a collaboration using shape files, for the roads on the White Earth Reservation. Teresa will be showing the proposed functional classifications of these roads on a map and will also calculate the class percentages on the reservation and in the counties involved.

#### **NEPA Workshop: Issue - Discussion for NEPA Training**

This issue was brought to the 1.18.08 ACTT meeting with the agreement that follow-up would on the next ACTT agenda. Discussion about the need for the training resulted in agreement that training would be scheduled to coincide with the 2009 Tribes & Transportation Conference. Cheryl Cloud, would facilitate the training through Michigan TTAP. Working group to develop the training: Cheryl Cloud, Cheryl Martin (FHWA), Frank Pafko (Mn/DOT), Bruno Zagar (Fond du Lac) and Scott Doig (?) (**Action**)

#### **New Business**

**“Tribal Safety Summits” Presentation:** Craig Genzlinger Operations Engineer/ Tribal Coordinator, FHWA - Montana Division Office

Craig’s presentation was to see if there was interest by the MN Tribes to hold a tribal safety summit in Minnesota similar to a forum held by Montana tribes and an upcoming summit in Arizona. The interest by FHWA is to work with the tribes and state to identify transportation safety issues and work together to develop a plan for solutions to the issues. Craig said the reason for the forum in Montana was to address the significant number of highway deaths of Native Americans in Montana relative to their population.

The ACTT was interested in pursuing a Tribal Transportation Safety Summit. Linda Aitken would contact tribes to see if there was an interest in the summit. If a positive response was received, the planning would proceed.

**Mn/DOT 2008 Funding:** Mike Robinson/Dave Trooien, District Engineers, Mn/DOT

Presentation on the funding elements of the bill. See attachment of HF2800/Chapter 152

**BIA – Midwest Regional Office - IRR Annual Meetin update:** Tom Fronk,

#### **Next Meeting**

The next ACTT meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2008 at the Mn/DOT Bemidji District.

**Meeting adjourned at 2 PM**

## **Handouts:**

- 1. April 18, 2008 meeting minutes**
- 2. ACTT Membership Roster**
- 3. Copies of past issue papers:**
  - Roadside Vegetation Management**
  - Traffic Safety in Tribal Locations**
  - NEPA Training**
  
- 4. HF2800/Chapter 152**
- 5. Web Articles**
  - News: Native Americans Less Likely to Use Seat Belts**
  - Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Rural NA Elders**
  - Injuries among NA: Fact Sheet**
  
- 6. TZD Implementation (PPT – Dave Engstrom)**
- 7. 2006 Motor Vehicle Crash Facts (DPS)**
- 8. CD – Crash Data Collection (DPS)**
- 9. Accident Data Collection (PPT – Kathy Burke Moore, DPS)**

Minutes were provided by Linda Aitken, Mn/DOT, input from: