



New England Transportation Consortium

NETC Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

DATE: Wednesday, July 31, 2019, 1:00pm – 2:00pm ET

LOCATION: Conference Call – 608-721-7576 (Access Code: 1930608)

Alex Bernier, UConn	Flavia Pereira, CT DOT
Matt Mann, UMass	Greg Rowangould, UVM
Dee Nash, NHDOT	Ann Scholz, NHDOT
Lily Oliver, MassDOT	Kirsten Seeber, CTC & Associates
Emily Parkany, VTrans	Jo Sias, UNH
Dale Peabody, MaineDOT	Maina Tran, CTC & Associates
	Nicholas Zavalas, MassDOT

AGENDA

1) Open Project Review (July 2019)

Project # and Title	PI, University AC Liaison	Update	End Date Budget
18-1: Development of MASH Computer Simulated Steel Bridge Rail & Transition Details	Chuck Plaxico, Malcom Ray, Roadsafe LLC <i>D. Peabody</i>	Tasks 1-8 are complete. The next TC meeting will be the second week of September to review the preliminary draft final report.	6/1/20 \$199,936
18-2: Framework of Asphalt Balanced Mix Design for NE Agencies	Walaa Mogawer, UMass Dartmouth <i>A. Scholz</i>	Task 1 and Task 2 are near completion. Maina will be coordinating a TC status update meeting for mid/end of August.	6/30/20 \$127,499
18-3: Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems into State DOTs	Jon Gustafson, WSP <i>E. Parkany</i>	Task 1 is in progress. In progress of collecting UAS related data, documents and profiles from state DOTs.	3/31/21 \$146,632
18-4: Quick Response: ICNet Workshop	Daniel, UNH <i>A. Scholz</i>	Jo Sias put six Research Needs Statements that came out of the workshop into the NETC format. Jo plans to get TAC feedback on these six projects.	10/14/19 \$30,000
19-1: Curved Integral Abutment Bridge Design	TBD Emily Parkany	MaineDOT will post the RFP by the end of August.	TBD \$150,000
19-2: Multi-Scale Multi-Season Land-Based Erosion Modeling and Monitoring for Infrastructure Management	TBD Ann Scholz	MaineDOT will post the RFP by the end of August.	TBD \$150,000
19-3: Experimental Validation of New Improved Load Rating Procedures for Deteriorated Steel Beam Ends	TBD <i>Lilly Oliver or Nicholas Zavalas</i>	The AC members are currently finding TC members. VT has a rep. Once the TC is set, CTC will schedule a SOW review meeting.	TBD \$200,000

Discussion:

- 18-1 – The TC is considering adding a Task 4b to the project, which would require adding funds to the project.
- 18-3 – The PI will present on this project at the VT symposium in September.
- Ann – Are surveys coming from all six states for projects 18-2 and 18-3? **Action item:** Maina will check to see what states are missing and reach out to the TC and the AC members of those states.
- 18-4 – Jo Sias put six research needs statements from the ICNet workshop into the NETC problem statement format. Problem statements that could be candidates for national or broader level projects are being identified and the TAC will provide feedback from their states. NCHRP projects will need support from multiple states to be nominated. **Action item:** Jo will send the problem statements to the TAC and to Kirsten for distribution to the Advisory Committee.
- 19-3 – The states are currently securing representatives to be on the Technical Committee. Alex Bardow (MA) will be the TC lead. Nicholas will be the AC liaison. **Action item:** Kirsten will send Alex and Nicholas the draft Scope of Work.

2) Transfers to TPF-5(373)

- UVM found \$8,625 that they still need to bill to VT for TPF-5(222). They sent the invoice on 7/29/19. Chris Jolly will refine the closeout paperwork.
- CT, MA, ME, NH and VT plan to commit and transfer the returned funds from TPF-5(222) to TPF-5(359). Roughly \$200k coming back to all six states.
- MA's transfer of \$137,744 was complete on 7/12/19.

Discussion:

- CT transferred FY20 funds last week.
- Dale – ME has received \$1.1M in transfers. Total is \$1.3M with Maine's funds.
 - ~ Emily – When would Dale like to see folks make their transfers? Dale – Doesn't really matter because cash flow isn't a problem. If ME could receive them by March, then the pooled fund would be in good shape.
- RI's status – Ann drafted an email for the NHDOT Assistant Commissioner to send to RI. The Assistant Commissioner is on vacation this week so Ann Will follow up next week to see if the email was sent.
 - ~ Emily – Emailed Brendon Fogarty and his boss six weeks ago but has not heard from either. Emily followed up yesterday.

