

# **SICOP Conference Call – DRAFT MINUTES**

6 November 2014

12:00 central/10:00 pacific

## **1. Introductions**

Chairman Duncan started the call by welcoming SICOP members and guests on the call. He made introductory remarks stating his vision and objectives and Chairman for the program. Participants on the call were:

Greg Duncan, SICOP Chair

Kathy Ahlenius, Chair TRB Transportation Surface Weather

James Bryant, TRB Liaison

Ben Dow, APWA Representative

Mike Fitch, AASHTO Region 2

Gabe Guevara, FHWA Liaison (Absent)

Mike Lashmet, AASHTO Region 1

Steve Lund, AASHTO Region 3, Chair SCOM HS&R TWG

Rick Nelson, AASHTO SICOP Coordinator

Wilf Nixon (At Large)

Greg Parker, NACE Representative

Max Perchanok, Chair TRB Winter Maintenance

Paul Pisano, FHWA Liaison

## **2. Briefing on WM meetings since the July SICOP Meeting**

Clear Roads held their fall meeting in Kansas City, MO. SICOP members Lashmet, Nelson, and Smithson attended. Lashmet provided a briefing of the events that occurred.

AURORA held their fall meeting in Ithaca, NY. No SICOP members were in attendance due to scheduling conflicts with other meetings. Member Perchanok provided a brief overview of the meeting.

NCHRP held the initial panel meeting for Project 34-13 Winter Maintenance Performance Measures in Washington, DC. SICOP Members Lund, Nelson, Nixon, and Perchanok attended.

APWA held their meeting in Toronto, SICOP members Dow and Parker attended. Member Parker provided a brief overview of the winter maintenance activities that occurred.

APWA held the Western Snow and Ice conference in Loveland, CO. SICOP members Nixon and Dow attended.

## **3. Status of TSP invoices and voluntary contributions**

As of August 2014 AASHTO has received voluntary contributions from 11 states: CT, MI, MO, MT, ND, NH, NM, TN, TX, UT, WI. Regular reports will be requested to monitor the status of the voluntary contributions. In December – January outreach efforts to those States who have not yet contributed will be conducted to determine if the WMTSP-SICOP is meeting their needs and if not, how we might.

#### **4. Preparations for TRB – sessions and activity reports**

The TRB Committee on Winter Maintenance reports that:

29 papers submitted

2 lectern sessions

3 poster sessions

There will be a joint session with Equipment and Surface Transportation Weather looking for session moderators

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The committee on Surface Transportation Weather reports that:

3 lectern sessions

1 poster session

Workshop 102 Climate Resilience: Results and Lessons Learned from the FHWA Climate Resilience Pilots ---

SICOP member Ahlenius reported that the planning for a conference on Resilience to Climate Change is in the planning stages and she is a member of the planning committee.

SICOP Coordinator Nelson will provide SICOP program updates during the various committee meetings and report on TC2.4 Winter Service international activities during the meeting of the National Committee (PIARC) representatives.

#### **5. WMTSP Four Year Program Update - activities accomplished**

SICOP member Lund stressed the importance on keeping the 4-YR Plan in front of us so we can maintain our focus and document our accomplishments.

1. Performance Management
  - NCHRP 14-24 several SICOP members are panel members. RFP is on the street, consultant selection is expected to be in January 2015.
2. Work force development.
  - Promoted the CBT in the AASHTO Journal article on salt availability.
3. International and national research.
  - Formal relationship between PIARC TC2.4 and SICOP & AURORA.
  - SICOP is co-sponsoring the Peer Exchange through SICOP Coordinator efforts.
  - Made a SICOP presentation at the RWM stakeholder working group meeting in 2014.
4. Promote international and national best methods.
  - Wilf & Rick submitted an abstract regarding the “top 10” for the WRC in Seoul SK.
5. Technical assistance.
  - Working with the CT Academy on study of corrosion.
6. Technology Transfer.
  - There was a session on the “Top 10” during the APWA Western Snow Conference.
  - An article on the “Top 10” was published in the APWA Reporter.
  - An abstract on Identifying Research Needs, “Top 10” project, was submitted and accepted for the World Road Congress in 2015.

