



Midwest Bridge Preservation Partnership

Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday December 9th, 2021
11:15 – 12:00 PM
Aurora Ballroom A & B

Call To Order – 11:15 AM

Roll Call – Introductions of all in attendance

State Agency Representatives			State Agency Representatives (contd.)		
Adam Post	Indiana DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matthew Kurle	North Dakota DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mark Swiderski	Indiana DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nancy Huether	North Dakota DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Erich Hart	Indiana DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brad Noll	Ohio DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brent Wendholt	Dubois County Indiana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jared Backs	Ohio DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joe Stanisz	Iowa DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Walt Peters	Oklahoma DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shawn Sersland	Iowa DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Coley	South Dakota DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Don Whisler	Kansas DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bill Oliva (Chair)	Wisconsin DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jim Leaden (Secretary)	Kansas DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Bohnsack	Wisconsin DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
John Culbertson	Kansas DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry Representatives		
Josh Rogers (Director)	Kentucky TC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Drew Storey	The Kercher Group (Mott MacDonald)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chad Skrocki	Michigan DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Academia		
Jason DeRuyver	Michigan DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Glenn Washer	Univ. of Missouri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sarah Sondag (Vice Chair)	Minnesota DOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pat Conner	Indiana LTAP Purdue University	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Chair’s Opening Remarks (Bill Oliva)

The first order of business was the election and retention of Officers.

Bill Oliva made a motion to advance Sarah Sondag from the role of “Vice-Chair” to the role of “Chair” of the Midwest Bridge Preservation Partnership (MWBPP). Jason DeRuyver seconded the motion. The floor was left open for discussion. No discussion commenced. A verbal vote was taken. The “ayes” were unanimous. There were no “opposed” votes. The motion carried. Sarah Sondag was recognized as the “Chair” of the MWBPP.

Bill Oliva made a motion to advance Jim Leaden from the role of Secretary/Treasurer to the role of “Vice-Chair” of the MWBPP. Glenn Washer seconded the motion. The floor was left open for discussion. No discussion commenced. A verbal vote was taken. The “ayes” were unanimous. There were no “opposed” votes. The motion carried. Jim Leaden was recognized as the “Vice-Chair” of the MWBPP.

At this point, Bill Oliva turned the meeting over to the new “Chair” of the MWBPP Sarah Sondag.

Sarah thanked Bill Oliva for the wonderful job he has done as the “Chair” of the MWBPP over the past 25 months.

Sarah Sondag requested nominations for the Secretary/Treasurer role for the MWBPP. Bill Oliva noted that he talked to Sarah Wilson (acting State Agency Director from Illinois DOT) and she said she would take-on this role unless someone else was interested, at which point she would yield to them. Sarah Wilson could not attend this year’s Annual Meeting, and therefore was not present. Bill asked if others were interested in filling this position. He noted some advantages of being an Officer (you have a more active role in shaping the direction of the partnership, including representing the Partnership at key meetings throughout the year (TRB, Committee on Maintenance Meeting, Other Partnership Annual Meetings, etc.)). It was also mentioned that recording Meeting Minutes could be spread out to volunteers in the Partnership to help alleviate some of the Secretary/Treasurer’s duties.

No other State Agency Members were brought up for nomination for the role of “Secretary/Treasurer”. At this point, Don Whisler (Kansas DOT) nominated Sarah Wilson to the “Secretary/Treasurer” Position of the MWBPP. Glenn Washer seconded it. The floor was left open for discussion. Bill started discussion stating that he heard a rumor that Jason DeRuyver (Mich DOT) would be interested if Sarah W. had reservations on taking on this role. Jason said that he was only willing to fill the State Agency Director Position that Sarah W. would be vacating if she took-on the duties of Secretary/Treasurer. Jason asked if someone from South Dakota was interested in becoming a State Agency Director since they are listed to host an Annual Meeting in the not-so-distant future. The South Dakota Members were not interested at this time. A verbal vote was taken. The “ayes” were unanimous. There were no “opposed” votes. The motion carried. Sarah Wilson will be presented with these results and will later be asked for her acceptance of taking-on the role of “Secretary/Treasurer” of the MWBPP.

Sarah Sondag went through the current Officers and State Agency Directors. Sarah also noted that Bill Oliva will assume the role of State Agency ex-officio advisory capacity to the Steering Committee for a term of one year but without voting rights, as per the current Bylaws of the MWBPP.

