

2016 AASHTO Subcommittee on Maintenance Meeting
Clark County, Nevada
Leadership Meeting Minutes
Sunday, July 17, 2016

SCOM Leadership (SCOM Chair and Vice-Chairs, Technical Work Group Chairs and Vice-Chairs, Secretary) along with FHWA, AASHTO, TRB, and NCHRP liaisons, and other designated guests are invited to attend the Chairman's meeting in preparation for the annual meeting.

SCOM Leadership Meeting: Mark McConnell, MSDOT – Presiding

Welcome and Introductions: Mark McConnell, MS

- New Leadership Team Members: Steve Lund, Russ Yurek; distribution of roles
- Updated SCOM Leadership/TWG Roster – Jameelah Hayes, AASHTO; one resolution passed last year.
- Appreciation Certificates: Present to TWG Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Committee and other members of the Leadership Team as Chair determines.

Summer Meeting Update and Logistics: Anita Bush, NV

- Nevada DOT employees are wearing royal blue shirts and are here to assist you. Room layout was noted, main events are down stairs, and business rooms are upstairs. Great technical tour this morning to the Hoover dam and bridge. Vendor reception is scheduled for tonight and the Mob Museum on Wednesday evening.

Resolutions: Jameelah Hayes, AASHTO; and Mark McConnell, MS

- History of SCOM Resolutions: An overview of last year's resolution was given. These are updated on the SCOM website, just click on the resolutions button.
- Expected Resolutions: We have one for this year to update the Maintenance Leadership Academy. Bryan Cawley will distribute this prior to Thursday's vote.

Research: Jon Wilcoxson, KY; Amir Hanna, NCHRP; and James Bryant, TRB

- Current Research Process Update: Status was updated on three proposed research topics from last year related to 20-05 and 20-07 activities. Many research proposals for this year are continuing to be submitted from the TWGs and are publically available. New or updated research proposals are due by October 14. SCOBS endorsement helps in getting these approved.
- Overall budget and completed / implemented research projects were noted. Two handouts were passed out related to a List of Current and Recently Completed Projects Related to Maintenance (1997 – 2015) and a sample NCHRP Problem Statement Outline. The next round of Peer Exchanges will be announced two months before the Spring Meeting. SCOM members are encouraged to be more active on NCHRP projects and to endorse them. Implementation of research results needs to be institutionalized by the subcommittee. General use of UAV's may be proposed as a domestic scan. The current Maintenance Management domestic scan is looking to implement technology transfer. NCHRP has assigned a new Implementation Coordinator to help with these activities.

- TRB research papers are due August 1 for the next annual meeting. A new format was utilized for the International Conference on Winter Maintenance in Colorado where presentations were prerecorded. Participants were encouraged to review meeting materials ahead of time. The new format was very successful and will be used again. Presentations will be posted on the TRB website.

AASHTO Update: Gummada Murthy, AASHTO; and Mark McConnell, MS

- The AASHTO Strategic Plan is being streamlined to avoid duplication and to effectively align various programs and committees by fall 2016. The new process will be focused around a round table format. Highways and multi-modal items will be addressed. SCOM is not expected to have many changes. AASHTO is requesting comments from all subcommittees. Priority areas were noted and eight policy issues may be forthcoming. AASHTO is working with SICOP and others as it develops the plan. SHRP2 implementation activities are ongoing across the country. Transportation Systems Maintenance and Operations may meet with SCOM in 2017 in Rhode Island.
- AASHTO's restructuring effort is going well. At the latest SCOH meeting folks were asking where the Chief Engineers fit in as part of the updated plan. Some States may end up having more people involved. SCOM may have to report to the Round Table instead of to SCOH. Connected Vehicles in MI, NV, and CA were discussed by the Directors. This is being piloted in some states already and we need to be prepared for this. How is this going to affect maintenance and striping and how are the cars going to work?

FHWA Updates: Bryan Cawley, FHWA

- This year we have several new FHWA Liaisons who will be assisting the TWGs. Roemer Alfelor for Maintenance Operations and Randy Jensen for Equipment. The FAST Act has some funding increases and minor tweaks. A 2020 rescission is possible but not on projects that are obligated already. Pavement Preservation – When Where and How, how to construct them and best practices. Road Weather Management – CV aspects, Path Finder NWS will also be connected.

