

IOWA HIGHWAY RESEARCH BOARD

Minutes of June 25, 2004

Regular Board Members Present

J. Adam	L. Jesse
L. Brehm	J. Krist
R. Ettema	C. Marker
T. Fonkert	M. Nahra
R. Gould	G. Parker
L. Greimann	J. Selmer
J. Ites	C. VanBuskirk

Alternate Board Members Present

S. Gannon for C. Schloz
A. Abu-Hawash
J. Berger

Board Members with No Representation

None

Secretary

M. Dunn

Visitors

Chris Brakke	<i>Iowa Department of Transportation</i>
Sara Buseman	<i>Iowa Department of Transportation</i>
Ed Engle	<i>Iowa Department of Transportation</i>
Mohammad Mujeeb	<i>Iowa Department of Transportation</i>
Jim Cable	<i>Iowa State University/CCEE</i>
F. Wayne Klaiber	<i>Iowa State University/CCEE</i>
Terry Wipf	<i>Iowa State University/CCEE</i>
Dale Harrington	<i>Iowa State University/CTRE</i>
Neal Hawkins	<i>Iowa State University/CTRE</i>

The meeting was held in the East/West Materials Conference Room at the Iowa Department of Transportation, Ames, Iowa. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. by Larry Jesse.

Agenda review/modification

- No additions or modifications.

Approval of the minutes

- Charles Marker moved to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2004 meeting with no additions or corrections. Jeff Krist seconded. Carried with 13 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstaining.

Final Report TR-452, “Alternative Solutions to Meet the Service Needs of Low Volume Bridges in Iowa”

- Dr. F. Wayne Klaiber, Iowa State University, presented the project objectives, research tasks, previous Iowa DOT bridge related research and review of categories, summary of the project’s questionnaires, rehabilitation versus strengthening information, bridge replacement alternatives, and further research needs for low volume bridges.
- This was an IHRB solicited project from FY 2000-2001. The RFP divided the work into two phases. The objective for phase I was to develop a reference to address common problems on the county bridge system. This included a survey of the county engineers in Iowa to determine the most common problems occurring on secondary road bridges and a survey of the solutions used by Iowa county engineers as well as engineers in other Midwest states to deal with these problems. A work plan was to be developed to address those areas where inadequate information is available from the state of the practice to develop viable solutions.
- Phase II of the research is to include the development of new solutions to the service needs that are identified as lacking in Phase I.
- After discussion, it was decided that a list of needs would be compiled by the Principal Investigators (PI) and sent to the IHRB county members and alternates prior to the July meeting. After that meeting, the PIs will meet with the county representatives (in the Small Materials Conference Room) and decide on which needs would be most beneficial to address in Phase II. It is possible that some of these needs may also overlap with the 04-05 priority topics.
- Mark Nahra moved to approve the final report. Todd Fonkert seconded. Carried with 13 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstaining.

Proposal, “Evaluation of Dowel Bar Retrofits for Local Road Pavements”

- Dr. James Cable, Iowa State University, discussed the objectives; site details; research variables, including placement numbers, types and sizes of dowel bars; dowel insertion process; monitoring plan; funding information and contributors; and time sensitivity and duration of the proposed project.
- It was noted that the budget line referring to Dan Frentress, \$7,500, would only be spent if the work took place in October when Dr. Cable is not available. The \$7,500 would then be taken off Dr. Cable’s budget line.

- Changes to the budget were reviewed.
 - The staff wages were corrected to be for ¼ month instead of ½ month per year for four years.
 - Details were given on the change that had been made in the Supplies/Materials section taking the amount from \$19,846 to \$21,046. The amount for the FRP bars should have been \$7,200 instead of \$6,000.
 - It was also noted that there have been some recent changes with policy at the DOT and the honoraria services as seen on the budget may need to be done by a consultant instead.
 - The estimated new budget was \$146,708.
- Part of the time sensitivity of the project is that the road will be used as a haul road next year for a 2 ½ mile concrete overlay.
- The instrumentation process and plan was described. Due to the joint sawing, the wires will go under the pavement, not out the joint.
- Greg Parker moved to approve the proposal with the funding level of 95% Secondary and 5% Street. Mark Nahra seconded. Carried with 13 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstaining.

Review of RFPs for 1st Solicitation for FY 04-05

IHRB-04-01, “Guidelines for Removal of Unwarranted Traffic Control Devices in Rural Areas”

- The recommended changes were made to the RFP following the May meeting. There were no further additions or modifications.

