

DRAFT MINUTES
SICOP Conference Call
31 March 2015
11:00-12:00 Pacific / 2:00-3:00 Eastern

1. Introductions:

Chairman Duncan called the conference call to order at the prescribed time.

Participants on the call:

Greg Duncan, SICOP Chairman, Region 2

Mike Lashmet, Region 1

Mike Fitch, Region 2

Steve Lund, Chair HS&R TWG, Region 3

Vacant, Region 4

Max Perchanok, TRB Winter Maintenance Chair

Kathy Ahlenius, TRB Surface Transportation Weather Chair

Ben Dow, AWPAs Representative

Wilf Nixon, University of Iowa

Paul Pisano, FHWA Liaison

Gabe Guevara, FHWA Liaison

Rick Nelson, SICOP Coordinator

Absent:

Greg Parker, NACE Representative

2. Briefing on MDSS Patent Issue

Nelson provided a briefing on the MDSS intellectual property patent issues associated with the MDSS Pooled Fund Study. He mentioned that Sue Mulvihill, MnDOT Chief Engineer, will make a brief presentation on the issue to the Standing Committee on Highways (SCOH) at the Spring Meeting in May.

3. Preparations for the AASHTO Spring Meeting 5/2015

a. Triennial review by SCOH

Nelson announced that SICOP would participate in the SCOH triennial review of technical service programs for SCOH during the Spring Meeting in May. He distributed a copy of the last triennial report to the Committee by email. The committee was encouraged to provide comments and contributions regarding Committee activities and accomplishments from the past three years. It was mentioned that SICOP does support the Highway Safety & Reliability TWG and that should be captured in the report. There was some discussion regarding ways to demonstrate the value contributing states realize by participating in SICOP. This should be a discussion item during our Annual Meeting in conjunction with the SCOM meeting in July.

b. Status of TSP invoices and voluntary contributions

Nelson distributed the most current accounting of voluntary contributions to the Committee. There are currently 29 states participating in SICOP. Nelson reported that he has reached out to several states that participated last year but not yet this year. It is likely that CA, CO, and RI will be submitting their contribution. Lund asked about WsDOT and indicated that he would follow up with Chris Christopher and James Morin (Monty Mills replacement).

4. Planning efforts for WM Meetings

a. 2015 SCOM – July, Des Moines

Lund provided an update of the planning efforts underway for the next SCOM meeting in Des Moines. This meeting will be held in conjunction with a TRB maintenance conference. He mentioned that papers will be presented throughout the meeting in general session and during the TWG breakouts. He announced that he will be part of a strategic review team for SCOM and that the TWG structures will most likely be re-evaluated as well. There was some discussion regarding the connection to SICOP and desire for that synergy to continue.

b. 2015 Peer Exchange – September, Minneapolis

Nelson distributed the draft agenda for the Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange and reviewed the agenda. Since SICOP will have just met in Des Moines there really isn't a reason to have a SICOP meeting prior to the Peer Exchange.

c. 2016 TRB International WM Conference – Colorado

Perchanok provided an update of the planning efforts to date. The tentative dates are April 26-28, 2016 and the location will likely be Ft. Collins, CO. There is a planning committee conference call this week and the call for papers should be issued shortly. They are considering a new format where the papers would be presented in a webinar and the conference would be geared towards breakouts and discussions.

d. Others

Nixon reported that the 2016 SIRWEC conference is still being planned to coincide with the TRB International WM Conference in Colorado.

Pisano reported that the International Conference on Transportation System Resilience to Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events will be held on September 16-18, 2015, in Washington, D.C. There were 17 abstracts submitted in the Operations & Maintenance area and likely half will be presented.

5. SICOP Membership – Vacancies

There has been a vacancy on the WMPCC for an AASHTO Region 4

DRAFT MINUTES
SICOP Conference Call
31 March 2015

representative since Nelson retired from NvDOT and assumed the role of SICOP Coordinator. Nelson reported that he and Chairman Duncan had discussed this vacancy and have nominated Kyle Lester, Director of Highway Maintenance, Colorado DOT to represent Region 4. Nelson provided a brief resume of Lester's winter maintenance background. Ahlenius mentioned that she heard Lester speak at an APWA function and concurred with his nomination.

6. Adjourn

There being no other items from Committee members the conference call adjourned at 12:15pm pacific / 3:15 eastern.