Topics of Discussion: Mark McConnell, MS

- Safety needs to be first in all of our subcommittee efforts. We need to look for best practices and research and technologies to help mitigate for distracted driving. Our maintenance workers are scared to get out on the road and we want them to go home every night. We have to look at our mowing patterns as pollinators need the ROW too. Activities associated with pollinators are eligible for FHWA TAP funds. Joint meetings are both good and cumbersome. We just have to balance the communication needs of everyone and this is why AASHTO is restructuring. It's important to find volunteers to be SCOM liaisons to other groups. We need to make this a priority during the TWG breakout sessions. We need to be fluid on how to document the various roles our liaisons perform with the other committees. A list of TWG liaisons / volunteers may be shared during the Tuesday morning leadership meeting.

TWG Report Outs: TWG Chairs

- General Update: 2016 Work Plan Accomplishments (Research, Workforce Development, Performance Measures, Safety, Communications & Environment), Leadership Team Updates, Tentative Research Problem Statements, and Proposed Resolutions.
- Bridge TWG: (Jeff Milton, VA) Bridge TWG Strategic Plan was updated and is available. Liaison efforts to other groups and preservation activities were noted. In VA research is not being approved unless it has an implementation plan. Also noted training updates. Overview of Bridge TWG Agenda for the week.
- Equipment TWG: (Tim Cunningham, KS) Equipment TSP / NCPP is a big help in completing our work plan activities. We have a great process for prioritizing our research road map with broad support. Training topics have been posted on the TC3 website. Our Equipment TWG Strategic Plan update is ongoing. We may also submit an application for a Domestic Scan for Equipment this year.
- Maintenance Operations TWG: (Brad Darr, ND, Rick Nelson, SICOP) Working on snow and ice activities. May have one research problem statement. TC3 initiatives are ongoing. New SICOP Chair is Steve Lynd. New Region 2 Liaison is Kyle Stollings. New TSMO Liaison is Galen McGill. Transitioning to a 3-year Work Plan. Recently approved SICOP Operating Guidelines. Strategic Winter Maintenance Program is scheduled to be adopted immediately after the triennial review in 2018. Working to carry our message, benefits, and strategic initiatives back to our member states and to move the program forward.
- Pavements TWG: (Anita Bush, NV) We recently hosted safety and sustainability webinars. NVDOT also participated in a Pavement Certification Program and prioritized our research topics to include safety. Pavements ETG has met twice and are scheduled to meet again in September 2016. Most TWG presentations are on Wednesday. Transportation Asset Management Plans need to be written.
- Roadway/Roadside: (Jerry Hatcher, TZ) Held a November 2015 Webinar with about 30 participants. Submitted 3 research statements last year and none went forward. During the break out session we will have presentations on NCHRP projects and pollinators. We have a list of questions to ask participants to help get them engaged in open discussions.

Regional Meetings: Regional Meeting Chairs

- All of the Regional Meeting Chairs have a list of talking points to help get participants engaged in open dialogue. What's going on in your region? Do you have any needs? Are you getting cooperation from others? Topics may include: AVL, contract maintenance, benefits, lessons learned, safety, pollinators, and commonalities. These are working well and we continue to do this next year. FHWA liaisons are available for note taking, report out slides etc.

Reminders: Steve Lund, MN

- Orientation Breakfast – Member participation is key. What am I expected to do?
- Leadership Breakfast – How are things going? Liaison task updates, and report out slides for Thursday. TWG Chairs will present on weeks activities etc.

New Business and General Discussion: Mark McConnell, MS

- We need to solicit folks to align with one of the TWGs during to remainder of the year to work offline and help with research needs statements etc. During the annual meeting participants can go to any of the breakout sessions.
- This week's SCOM business room is set up in the Internet Café Room.
- As a reminder, SCOM 2017 is in Providence, RI and will be hosted by Joe Bucci.
- Dale Doughty, Maine DOT accepted to host the SCOM meeting in 2021.