1. Introductions, Agenda Review, Minutes Review

Chair Steve LUND called the meeting to order in accordance with the date and time in the agenda. The agenda was reviewed and no modifications were offered.

LUND welcomed the members and guests in attendance and recognized new committee members Tina GREENFIELD (IA DOT) representing the TRB committee AHD65-Winter Maintenance and Kyle STOLLINGS (WV DOH) representing AASHTO region 2.

Those in attendance introduced themselves and a roster of attendees in attached to these minutes. Guests participating in the Committee meeting included Mark McConnell – Chair of the SCOM, Jameelah Hayes, and Gummada Murthy – AASHTO, and Brad Darr (ND DOT) representing Clear Roads.

Rick NELSON reminded the Committee that the minutes from the last meetings in Des Moines, IA and the conference calls made over the last year were part of the meeting materials and any comments, errors or omissions should be noted as these minutes will be published in August. There were no comments regarding the minutes of past meetings offered.

2. Research Coordination - Discussion

Peer Exchange Problem Statements – NELSON provided a brief overview of the 2015 National Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange-NWMPE- was given. The 36 problem statements generated from the breakouts were highlighted and pointed out in the attachments.

Clear Roads projects proposed and underway – Brad DARR provided a briefing of the research program underway by Clear Roads – refer to the briefing materials. He mentioned that in the past there was a closeout session immediately after the Peer Exchange where each of the problem statements would be “assigned” to one of the consortia. He recommended that the format return as he feels that the handoff of the problem statements lost some momentum.

**ACTION - NELSON will carry this recommendation to the 2017 NWMPE Planning Committee.**

AHLENIUS mentioned that there seems to be an overlap in the work on plow routing between the Clear Roads project and papers reported during the 2016 TRB winter maintenance conference. GREENFIELD indicated that there is a gap between research and implementation and that Aurora looks to fill that gap but that is heavily dependent on the vendor community.

LESTER mentioned that he was looking for 5-bullets in research reports that would lead to implementation. BRYANT discussed practice ready papers as a method to identify research that is ready for implementation and that TRB has a survey in progress to look at the practice ready paper program at TRB.

MURTHY brought up the question, “How do you define implementation”? Is it the production of a “tool”, that there are 10-states utilizing it, crosscutting webinar, or conference with different committees.

Aurora projects proposed and underway – Tina GREENFIELD provided a briefing on the research program underway by Aurora – refer to the briefing materials. She discussed three projects in
some detail including the simulator project (Aurora 2011-02). This is a more comprehensive application than the simulator segment in the AI/RWIS CBT training suite. There was some discussion regarding the opportunity for SICOP to take up this project and make it part of the CBT training suite.

**ACTION – Keep this on the SICOP agenda and GREENFIELD to discuss this with the Aurora Governing Board.**

MCGILL mentioned that there is some overlap regarding performance measure based on traffic speed project.

STSM&O Projects with WM implications – Galen MCGILL referenced the attachment of STSM&O research projects and mentioned several that have winter maintenance implications. Many are in the area of variable speed limit (VSL) and active traffic management systems. There are dynamic signing applications when weather impacts warning systems. Workforce development is a common theme between the two groups, particularly as new technologies roll out.

Traveler information systems utilizing data portals to get data into connected vehicles (snow plows) and private cars i.e. WAZE can be options. Others are machine-readable stripes and utilizing a standard traffic controller as a platform for connected vehicle (CV) applications, RWIS RPUs, and freeway gate closure applications.

At the STSM&O meeting in Denver there will be a discussion of the 20-7 project on operations guide for the AASHTO Green Book. This project can have winter operations elements in it. This was identified in the 2013 Winter Peer Exchange.

NCHRP, TRB, FHWA projects – AHLENIUS reported that there are some 220 standing technical committees in TRB and not all align with AASHTO. There is an effort underway to evaluate these technical committees and try to reach alignment where possible.

Lund reported that NCHRP project 14-34 on winter maintenance performance measures is underway and there are several WMPCC members representing SICOP on the oversight panel.

Roemer ALFELOR delivered his report until later in the meeting.

**3. Outreach Reports**

PIARC update – LUND provided a briefing of PIARC Technical Committee on Winter Service – see the briefing paper. He discussed the touch-points and opportunities for collaboration between PIARC TC B2.1, STSM&O, and SICOP.

LESTER mentioned that Colorado DOT has developed use cases where winter maintenance and TSM&O have been integrated.

**ACTION – LUND to follow up with LESTER and receive these use cases for possible inclusion in the PIARC TC B2.1 report.**

TRB International Winter Maintenance Conference 2016 update – GREENFIELD reported on the Conference – see the briefing materials. James BRYANT reported that the recorded presentations will be made public sometime in September on the TRB website.