2021 – 2022 MWBPP Officers and Board Member

Officers			
Name	Organization	Office	
Sarah Sondag	Minnesota DOT	Chair (State Rep)	sarah.sondag@state.mn.us
James Leaden	Kansas DOT	Vice-Chair (State Rep)	Jim.Leaden@ks.gov
Tom Donnelly	Transpo Industries, Inc.	Vice-Chair (Industry)	tdonnelly@transpo.com
Sarah Wilson	Illinois DOT	Secretary / Treasurer (State Rep)	sarah.wilson@illinois.gov

Directors			
Name	Organization	Representation	
Patrick Conner	Indiana LTAP (Purdue)	Local Agency Director	connerp@purdue.edu
Jason DeRuyver	Michigan DOT	State Agency Director	deruyverj@michigan.gov
Tom Donnelly	Transpo Industries, Inc.	Industry Director	tdonnelly@transpo.com
Nick Graziani	Watson Bowman	Industry Director	nicholas.graziani@basf.com nicholas.graziani@mbcc-group.com
James Leaden	Kansas DOT	State Agency Director	Jim.Leaden@ks.gov
Nathan Peters	Emseal	At-Large Director	npeters@emseal.com
Josh Rogers	Kentucky Trans. Cabinet	State Agency Director	Josh.Rogers@ky.gov
Sarah Sondag	Minnesota DOT	State Agency Director	sarah.sondag@state.mn.us
Glenn Washer	Univ. of Missouri – Columbia	Academic Director	washerg@missouri.edu
Bill Oliva	Wisconsin DOT	State Agency ex-officio advisory capacity	William.oliva@dot.wi.gov
	FHWA -	FHWA - ex-officio advisory capacity	TBD

The next order of business was to fill the State Agency Director position in the MWBPP that Sarah Wilson will be vacating (when she accepts the role of Secretary Treasurer). Sarah Sondag made a call for nominations. Bill Oliva nominated Jason DeRuyver (Mich DOT). Glenn Washer seconded the nomination. The floor was left open for discussion. It was noted that the State Agency Director role requires a lesser magnitude of effort. It gives someone the opportunity to be exposed to the Partnership at the business level with the simplest part of being on the board. This discussion was aimed at possibly garnering interest from State Agencies that haven't been represented on the board for a while now. Further discussion focused on opportunities of getting involved in regional and/or national working groups. Being on the Board of Directors can be a great resource for your DOT. Members were encouraged to nominate others from their DOTs. But the discussion ended here with no further nominations. So, a verbal vote was taken. The "ayes" were unanimous. There were no "opposed" votes. The motion carried. Jason DeRuyver was recognized as the new State Agency Director of the MWBPP.

Bill Oliva recommended filling the FHWA Liaison Board Member. Bill nominated Tim Anderson from Minnesota. It was noted that Tim Anderson is the current FHWA Director. Sarah Sondag will follow-up with Tim to verify that he will continue in that role.

A question came up... does Industry nominate their own Representatives? John Hooks said yes. We can talk with Tom Donnelly who is the Vice Chair for Industry (Nick Graziani is an Industry Director, and Nathan Peters from EMSEAL is an at-large Director). Sarah Sondag will check with Industry to verify their roles.

Treasures Report

Next up... The Treasury Report. Sarah Sondag was on a roll, so she continued with the Treasury update.

The Status of treasury: \$56,036.94 as of November 22, 2021. The only costs since January, 2021 have been our contributions to Angelini Consulting Services for the Bridge Preservation Blog. Sarah encouraged everyone to check out the Blog on the TSP2 website. Typically, Lorella will interview Industry and Agency representatives on their individual jobs, and how they are contributing to Preservation, and she'll post those interviews on the Blog.

Anticipated income and expenditures for 2022 include the costs for the Annual Meeting currently planned to be in Lexington KY. John Hooks brought up discussion about some potential pitfalls (capacity issues) with the current facilities being considered in Kentucky. Sarah Sondag stated that a benefit the host agency gets is the allowance for more than the usual allotment of attendees at the Annual Meeting. It also presents an opportunity for local agencies within the Host-State to attend.

Looking ahead, the Annual Meeting in 2023 is looking like it will be in South Dakota. And the National Meeting is anticipated to be in 2024. Wisconsin, Michigan, Utah and Texas are State Agencies that are currently on the short-list to host the National Meeting.

Other anticipated expenditures include travel by board members to other TSP-2 Regional Annual Meetings, the Committee on Maintenance Meeting, and other Bridge Preservation related meetings.

Related Business

Sarah Sondag noted that there were 40 National Industry Members and 10 Regional Industry Members represented at this Meeting. Their participation in this Partnership is Greatly Appreciated.

Sarah asked that State Agencies check to make sure they paid their AASHTO TSP-2 Voluntary Contributions so that they can take advantage of the opportunities created by this great Partnership. She mentioned that Bill Oliva has put together some great talking points that will help in securing that funding within your State Agency. Bill Oliva interjected, noting that he uses these talking points in his State yearly when it's time to pay the AASHTO TSP-2 Voluntary Contribution and it works really well in convincing the money people in his State to pay the invoice.

All presentations from this Meeting will be posted on the TSP2 site, both the Power Point and a video that has captured questions and answers will be available. These videos can be an excellent tool for training and informing others within your Agency.

