

ACEC/NCDOT BRIDGE SUBCOMMITTEE



Teams Digital Teleconference
February 1, 2021
10:30 am

MEETING MINUTES

- 1) Meeting Kick-off – Came to order @ 10:35 am

ATTENDEES

Brian Hanks – NCDOT Structures Management Unit
David Stutts – NCDOT Structures Management Unit
Kevin Fischer – NCDOT Structures Management Unit
Tierre Peterson – NCDOT Structures Management Unit (not present)
Hoang Dieu – NCDOT Structures Management Unit
Gichuru Muchane – NCDOT Structures Management Unit
Jennifer McRoy – WRA
Sam Al-Jamal – ICE
Jason Doughty – Modjeski & Masters
Jake Sherman – WSP
Nicole Brown – Alfred Benesch
Bradley Bell – Michael Baker

- 2) Review of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - a) Minor correction to previous meeting minutes from November 2, 2020. Under Research Topics, UNC Charlotte was asked to evaluate the Alaska, Classic and 3-bar metal rail, not FHWA. Correction will be made to November 2, 2020 meeting minutes.
 - b) Minutes approved by Kevin Fischer and second by Nicole Brown.
- 3) Bridge Design Workshop Series
 - a) Jennie will check with Meredith from ACEC to see if a reminder is routinely sent out a day or two before a scheduled workshop to make sure registered attendees are reminded.
 - b) Jennie will work with Meredith from ACEC to make the slides from the two previous workshops, The Jug Handle Bridge Workshop and The Lake Tillery Bridges Workshop, available to attendees on ACEC website.

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- c) The next Bridge Design Workshop is targeted for April/May 2021. A list of potential workshops will be distributed to members to help brainstorm ideas for the 2021 workshops to begin planning and implementation. Possible topics can also include projects from neighboring states that have relevance to NC projects.
- 4) Training Opportunities (Virtual)
 - a) Prestressed Concrete Bridge Design Seminar. Due to Covid-19 and in consult with NCDOT, PCI has agreed to postpone to the Fall of 2021. Jennie will check with the new PCI executive representative from GA/Carolinas about the fall seminar and a possible virtual platform.
 - b) NSBA Steel Bridge Forum will be postponed until 2022.
 - c) 2021 ACEC/NCDOT Transportation Conference: David Stutts is the SMU representative for the planning committee. He informed the committee that this year's conference will be held October 20th & 21st. It will likely be a hybrid event; both virtual and in-person, with a limited number of in-person attendees. Calls for presentations are going out this month (February 2021).
- 5) Anticipated PEF Opportunities
 - a) LSC agreement completed for 2020 with 2-year contracts. 51 firms selected for different categories.
 - b) Current move-forward list posted on the share point site reads that all Central let projects are moving forward through June 30, 2025 and Division-let project moving forward through June 30, 2023.
 - c) Kevin stated that all bridge projects within the next 3 years would move forward. Any projects outside 3 years would be put on a list. If a bridge project is federally funded and on the STIP, then it can be considered on the move-forward list.
 - d) Kevin requested to add in the minutes that if a project hasn't been started yet, David will provide an email to state that the firm's project has been restarted and state when the firm can begin charging to the project again. David mentioned that firms can also reach out directly with any questions.

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- e) Brian stated that SMU is still catching up on last year's delays and that Central and Divisions are another resource for firms. A few opportunities may still be available in some of the division offices.
- f) Kevin stated that now that the new contracts are in place with new firms and faces, SMU will possibly be having another orientation meeting with firms selected for 2021 projects to review expectations for the contracts, any changes to policy, share point uploads, etc. The orientation will be either this month or next month. Firms will be asked to give feedback on what would be needed from SMU and to send an email to SMU with suggestions.
- g) David and Hoang to work with Design Build on submittal issues and suggestions from firms.
- 6) Technical Discussion:
 - a) Manual Revisions:
 - 1. Link slab guidance has been reviewed by Gichuru and is pending Brian's review. Guidance will include link slab and pouring sequence. Link slabs guidance to be more of a detail rather than a design issue. Design has been done for prestressed concrete girders for short to intermediate spans. Outside of span limits, continuous for live load detail will be used. Steel bridges will need to provide a design for link slabs. Guidance possibly out by May.
 - 2. FIB standards development will be next. Still in preliminary development.
 - b) Research Projects:
 - 1. Rail research has no updates. UNC Charlotte conducting research.
 - 2. Corrosion Policy Research has no updates. UNC Charlotte conducting research.
 - 3. Integral Abutment Research has no updates. NC State conducting research.
- 7) Next Meeting: May 3, 2021