SIRWEC 2016 update – NELSON reported on the SIRWEC Conference that was held in conjunction with the TRB conference in Fort Collins, CO – see the briefing materials.

STSM&O update – MCGILL reported on STSM&O providing background to the committee – see
the briefing materials. LUND and NELSON discussed the role of the STSM&O liaison and that MCGILL will be a permanent member of the WMPCC.

APWA Congress 2015 – Matt MORREIM reported on the APWA Congress that has been renamed the Public Works Expo “PWX” – see the briefing materials.

4. Future Directions

Current 4-YR Plan – LUND discussed the current 4-year plan and the proposed schedule for creating a new 3-year Strategic Winter Maintenance Program (SWMP). The current 4-year plan has projects that are still relevant and should be worked and executed, therefore, it was proposed to the Committee that there will be no update of the plan at this time and it will be replaced with the new 3-year SWMP.

Future strategic plan (schedule and effort) – LUND presented the proposed schedule for the 3-year SWMP and how it would be aligned with the triennial review of Technical Service Programs by Standing Committee on Highways. The SWMP would be strategic in nature and remain in place for the 3-year cycle.

NELSON explained that a laundry list of strategic issues had been collected from the SICOP top-10 project, the 2015 National Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange problem statements, and from comments made by participants at the Road Weather Management Stakeholder Meeting just held in Atlanta, GA. Attendees at the 2016 SCOM meeting would be asked to review this list, offer additions that are important to them, and vote for their top 6. The WMPCC will evaluate the additions and the voting and coalesce the list into a manageable number. This list will then be circulated to SICOP member states for final voting to create the next 3-year SWMP to be presented during the triennial review by SCOH in 2018.

The WMPCC discussed this process that were in agreement to proceed. Several guests and members of the WMPCC offered additions to the list of issues.

**ACTION – NELSON will include their suggestions into the master list of strategic issues.**

MURTHY brought up the discussions held in Atlanta during the FHWA Road Weather Management Stakeholder Meeting and importance of the Weather Data Environment (WDE) and several crosscutting opportunities. Connected Vehicle & RWIS of today will undergo a transformation as RWIS, connected vehicle, autonomous vehicles merge into a single technology stream. He suggested a webinar be held sometime in September / October that focuses on the WDE and what it means for us.

**ACTION – NELSON will explore the opportunities for a webinar to discuss the WDE and broader implications.**

Sustainability in Winter Maintenance – NELSON reported that he received an update from At-Large WMPC member Wilf NIXON that SIMA is beginning an effort in sustainability and that we should monitor their work.

TSM&O – opportunities for collaboration – MCGILL reported that there are several opportunities where SICOP and STSM&O can collaborate e.g. traveler information and automated traffic management systems (ATMS) that were picked up in the list of 3-year strategic issues. A pressing question is, How do we communicate these things?

FHWA Road Weather Management Program – ALFELOR Provided a report on the activities
underway in the Road Weather Management Program. See the briefing materials.

5. Winter Maintenance Agency & Consortium Reports

FHWA – Road Weather activities
   See the briefing materials

AURORA
   See the briefing materials. The fall meeting of Aurora will be 4-6 October 2016 in Buffalo, NY.

Clear Roads - See the briefing materials. On the topic of implementation, how do we know if anyone has taken a report and acted upon it? There might be opportunities for follow up on the Clear Roads reports.

TRB – Winter Maintenance - See the briefing materials.

TRB – Surface Transportation Weather - See the briefing materials.

APWA - See the briefing materials.

NACE - The NACE Conference was held during last part of April. There were some presentations on winter maintenance, however, the majority of the discussions were centered on safety & counter measures.

National Operations Center of Excellence (NOCoE) – Steve LAVRENZ provided a report on the NOCoE. See the briefing materials. It was mentioned that the NOCoE has a very robust Enhanced Knowledge Transfer System (EKTS) that was developed as part of the SHRP2 program. This EKTS lends itself well to the collection and storage of reports in a searchable environment. There is a desire to enhance the knowledge base by adding a weather platform.

**ACTION – NELSON to collaborate with the NOCoE to explore cooperation in the addition of a weather platform to the NOCoE.**

6. Review of SICOP Program

SICOP Accomplishments – NELSON provided a brief report on SICOP accomplishments that were articulated in the SCOM Maintenance Manager Newsletter.

SICOP Financials – NELSON reported that fiscal year 16 finished with 33 member states making the $4,000 annual contribution.

Operating Procedures & Membership – LUND initiated a discussion of the Winter Maintenance Policy Coordinating Committee (SICOP’s Steering Committee) membership in accordance with the operating procedures. LUND highlighted the fact that there has been a rotation of AASHTO members with the appointment of LESTER (region 4) in 2015, LUND as Chairman (region 3) in 2016, and STOLLINGS (region 2) is expected in 2016. LUND mentioned that the committee should consider a rotation of membership for AASHTO region 1; however, Mike LASHMET (region 1 representative) was not in attendance so this discussion was tabled.

