

NRRA
Executive Committee Meeting
August 23, 2016

ATTENDEES & WELCOME

Glenn Engstrom – MnDOT

Ben Worel – MnDOT

Jeff Brunner – MnDOT

Lisa Bilotta – MnDOT/Administrative

Dave Ahlvers – Missouri DOT

Charles Wienrank – Illinois DOT

Curtis Bleech – Michigan DOT

John Donahue – Missouri DOT

Barry Paye – Wisc. DOT/Flexible Team Chair

Steve Krebs – Wisconsin DOT

Chris Roy – MnDOT Assist. Division Director

Funding Updates: Ben reported on the funds received into the Pooled Fund account to date. This is on track including the associate membership receipts. As a reminder the costs are being split 65% for research, 30% for technology transfer and 5% for administration.

Timeframes: Briefly reviewed the timeline shown on the NRRA website. The teams should have their preliminary plans and suggestions ready for the executive committee's September meeting. We need to be ready for the construction letting schedule in spring. The following has been provided to the teams.

Long Term Problem Statements Teams

- September 2 - Chairs/Ben will add proposed cells to the statements (this spreadsheet)
- September 8 - Next team meetings
- September 12 - Draft LT problem statements due
- September 22 - Team meetings planned (work on non-LT needs)

Executive Committee

- September 15 - Draft LT statements to the EC for review
- September 22 - Reviews due back from the EC
- September 27 - Executive Committee Meeting to Discuss o Team Updates to the LT Statements based on EC comments
- September 30 - Summary of the EC thought on the LT need summarized and sent to the teams

Long Term Problem Statements Teams again

- October 6 - Teams meeting/Updates on LT needs
- October 15 - Final LT Statements Due

Marketing: Glenn reported on the marketing benefits and needs for NRRA. It is important for states to engage their local associations and encourage them to become associate members. A position is being created in the MnDOT office to assist with the marketing. Glenn will determine how much time the person will dedicate to NRRA activities so this group can discuss funding. It is expected the position will assist with tech transfer, website and marketing needs. Glenn will forward the position description to this group for their information.

TRB: Ben will try to set up a meeting of this group at TRB. This would be a good opportunity to network and talk to other potential pooled fund members also attending TRB. Once the TRB schedule

has been announced Ben will poll this group for available times. A dedicated booth at TRB would not be a good option but piggybacking on an existing booth may be worthwhile.

Team Updates: The teams have been meeting regularly. Once all teams have completed their preliminary project plans and suggestions they will be sent to the executive committee prior to the September meeting. This will give the group time to review and be ready to approve/disapprove at that meeting.

Ben discussed how he is incorporating the team suggestions into the current available cells at MnROAD while balancing costs at the same time. He noted there are several areas where projects could be done simultaneously on one cell. A spreadsheet summary of the submitted studies and how they could work together was shown. This document is still being revised and Ben will send to the group before the next meeting. An additional spreadsheet showing potential cells available will also be distributed. These two documents will help teams in their project planning.

It was suggested that maybe contractor's bids be based on completing the most items on the approved project list.

Ben will send detailed information on what cells are available to each of the teams and remind them that all submitted projects need to be approved by this group based on overall priorities. Ben will work with the teams to better identify their priorities.

Tech Transfer Activities: Teams are doing a good job of keeping updated tech transfer information on their web pages. NRRA members and associates are encouraged to review the pages regularly for updated information. The tech transfer group has a need for someone to assist with composing documents on current findings and projects. It is important that the teams do a thorough job on their projects. It is better to do a few things well than lots of things half-way.

There are funds left in the TERRA pooled fund that could be used to hire a contractor to help with tech transfer reports and help develop an outline for a newsletter. It was suggested that after the outline was completed each team work with the tech transfer team to headline the information contained in the newsletter once per year.

We have been asked to do a presentation on DCT testing at a Missouri conference. This was voted on and approved. Travel for one person from MnDOT to this conference will be funded from the NRRA Pooled Fund.

The recent trip to Missouri for VETA training was successful and received good feedback.

Associate Questions: The potential for industry associates to donate materials and equipment has been difficult to resolve. There are issues related to legal responsibilities and ownership that would need to be worked out. It may be possible to address it as a partnership agreement. Chris Roy will check into other options and information will be relayed to associations so they are aware of how this could be done. Other NRRA members experience the same issues and often don't accept any donated materials/equipment.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for September 27th. We will look at the final project recommendations from the team and vote on the priorities.

The Pavement Conference is scheduled for May 18, 2017. Keep in mind that other NRRRA meetings, visits, field trips, etc. should be scheduled around that date to minimize travel costs. More information on the conference will be sent to all NRRRA interested parties.

ACTION ITEMS;

- Glenn will send the position description for the new marketing person to all executive committee members.
- Ben will set up a meeting for this group at TRB. He will poll members once the TRB schedule is announced.
- Ben will update the spreadsheet of available cells and projects then send to this group before the next meeting.
- Chris Roy will look into options for donation of materials and/or equipment by associate members.