IHRB 04-03, “Appropriate Traffic Calming Techniques for Small Iowa Communities”

- The recommended changes were made to the RFP following the May meeting. There were no further additions or modifications.

IHRB 04-04, “Review of Inconsistencies between SUDAS and Iowa DOT Specifications”

- The recommended changes were made to the RFP following the May meeting.
- The Board discussed the special process for this particular RFP. Larry Jesse reported that a group of twenty-three consultants was initially chosen by a DOT committee, taking into consideration those who were both Iowa based and had SUDAS manuals. A letter of interest was mailed to that group and nine responded with having interest in receiving the RFP. There will also be a pre-RFP meeting with those consultants to describe the IHRB proposal system and answer any questions on the RFP.
- After Board discussion, it was decided that the DOT committee would also be asked to review the proposals submitted in response to the RFP and recommend the top one or two to be reviewed by the Board for a final approval.
- Charles Marker volunteered to be the county representative on the review committee.
- The budget and time frame were discussed. It was decided that 18 months was appropriate for the research, however, it was recommended that the budget be reduced to \$150,000.

IHRB 04-05, “Design Guide for Improved Quality of Roadway Subgrades and Subbases”

- Due to the time needed to check on other recently completed research related to this topic and gain input from DOT offices, this was the first review for this RFP.

- There was a recommendation to have Bob Stanley, Iowa DOT, to serve as the technical contact. Mark Dunn will check on who would be appropriate for this topic.
- It was suggested that the anticipated budget be set at least at \$150,000.

IHRB 04-07, “Development of Optimal Strategies for the Use of Ice Control Chemicals in Winter Maintenance”

- The literature search that was done on this topic during the development stages of the RFP resulted in finding two NCHRP projects which have been recently completed and are either currently available, or will be soon. It was recommended that the research not be undertaken until the results of the projects have been reviewed. The Board agreed to put this on hold and once the reports are both available, form a task group that would review the information and identify how the results could be implemented in Iowa and decide on future needs specific to Iowa.

IHRB 04-08, “Development of a New Process for Determining Design Year Traffic Demands”

- This RFP had been sent to Duane Wittstock, City of West Des Moines, for review and had undergone some changes since the initial distribution in the May Board packet. To allow for a more effective review, a new copy was distributed at the May meeting and also included in the June Board packet for discussion to be held at the June meeting.
- The Office of Systems Planning had recently given input to Mark Dunn. It was mentioned that the second to last bullet in the objectives may already be available. It was also suggested that there are portions that might want to be revised to reflect political limitations versus actual limitations with on-going activities in the modeling arena. It was recommended that the RFP be reviewed and further refined prior to sending.
- There was concern that the scope of the RFP took into account new areas but did not address more mature, developed areas.
- It was asked if the first bullet was too narrow with looking at just Iowa. It was questioned if other states practices would be helpful to consider as well.
- It was also requested that the RFP read more clearly that it take into account communities that are decreasing in size as well as increasing.
- There was input to support that the RFP did address some of these issues and that the model discussed was capable of reviewing a variety of scenarios, it just may need to be more clearly stated.
- It was expressed that the current problem is that there is only a regional/nodal model. This model is designed to bring it down one step lower and make it more usable and determine what needs to be done on the grid level.
- It was requested that the RFP be reviewed and modified taking into consideration the above comments and input from the Iowa DOT Systems Planning Office and Duane Wittstock, RFP Technical Contact. After this review, the RFP will be brought back to the July meeting and sent after the Board’s final review.

IHRB 04-09, “Feasibility of Cooperative Development of Wetland Mitigation Projects”

- It was asked that “long-term risks” associated with maintenance and monitoring be added to the second objective.
- With the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers being the regulatory agency for wetlands, it was stressed that their input/involvement was critical to this research. It was requested that a Corps of Engineers representative sit on the advisory committee. Mark Dunn will assist with assuring their participation as needed.

New Business

- None

Greg Parker moved to adjourn the meeting. Lyle Brehm seconded. Carried with 14 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstaining.

Date of Next Meeting: THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, JULY 30, 2004 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE EAST/WEST MATERIALS CONFERENCE ROOM AT THE IOWA DOT, CENTRAL COMPLEX, IN AMES, IOWA.

Mark Dunn, IHRB Secretary