

# **NEBPP Conference Call Minutes**

#### March 1, 2022

- 1. Roll Call: Andrew Cardinali; Barritt Lovelace; Ben Foster; Blake Liberati; Chris Keegan; Darlene Lane; Dan Patacca; David Hiscox; Ed Welch; Geraldo Oliveto; Greg Heilman; Jason Arndt; Jennifer Hawkins; Jonathan Sirianni; Karim Naji; Lorella Angelini; Michael Stroia; Nancy Huether; Raj Ailaney; Richard Dunne; Robert Pavia; Rod Thornton, Tom Pechillo; Tripp Shenton; Alyson Bedard; Daniel Myers; Richard Van Allen; Sal Morello; Allen Scarborough; Bouzid Chuobane; Paul Imbrock; Steve Johnson
- 2. Motion to Approve Previous Teleconference Minutes:
  - Minutes were approved unanimously for January & February
- 3. Update on Regional Meeting:
  - June meeting in Harrisburg is scheduled for June 15-17.
  - Agenda is being developed with hope completed in the next two meetings.
  - Confirmation of speakers started and sending out draft agenda.

#### 4. NCPP Update:

- Ed and John have moved on so new roles for Chris (Northeast & Western) and Nancy (Southeast & Midwest)
- The regional meetings will be returning to the normal schedule after this year
- Numerous committees and group up and running. Actively seeking volunteers and working on tasks. Reach out to Chris for more information. Particular need in the bridge deck sealer research review and bridge management systems.
- **5. Discussion Topic:** How are states responding to requests from communities to add aesthetic features, murals, plantings, etc. to bridges and retaining walls?
  - **New Hampshire:** Public entities only. New Hampshire obtains request from communities then put in place a MOU which is generally school or town sponsor. Approved by town and DOT Commissioner.
  - **Connecticut:** Guidelines for Aesthetic Objects and Treatments within ROW. https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOT/documents/AEC/Public Art Guidelines Sept-2019.pdf
  - **Delaware**: New bridges can get incorporated in design. Content approved by city or town.
  - New York State: Bridge manual has added aesthetics portion of manual.
     https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/engineering/structures/repository/manuals/brman-usc/NYSDOT\_Bridge\_Manual\_2021.pdf
     https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/engineering/structures/manuals/bridge-manual-usc
  - **Massachusetts:** Policy Directive for State Highway Access Permits for Murals and Artwork https://www.mass.gov/doc/state-highway-access-permits-for-murals-and-artwork/download



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- Maine: Generally, just say no due to issues with inspection and undue stress to bridge railing but there are two engineering instructions as policy with the Chief Engineer being able to approve.
- **Rhode Island:** No standard operating procedures.
- **Maryland:** Difficulty coming up with policy, but traffic people have requirements which limits things.
- **Graffiti:** Consensus is that most states do not do much unless profane or calls from public. Paint over it if anything. Rhode Island had coated (Rain Guard) so some could be washed off. New Hampshire used trial product (elephant snot) but comes at expense.

#### 6. Treasury:

- Current treasury balance unchanged \$75,319.09.
- Sending a 3<sup>rd</sup> person: Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Delaware, Connecticut
  - Contact Ben Foster at ben.foster@maine.gov if interested.
- Tom Pechillo presented scholarship proposal; original proposal five (5) yearly \$1,000 scholarships; discussion of scholarship or possibility of inviting them to meetings

#### 7. Volunteer Contributions:

#### 8. Partnership Business Topics/List of Action items:

• Any other items/issues that someone would like to discuss?

# 9. Working Group Report Outs:

#### 10. Possible Future Presentations or Discussion Topics:

- Date TBD Paul Schwartz, NYC DOT, and Gerald Oliveto, NJ DOT, <u>Use of Space Under</u>
   Bridge Spans
- Issues with Performing Inspections over Amtrak
- How are States dealing with MASH requirements?
- States managing budget cuts due to COVID-19.
- Depth of Shear Key in concrete planks
- Discuss the revisions to the standards for the NBIS.
- What evaluation process do States use to determine which decks to selected for replacement?
- Policies/procedures for repairing impact damage to bridges.
- Share experiences with the usage of Unmanned Aircraft Systems for inspection.
- Discuss the new FHWA Interim Final Rule for Indefinite Delivery and Indefinite Quantity contraction for Federal-Aid Construction
- Stimulus Funding May Discussion



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- Inspection hands-on and other policies April Discussion
- Brian Mintz talk about ITD Regional Meeting or July Discussion

## 11. Next Meetings Presentation or Discussion:

• Policies and Practices on bridge attachments, murals, flower baskets, etc.

## **Next Meeting & Adjourn:**

- Next Planning Meeting conference call is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. Next monthly conference call is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.