7. Unfinished Business –

   There was no other unfinished business to discuss.

8. Adjourn -

   Having concluded the work of the Committee, Chair ALBRIGHT adjourned the meeting of the Winter Maintenance Policy Coordinating Committee at 5:05 PM.
1. Introductions, Agenda Review, Minutes Review
   Introduction of new members & guests

2. Research Coordination - Discussion
   Peer Exchange Problem Statements
   Clear Roads projects proposed and underway
   Aurora projects proposed and underway
   STSM&O Projects with WM implications
   NCHRP, TRB, FHWA projects
   All

3. Outreach Reports
   PIARC update
   TRB International Winter Maintenance Conference 2016 update
   SIRWEC 2016 update
   STSM&O update
   APWA Congress 2015
   STSM&O update

4. Future Directions
   Current 4-YR Plan
   Future strategic plan - schedule and effort
   Sustainability in Winter Maintenance
   TSM&O – opportunities for collaboration
   FHWA Road Weather Management Program

5. Winter Maintenance Agency & Consortium Reports
   FHWA – Road Weather activities
   AURORA
   Clear Roads
   TRB – Winter Maintenance
   TRB – Surface Road Weather
   APWA
   NACE

6. Review of SICOP Program
   SICOP Accomplishments
   SICOP Financials
   Operating Procedures & Membership

7. Unfinished Business

8. Adjourn
   Breaks at approximately 10:00am & 3:00pm
   Lunch at approximately noon – 1:00pm
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Ahlenius</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kathy.ahlenius@wyo.gov">kathy.ahlenius@wyo.gov</a></td>
<td>Wyoming DOT / TRB AH010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roemer Alfelor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:roemer.alfelor@dot.gov">roemer.alfelor@dot.gov</a></td>
<td>FHWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Bryant</td>
<td><a href="mailto:JBryant@nas.edu">JBryant@nas.edu</a></td>
<td>TRB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark DeVries</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mark.devries@vaisala.com">mark.devries@vaisala.com</a></td>
<td>Vaisala / APWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina Greenfield Huitt</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tina.Greenfield@dot.iowa.gov">Tina.Greenfield@dot.iowa.gov</a></td>
<td>Iowa DOT / TRB AH010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabe Guevara</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gabriel.guevara@dot.gov">gabriel.guevara@dot.gov</a></td>
<td>FHWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jameelah Hayes</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jhayes@aashto.org">jhayes@aashto.org</a></td>
<td>AASHTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael H. Lashmet</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.lashmet@dot.ny.gov">michael.lashmet@dot.ny.gov</a></td>
<td>New York DOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Lester</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kyle.lester@state.co.us">kyle.lester@state.co.us</a></td>
<td>Colorado DOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Lund</td>
<td><a href="mailto:steven.lund@state.mn.us">steven.lund@state.mn.us</a></td>
<td>Minnesota DOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galen McGill</td>
<td><a href="mailto:galen.e.mcgill@odot.state.or.us">galen.e.mcgill@odot.state.or.us</a></td>
<td>Oregon DOT / STSM&amp;O</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Morreim</td>
<td><a href="mailto:matthew.morreim@ci.stpaul.mn.us">matthew.morreim@ci.stpaul.mn.us</a></td>
<td>City of St. Paul / APWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gummada Murthy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gmurthy@aashto.org">gmurthy@aashto.org</a></td>
<td>AASHTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Nelson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rnelson@aashto.org">rnelson@aashto.org</a></td>
<td>SICOP Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilf Nixon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wilf@saltinstitute.org">wilf@saltinstitute.org</a></td>
<td>Salt Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Parker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gparker@co.johnson">gparker@co.johnson</a> ia.us</td>
<td>Johnson County, IA / NACE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Pisano</td>
<td><a href="mailto:paul.pisano@fhwa.dot.gov">paul.pisano@fhwa.dot.gov</a></td>
<td>FHWA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyle Stollings</td>
<td><a href="mailto:w.kyle.stollings@wv.gov">w.kyle.stollings@wv.gov</a></td>
<td>West Virginia DOH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russ Yurek</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ryurek@sha.state.ma.us">Ryurek@sha.state.ma.us</a></td>
<td>MA DOT - SHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Larrenz</td>
<td><a href="mailto:slarrenz@transportationsops.org">slarrenz@transportationsops.org</a></td>
<td>NDOCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roemer Alfelor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:roemer.alfelor@dot.gov">roemer.alfelor@dot.gov</a></td>
<td>FHWA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark McConnell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mcconnell@mDOT.ms.gov">mcconnell@mDOT.ms.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Murray</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janmurray@aaeho.org">janmurray@aaeho.org</a></td>
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