

**AASHTO
Standing Winter Maintenance Policy Coordinating Committee
(WMPCC)**

**MINUTES OF CONFERENCE CALL
September 27, 1999**

Attendees and participants:

Committee Members:

Patrick Hughes, Minnesota DOT Chairman
 Dave Gravenkamp, Siskiyou County, CA, DPW, NACE
 Clayton Sullivan, Idaho DOT
 Rick Nelson, Nevada DOT
 John Blacker, Montana DOT
 Wilfrid Nixon, U of Iowa
 Andy Bailey, Virginia DOT
 Lee Smithson, Iowa DOT
 Don Steinke, FHWA

AASHTO Staff:

Ken Kobetsky, AASHTO
 Rod Pletan

Guests:

Paul Pisano, FHWA
 Bill Thimmesch, NVDOT

Absent:

Gary Hoffman, Pennsylvania DOT
 Larry Frevert, City of Kansas City

I. Call to Order and introductions

- A. Chairman Hughes convened the meeting to at 10 a.m. and welcomed the group to
- B. Everyone introduced themselves and their guests.

II. Work Plan Reports

| Project | Project | Champion |
|---------|--|----------------------------|
| 1 | Computer-based training/ adaptable to all levels of government/RFP/Establish NHI train the trainer/ Operator level/ RWIS/Anti-icing/maximize use of T ² /LTAP for local government <i>Discussion: Reference to proposed work plan sent out in advance. Will proceed with setting up a TWG and possibly meet prior to next WMPCC meeting.</i> | Rick Nelson |
| 2 | State of the practice equipment and facilities/ Anti-icing/RWIS <i>Discussion: Reference to proposed work plan sent out in advance.</i> | Rick Nelson & John Blacker |

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| | <i>Will seek to identify new state of the art developments from both public and industry arenas. Web will serve as good place to disseminate information. More detailed work plan will be presented in November based on discussion.</i> | |
| 3 | <p>Determine appropriate measures for road condition/consistent criteria for information for public/identify friction data for motorists</p> <p><i>Discussion: Reference to proposed work plan sent out in advance. Will focus on monitoring R&D associated with Maintenance Concept Vehicle (MI,MN,IA) and NCHRP 6-14, identify gaps to be filled and keep the winter maintenance informed of progress. Also monitor work being done by FORTEL. Will coordinate with project #9 to avoid duplication of effort as well as make sure engineering measurements correlate with what is perceived by customer as good, adequate, safe, etc. As difficult as it may be, the objective will be to get consistency in public reports from state to state.</i></p> | Lee Smithson |
| 4 | <p>Develop driver education for snow packed or icy roads/marketing driver education plan</p> <p><i>Discussion: Hughes and Blacker have done some local surveys and found little. Blacker will use winter maintenance mailing list. Will seek out model package to disseminate as state of the art. Will establish and organize a TWG. Time line – 12 months.</i></p> | Pat Hughes & John Blacker & Dave Kuemmel |
| 5 | <p>Chemical specifications/ deployment of PNS (Pacific Northwest States) results/expand regionally/national</p> <p><i>Discussion: Specs have basically been written by PNS except for fine graded salt. Pisano thought WIDOT has a spec. Steinke suggested that we start out with Europe. More details of work plan will be available in November.</i></p> | Clayton Sullivan |
| 6 | <p>Anti-drifting/snow fence/design</p> <p><i>Discussion: Focus here is to add impetus to getting the training materials into windy state and local government agencies, with emphasis on the preliminary and final design folk. Work plan forthcoming in November.</i></p> | Clayton Sullivan |
| 7 | <p>Building and sustaining winter maintenance programs for small agencies/support APWA in development of urban best practices manual/disposal of snow (urban)</p> <p><i>Discussion: Reference to e-mail message sent out earlier by Frevert. Emphasis will be on partnering with APWA. Rural as well as urban will be covered because audience includes rural counties as well.</i></p> | Larry Frevert Wilfrid Nixon |
| 8 | <p>Automatic Remote Fixed location de-icing distribution systems /experiences / study / pooled fund</p> <p><i>Discussion: Pisano has seen a work plan. He will follow up and firm up a champion and get a presentation with TWG recommendations ready by November meeting. Several pilots are already underway. Need to identify which agencies have one installed.</i></p> | Deb Vocke with MNDOT, PADOT & Rand Decker |

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| 9 | Develop model media package <i>Discussion: Reference to proposed work plan sent out in advance. Presently focuses on identifying best practices on "getting ready for winter" presentations, often repeated periodically during the winter. Example cited is Montana's "Win the Winter Game" video. This plan will be expanded to include teaching garage personnel about the value and techniques of dealing with the media during events.</i> | Wilfrid Nixon |
| 10 | GPS/cost benefit winter maintenance/AVL /route optimization/ pooled fund /2 year test <i>Discussion: Reference to proposed work plan sent out in advance. Will keep current "state of the art" spreadsheets up to date and disseminated to the winter maintenance community. Pletan will distribute "Route Optimization" matrix. The AVL matrix has already been sent out to all the members.</i> | Andy Bailey Lee Smithson |
| 11 | On-board freezing point measurement <i>Discussion: Reference to proposed work plan sent out in advance. Plan will be modified to focus solely on the mobile "freezing point" sensor, an idea first seen in Sweden. Other state of the art electronics will be considered part of #2 and #10</i> | Wilfrid Nixon |

III. Next Meeting

- A. Nelson will host the next meeting in Sparks, NV on November 15-16 starting early Monday morning.
- B. Nelson will work with Pletan as needed

IV. SICOP Coordinator Replacement

- A. Kobetsky explained the memo AASHTO has just sent out to all SCOH members.
- B. Pletan will route copy of sample letter to all WMPCC members.
- C. Hughes will present plea to SCOH in Tulsa later this week.

V. SICOP Budget

- A. Budget currently stands at about \$100,000.
- B. No additional requests are needed if a state loans a coordinator to the project free of charge.
- C. Otherwise, another solicitation for pooled funds will have to be made.

VI. Guide for Snow and Ice Control

- A. Kobetsky announced that the manual is in the mail.
- B. This was the first phase of work assigned to the WMPCC.

VII. Adjournment

- A. Hughes thanks everyone for all of their preparation work and for a good telephone conference
- B. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 Noon.

Recorded by Rod Pletan