## **6. Status of the 2015 Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange**

As a reminder, SICOP is one of the sponsors of the Peer Exchange along with Aurora and Clear Roads. The time has been set for the Peer Exchange – 2015 week 39 (the week of September 21, 2015). The location has been determined to be Bloomington, MN at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. We should plan on having a SICOP meeting before the Peer Exchange. SICOP members are on the distribution list for communications regarding the Peer Exchange.

## **7. Follow up on salt availability**

A post was made to the Snow & Ice List Serv regarding agency experiences obtaining salt for the upcoming winter. A summary was prepared of the responses from 22 agencies. This was the basis for an article for the AASHTO journal and generated interest from “Roll Call” who subsequently published an article on the topic.

## **8. Briefing on MDSS mobile data patent issue**

The MDSS Pooled Fund Steering Committee expressed concern regarding patents that IWAPI was granted for the intellectual property associated with mobile data. IWAPI has been asserting their patents and either suing or threatening to sue smaller vendors who are providing MDSS services. The vendors are entering into license agreements and passing the costs to the agencies (up to \$40/unit/month) but the license agreements have not been consistent. There is concern that this could have implications for the connected vehicle program and it has had a chilling effect on MDSS advancements and a loss of competition.

This will most likely be a topic of discussion at the AASHTO Annual Meeting later in November.

## **9. Progress on work items since last meeting**

This item was not discussed due to time limitations associated with the call.

## **10. SICOP Membership – Vacancies**

There is currently a membership vacancy for AASHTO Region 4 – WASHTO. Are there any suggestions for potential members?

Should we consider rotating membership with some term limits similar to what is in place for TRB chairmanships, for example two 4 year terms, to keep the committee fresh?

Over the years we have added members for their relevant contributions. Should we consider adding 1 or 2 at large members to help with specific mission objectives? For example, if we are serious about establishing a working relationship with the AASHTO STSM&O, should we consider adding an at large member from a state DOT with a traffic operations/winter maintenance background that is also a regular member of STSM&O?

Chairman Duncan asked the committee to consider these questions and be prepared to further discuss them during the next conference call.

## **11. Adjourn**

The next AASHTO-SICOP call was discussed and it was determined that it would be in December.

Chairman Duncan adjourned the meeting.

SICOP Conference Call - Agenda  
6 November 2014  
12:00 central/10:00 pacific  
615.532.5413 or toll free 800.807.1495

1.	Introductions	Greg
2.	Briefing on WM meetings since the July SICOP Meeting	Rick / all
3.	Status of TSP invoices and voluntary contributions	Rick
4.	Preparations for TRB – sessions and activity reports	Max / Kathy
5.	WMTSP Four Year Program Update - activities accomplished	Greg / all
6.	Status of the 2015 Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange	Rick
7.	Follow up on salt availability	Rick/all
8.	Briefing on MDSS mobile data patent issue	Paul/Rick
9.	Progress on work items since last meeting	
	a. RNS #1: Maintenance considerations as part of context sensitive design.	Mark/Ben/Greg
	b. RNS #2: True costs of level of service.	Mike L
	c. RNS #3: Information availability and delivery.	Max
	d. RNS #4: National standards for traction devices. This project is retired – beyond the scope	No action
	e. RNS #5: Limits of hours for operator’s hours of service. This project is retired – beyond the scope	No Action
	f. RNS #6: EPA MS4 requirements.	Rick
	g. PIARC World Road Congress - Recap	Rick
	h. Top 10 List – Progress and Next Steps	Wilf
10.	SICOP Membership – Vacancies	Greg/Rick/All
11.	Adjourn	