

**ACEC – INDOT  
BRIDGE INSPECTION COMMITTEE**

**MEETING NO. 8 MINUTES**

April 14, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Mike Cox. Those in attendance were:

Jim Mickler	INDOT, Greenfield District
Gerald Nieman	INDOT, Planning and Production Division
Bill Dittrich	INDOT, Planning and Production Division
Brian Harvey	INDOT, Planning and Production Division
Michael Cox	Beam, Longest and Neff, L.L.C.
Mike Oberfell	USI Consultants, Inc.
Mary Anne O'Toole	Collins Engineers, Inc.
Jeremy Koonce	Collins Engineers, Inc.
John Ashton	Collins Engineers, Inc.
Adam Post	United Consulting
Drew Storey	InspectTech
Jon Sera	Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc.

A meeting agenda had previously been distributed and the following items were discussed:

1. Mike Cox started off the meeting with a brief overview of the agenda.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were discussed. A few corrections were requested. The minutes were approved as noted and will be posted on INDOT's website.
3. Bill Dittrich discussed the 12 month inspection cycle for load posted bridges. Bill said that Keith Hoernschemeyer would like him to discuss this issue with some county agencies and consider their feedback. Bill would also like to increase the inspection cycle for some good bridges to 48 months to offset some of the costs.
4. Bill Dittrich is drafting a letter concerning unknown foundations and implementation of the QC/QA policy.
5. Mike Cox gave a report on the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the InspectTech Task Force. Drew Storey passed around three handouts. The handouts were developed from user feedback, the InspectTech Task Force meeting, and meetings with Bill Dittrich. The handouts list suggestions from users, proposed tasks for InspectTech to work on during their next contract, and a priority listing of those tasks.
6. Mike Cox will push back the Load Rating Chapter finalization. All comments should be relayed through Bill Dittrich. Load rating gusset plates on trusses was a topic of discussion with no resolution on requirements occurring at this point. There is a technical advisory dated January 29, 2010 that will require gusset plate inspection using NDT for all trusses within 3 years. Bill Dittrich stated that he thinks the load rating chapter still is lacking information and should cover more issues. The group discussed the complexity of some load ratings. The chapter requires the use of the

Virtis Software or a compatible program. Many in the group felt that hand calculations are adequate for simple structures.

7. The group discussed inspection manual issues. One main concern was the reduced inspection cycle frequency of load posted bridges. The group concluded that with all the changes that are currently increasing inspection costs, this requirement should be pushed back as far as possible or until FHWA requires it. Mary Anne will change the draft manual to allow Team Leaders to determine if a load posted bridge should be placed on a reduced frequency inspection cycle. Mary Anne went on to discuss several other minor corrections to the manual. Bill Dittrich gave her a recommendation for each question. Bill mentioned that current procedures require him to make special inspection requirements or changes based on a team leader's recommendations. He would like team leaders to be able to make these changes.

The next meeting for the ACEC - INDOT Bridge Inspection Committee is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at the Indianapolis Sub-district .

Individuals are invited to comment on items presented in these minutes and/or submit additional topics for discussion at the next meeting. Please E-mail comments to Jon Sera at [jsera@bfsengr.com](mailto:jsera@bfsengr.com).

This meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared by,

Butler, Fairman, and Seufert, Inc.