Sarah continued by stating what a great opportunity it was to participate with the West Bridge Preservation Partnership (WBPP) in this Joint Annual Meeting. It was

great to share ideas with the West Members. It was also very informative to see some of the issues the West Partnership was dealing with.

Sarah opened it up for discussion. Most discussion was positive and the idea of doing a joint meeting like this in the future was looked upon as favorable. Also, feedback was given to have more break-out sessions where State Agencies could discuss specific topics. There was some discussion about the available working groups (both regional and national) and the opportunities for people to join if they are interested.

Sarah asked for ideas that other State Agencies were willing to share with the Partnership in upcoming monthly teleconferences. She said that there doesn't have to be an elaborate presentation. If it only takes a couple photos to get discussion going, then that would be fine to have as a topic in a monthly call. We can learn a lot from each other's experiences.

Further discussion led to the appreciation of the scholarships awarded by the Partnership to additional State Agency members and local agencies. We are hoping that this will be available in the future. We will review our budget annually and provide more scholarships as long as our budget is healthy. Further discussion... There is a national intent to make a greater effort in making a lot more local agency outreach (whether it be by participation in the Partnerships' teleconferences and Annual Meetings, or even presenting ideas and experiences in these venues).

Other Announcements: Sarah Sondag went over some of the upcoming 2022 Meetings: Subcommittee on Bridges and Structures (SCOBS) in June 2022, Committee on Maintenance (MaC) in July 2022, Transportation Research Board (TRB) January 9-16, 2022 in Washington DC, and then the Annual Meetings for the 4 Partnerships (NEBPP, MWBPP, WBPP, SEBPP). John Hooks mentioned that the SEBPP has a date set for early December 2022 in Raleigh NC. But they are facing some issues dealing with capacity and cost. The SEBPP would be open to considering other options including a joint annual meeting with another Partnership. John continued, stating that the WBPP is pretty certain that Boise ID would be the Host-State for their Annual Meeting in October 2022.

Sarah asked Members to send her ideas for Topics to be considered in future MWBPP teleconferences.

We need to develop a work plan and goals for the upcoming year. This will be one of the topics on the January call.

We will be talking about the current Working Groups and if we are interested in adding any additional Working Groups. We will also discuss some of the challenges some of the Working Groups are facing, and we will be promoting participation in the Working Groups.

Sarah asked that everyone fill out the electronic evaluation forms when they are sent out later. This information is helpful in planning for future meetings. Sarah also encouraged all to get Continuing Education Forms to Darlene Lane so that they can be processed and sent back to you. Sarah also mentioned that “research needs” will be part of the January teleconference.

In additional discussion, Jason DeRuyver stated that he has been the MWBPP representative on the Bridge Preservation Expert Task Group (BPETG) since its inception back in 2015, or 2016. Jason wanted to suggest a fresh perspective and have someone else take on that role. The commitment is that there is a monthly teleconference as well as an Annual face-to-face Meeting. There is one member from each of the 4 Partnerships, there are a couple Industry Members and Raj Ailaney and GPI (they are the contractor with FHWA that develops the deliverables (apps, Pocket Guides, etc)). You are the expert that provides input to GPI. Bill Oliva stated that he might be interested in that position. Sarah Sondag nominated Bill Oliva for this position within our Partnership. Jim Leaden seconded it. The floor was left open for discussion. No discussion commenced. A verbal vote was taken. The “ayes” were unanimous. There were no “opposed” votes. The motion carried. Bill Oliva was recognized as the representative from the MWBPP for the BPETG. Jason will send a memo to Raj Ailaney to update him of the change from this business meeting. It was also mentioned that this should be a part of the agenda during future Business Meetings that take place at the end of the MWBPP Annual Meeting.

Sarah asked if there was any other new business. None was brought up.

Sarah thanked the WBPP and Arizona DOT for hosting this Meeting. We are looking at potentially Kentucky, or Kentucky/Ohio, or potentially joining another Partnership for the 2022 Annual Meeting. There is a lot to discuss. We should consider reaching out to the other Partnerships to see if there is any interest. Discussion followed that there IS interest in doing another joint meeting with another Partnership if it ensures that we will have a Face-to-Face Annual Meeting in 2022. It is an option that we will consider as we move forward. The 2023 Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled to be in South Dakota. The next National Meeting is scheduled to take place in 2024. The next MWBPP Monthly Teleconference will be on January 4, 2022. Please send agenda item ideas to Sarah Sondag. She thanked everyone for their participation. A final special “Thank You” went out to John Hooks for all the work he did for the Partnership over the years. Sarah also thanked Bill Oliva for his service as the Chair of the MWBPP, and also Jim Leaden for his role as Secretary/Treasurer of the MWBPP over the past 2 years. Sarah wished everyone Happy Holidays and safe travels. The meeting adjourned at 12:03 PM (Arizona Time).