3) Implementation of NETC projects

- **Action item:** Kirsten will update the spreadsheet that Ann sent on 5/28/19.
- Implementation discussions from the Symposium:
 - ~ 13-3: Improved Regionalization of Quality Assurance (QA) Functions and 15-4 QRP: Optimizing Quality Assurance (QA) Processes for Asphalt Pavement Construction in the Northeast quality assurance projects - NETC will have to rely on technical committees for implementation.
 - 13-3 - Someone like Rick Bradbury (ME) may have to take lead to follow through on implementation. Maybe ME and NH can work together and set up something between the two states.

- 15-4 Phase II - identified the challenges; need to find people to help implement. Ann mentioned there is a tri-state meeting coming up, may be a good place to bring up the topic?

Discussion:

- 13-3 – **Action item:** Dale will follow up Rick Bradbury and the fabrication engineer.
- 13-3 – **Action item:** Ann will connect with Dale to set up a conference call to include all those relevant to the process, which may include folks from materials, concrete and finance.
- 15-4: **Action item:** Ann will investigate who attends the tri-state meeting, which is held next to her office. Emily suggested considering the chief engineers and maintenance folks as this seems like a highway effort. **Action item:** Kirsten will leave this project on the agenda for August.

4) June 2019 NETC Symposium – Follow up

- A debrief meeting was held on July 15. It was decided that the Symposium will not be held in 2020 but possibly in 2021. The Materials topic group will most likely meet as usual in 2020.
- Volunteer members from each topic group should follow up on action items that resulted from the Symposium discussions.
- Symposium follow up activities:
 - ~ Materials - Ann will follow up with the Materials folks on their plans to have a NEMREM meeting.
 - ~ Environment - Emily will talk to Chris Slesar to discuss the follow up items from the Environment topic group.
 - ~ Bridges – Someone from Materials or Bridges should lead the effort for the two groups to discuss common issues/topics.
 - ~ Notes from all three sessions – Should the topic group leaders review the edited notes before they go to the attendees? Post these on the Symposium page or presentations only?

Discussion:

- **Action item:** Ann will follow up with the Materials folks on their plans for meeting in 2020.
 - ~ Who will pay for the Materials meeting? Dale – Hesitant for NETC to pay for it as other groups might ask for the same thing. We don't have to decide right now. **Action item:** Kirsten will keep the issue of who paying for a Materials (NEMREM) meeting on the agenda.
- Environment - Emily did not think about follow up actions. The Environment group will not be doing anything soon. She suggests having a one-hour meeting with the Environment group to present the idea of recruiting volunteers to help work on follow up items. Would NETC facilitate this call? Nothing decided.
- Research needs from topic discussions
 - ~ Bridges – No new research needs identified.
 - ~ Environment – Their discussions were less about research needs and centered on actions to be taken, such as creating an eDNA repository or ways to share data among the states.
 - ~ Materials - John Grieco is not available to take on follow up action items. Materials also would like a database or repository to share data and more resources for collaboration efforts.
 - ~ The next Symposium should emphasize research needs as a product of the topic discussions.
- During the planning stage of the next Symposium, think about how to deal with follow up.
- Materials from the Symposium
 - ~ **Action item:** Maina and Kirsten will distribute the notes from all three topic groups to their attendees. Presentation slides (in PDF) are available on [NETC website](#).

5) NETC Poster at AASHTO RAC Summer Meeting – July 22-25, 2019 – Santa Fe, NM

- Ann, Dale or Emily to report on how it went.

Discussion:

- Ann – The poster looked great. The hallway where the posters were located was very crowded. She spoke with a few folks about NETC.
- AASHTO Region 1 is hosting the RAC meeting next summer. Emily – Will they have posters at the meeting? Did folks like the posters?
- **Action item:** CTC will send the pooled fund poster PDFs to Natasha Linzau for posting on the RAC website.

6) Website refresh

- Add a “Join Our Mailing List” button to the home page.
- Matt Mann – Add a page that lists equipment from NETC projects that is available for researchers to borrow/use.
 - ~ NETC 14-2 – Acoustic sensor and infrared camera equipment.
- CTC will present a list of suggestions for the AC to review in August. **Action item:** Kirsten will send a revised August meeting invitation with GoToMeeting information.

7) Other Business

- Change November or December meetings?
 - ~ November 26th (week of Thanksgiving) AC meeting to another week in November?
 - **Action item:** Kirsten will reschedule the meeting to Tuesday, November 19th.
 - ~ December 24th AC meeting to another week in December?
 - **Action item:** Kirsten will reschedule the meeting to Tuesday, December 17th.

8) Adjourn

Next meeting: August 27th from 11:00am – noon ET