

NEBPP Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2020

- **Roll Call:**

- Darlene Lane, Allen Scarborough, Jason Arndt, Aslam Siddiqui, Ben Foster, Brian Mintz, David Brodowski, Drew Story, Ed Welch, Gerald Oliveto, Jennifer Hawkins, Rich Van Allen, John Hooks, Chris Keegan, Seth Burgess, Rod Thornton, Tripp Shenton, Paul Schwartz, Raj Ailen, Karim Naji, Scott Snyder, Lorella Angelini, Rick Huza, Greg Heilman, Dick Dunne, Matt Keilson, Georgette Chahine, Tim Boodey

- **Previous Teleconference Minutes:**

- Motion for June meeting minutes approved.

- **Update on October 2020 Regional Meeting:**

- John Hooks updated that three of the four conferences have tentative dates for the 2021 meeting. Informed that virtual events for 2020 may be provided which includes technical presentations, webinars, and virtual panel sessions devoted to specific topics
- John will send a potential list of topics and is looking for feedback on interest

- **General Discussion:**

- Brian Mintz from Phoscrete Corp – Presentation on TSP2 Industry Challenges and 7 Possible Solutions
 - Brian provided a presentation in regard to COVID-19 and how to keep Agencies and Industry an avenue to continue working together
 - Informed of Immediate, Intermediate, and Long-Term impacts to the industry
 - Provided obstacles facing the industry including restrictions on travel eliminating the face-to-face interaction, calls are forwarded to voicemails/cell phones which are rarely acknowledged or responded to, as well as inability to introduce/present new, alternative, and innovative solutions.
 - 7 Possible Solutions –
 1. Invite more staff to participate on calls
 2. Encourage Maintenance supervisors to dedicate time weekly with vendors
 3. Encourage Maintenance crews, asset maintenance contractors, and letting contractors to engage with suppliers
 4. Use FaceTime/Duo or Zoom-Meeting apps for onsite support
 5. Create open-air (well-ventilated) safe spaces for vendor meetings
 6. Consider specifying certain products on maintenance and letting projects evaluate performance
 7. Reach out to Industry to engineering support
 - Feedback from SEBPP and WBPP were provided and NEBPP discussed:
 1. Rod Thornton agreed ability to video and show active construction sites

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2. Brian Keilson inquired about availability of Maintenance staff to be able to access technology. Rod informed the idea is being developed to include those who typically did not have access.
3. Lorella Angelini recommend including those who are responsible for oversight of the Qualified Products or Approved Products Lists considering communication between those and Maintenance become difficult for products to be utilized.
4. Presentation is available for any of those interested and will be distributed through the Partnership
5. Looking for collaboration and communication to continue to be successful

- **Treasury:**

- Current treasury balance – No change (**Last update \$75,819.09**)

- **Volunteer Contributions (Last months):**

- ***Reminder to be sent out as needed*** (NOTE ***States may find it difficult to pay next year's contribution because of pending budget issues. ***)

- **TSP2 Website Development:**

- Ed will continue working on revisions to the website, videos to be updated.

- **Local Agency Involvement: Discussion Items**

- *No updates*
 - Virtual 2020 NEBPP conference may make local agency involvement more feasible

- **Attendance of the MaC & the Other Partnerships:**

- Upcoming Events:
 - All regional meetings are currently being discussed due to travel restrictions

- **Other Business & List of Action items:**

- *No updates*

- **Working Group Report Outs:**

- *No updates*

- **Research:**

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- Tripp provided review of Top 5 research topics for TSP2 BPP – as recommended by the four partnership Academic Directors
 - Gathered idea from all partnerships for research topics and previous research lists (including the extensive list compiled by John Hooks through earlier surveys) – obtained 65 overall topics which were ranked and whittled down based on categories with goal of approximately 4-5 main topics shown below:
 - Collection condition data on decks taken out of service
 - Database of preservation activities and associated performance metrics
 - National scan to determine BMP for inspection and maintenance of concrete decks
 - Deck sealer and overlays standardized maintenance and preservation best practices
 - Standards for material and system testing of small movement bridge joints
 - Not all of the ideas are practical for the Partnerships to consider funding, but could be problem developed into statements for NCHRP or ideas for pool fund studies.
 - Topics 1 and 3 are ones that the Partnerships themselves could collectively support.
 - Partnerships may contribute per region or combined as a joint venture.
 - Tripp suggested the four BPP's could consider spinning up a recurring pooled fund study to support research on bridge preservation (there are models out there right now that have been in place for years)
 - Tripp informed TSP2 BPP could champion the idea of a DOT UTC based on bridge preservation – longer duration, up to five years, significant funding
 - Tripp stressed the need for Long Term Bridge Preservation (LTBP) data being collected, compiled and evaluated
 - Tim from NH inquired about how much funding may be required by the partnership and individual funding by the States. Tripp informed they vary and is dependent on number of states will to contribute but Partnership may be able to provide funding as there is currently a surplus. One \$80,000 project will support the research and grad student for approximately 1.5 years.
 - Ed updated that the TSP2 panel has approved a program that could match the funding provided by the partnerships.
 - The other three academic directors will provide similar updates to those regions as well.
 - Raj, referencing the UTC website, noted that there are two active that have some related work, one in Maine and one in New Jersey which are ongoing.
 - Dick Dunne commented on the activities at Rutgers' CAIT UTC based on his experience there. The research can vary quite a bit and may not be focused on bridge preservation.
 - Tripp's concern is that the UTC work may not be bridge related but may be other forms of infrastructure which would need to be confirmed.
- **Training:**
 - Update on Local Agencies training. **No updates.**

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Schedule Next Meeting & Adjourn:

Infrastructure - Photo Analysis to provide presentation at next conference call.

- Next Planning Meeting conference call is scheduled for **August 3rd, 2020 at 2 PM**
- Next monthly conference call meeting scheduled on **August 4th, 2020 at 10 AM**