



NEBPP Conference Call Minutes

April 5, 2022

1. **Roll Call:** Chris Keegan; Darlene Lane; Nancy Huether; Alyson Bedard; Ben Foster; Jennifer Hawkins; Karim Naji; David Hiscox; Gregg Freeman; Tim Boodey; Mike Stroia; Allen Scarborough; Greg Heilman; Rod Thornton; Richard Dunne; Patrick Martens; Tripp Shenton; Gerald Oliveto; Lorella Angelini; Al Kenz; Blake Liberati; Raj Ailaney; Andrew Cardinali; Tim Woolery;
2. **Motion to Approve Previous Teleconference Minutes:**
 - Minutes were approved unanimously for March
3. **Update on Regional Meeting:**
 - Harrisburg June 15-17; Agenda is mostly completed and draft agenda forthcoming.
 - Make sure to register and fill out travel request.
4. **Discussion Topic:** Inspection hands-on and other policies / unique policies
 - **Maryland:** Hands-on inspection every component of every bridge historically. Considering altering for bridges that are highly redundant to reduce traffic control needs (longer cycle or visual only for portions).
 - **Maine:** Hands-on for fracture critical members always however all other bridges get hands-on every 5-6 years. Sometimes visual with binoculars. Inspect anything beyond ten-foot length on 2-year cycle (not 24 months). Rotate through in-house and consultants. No night inspections. Inspect 10 months a year.
 - **Connecticut & New York & New Hampshire:** Inspection is outside of maintenance.
 - **CT** – Limited Information; **NY** – Provided Inspection Manual
 - **NH** – Ten-foot and longer inspected every two years. Not full hands on in that not within an arm's reach. Underwater every five years. Working on inspections of lift bridges (shared with Maine). No night inspection.
 - **Massachusetts:** Hands on inspection and full access equipment. Nighttime work is common for traffic control needs. Consultants cover a portion of the work.
 - **New Jersey:** Unique case is three levels for Drawbridges where mechanical electrical is inspected in depth every 6 years, but every two years structural evaluation considered. Own inspection manual for minor bridge system – five-foot to twenty-foot structures are on a four year cycle similar to signs / overhead structures.
 - **Washington:** Inspect every four years for some everyday redundant structures with no problems approved by FHWA. Three feet to twenty-foot spans are the largest concern because volume of structures.
 - **North Dakota:** Short inspection season (April – December). Concrete box culverts they got an agreement with FHWA went to a four-year inspection cycle based on criteria but switch back and forth at times to make sure criteria also met.



NEBPP Conference Call Minutes

April 5, 2022

5. Treasury:

- Current treasury balance unchanged **\$75,319.09**.
- Sending a 3rd person (approved): Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Delaware, Connecticut, New Hampshire (Each state must send list to Darlene to facilitate)
- Scholarship (deferred to next meeting)

6. Volunteer Contributions:

- Make sure your state provides the contributions to allow for programming to continue.

7. Partnership Business Topics/List of Action items:

- Representation on T-9 from NEBPP (Committee on Bridges & Structures) If interested email Ben Foster.
- MAC will be occurring end of July – If interested email Ben Foster.
- Any other items/issues that someone would like to discuss?

8. Working Group Report Outs:

- BMS Working Group – Rejuvenation. If interested email Nancy Huether.
- ITD Group – State / Agency Participation needs to increase since industry is more involved. Need balanced perspectives. Greg Heilman is involved from industry side, and meetings are second Thursday of the month at 11AM EST. Product demonstration forum to see how product functions and how to partner.
- Deck Preservation – Funding a deck sealer study synthesis. MSU performing the study.

9. Possible Future Presentations or Discussion Topics:

- Date TBD - Paul Schwartz, NYC DOT, and Gerald Oliveto, NJ DOT, - Use of Space Under 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 – Regional Meeting / June Discussion



NEBPP Conference Call Minutes

April 5, 2022

- Brian Mintz talk about ITD – Regional Meeting or July Discussion
- **Coast Guard Notifications - May**
- Have any states tried using Federally funded contracts to perform maintenance repairs to bridges? Possible options that I know of:
 - Indefinite Delivery and Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) construction contracts
- Special Experimental Projects No. 14 (SEP-14) innovative contracting to perform construction activities under a Time and Material (T&M) contract – Maryland has used recently since the pandemic occurred.
- How are states planning to use the future stimulus funding from the federal government? How will the state get local bridge owners to participate? This topic could be later in the year once more guidance is provided from FHWA.

10. Next Meetings Presentation or Discussion:

- Coast Guard Notifications and Communication for Bridges over Navigable Waterways

Next Meeting & Adjourn:

- Next Planning Meeting conference call is tentatively scheduled for **Monday, April 2nd at 2:00 PM.**
- Next monthly conference call is tentatively scheduled for **Tuesday, April 3rd at 10:00 AM.**