INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N758
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (855) 463-6848

Mike Braun, Governor
Lyndsay Quist, Commissioner

MEETING MINUTES

ACEC-INDOT Bridge Inspection Committee Meeting – June 18, 2026
Indiana Government Center-South, Conference Room C, Atrium
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Attendees:

Anthony Marino, INDOT – Chair
Jonathan Olson, BF&S – Vice Chair
Kyle Kent, United Consulting – Secretary
Rob Coop, USI Consultants
~~Matt Lee, Hamilton Co.~~
~~Cristy Burlage, INDOT~~
Bill Dittrich, INDOT
~~Rob Connor, Purdue~~
~~Mark Riehle, Lochmueller Group~~
Wendy Hungate, Lochmueller Group
Maricar Gonzales, INDOT
~~Erich Hart, INDOT~~
Bobby Chandler, Clark Dietz
John Lukac, HWC
Alfred Wessling, EGIS
Stewart Kline, Tippecanoe Co.
Nathaniel Foy, INDOT
Hayden Bump, INDOT
~~Anne Rearick, INDOT~~
~~Adam Post, INDOT~~
~~Charley Bernth, INDOT~~
~~Sean Hankins, INDOT~~
Sharon Street, INDOT
Joshua Heigert, FHWA
Ron Muñoz, SJCA
~~Jennifer Hart, INDOT~~
Josh Biller, INDOT - Teams
~~Pat Connor, INLTAP~~
~~Stephanie Wagner, INDOT~~

Black Text – Information taken directly from meeting agenda.
Blue Text – Commentary on agenda items discussed during meeting.

Agenda:

1. Approve the February 2026 meeting minutes.
   - Minutes were approved. Nathaniel confirmed that the previous meeting minutes were available on INDOT's Bridge Inspection website.

2. Announcement: Jacob Gould has left INDOT and is no longer on this committee. No replacement has yet been decided.
   - INDOT is currently looking for a replacement to fill Jake's role on the committee and as a Bridge Inspection Area Engineer.

3. LPA Contracts and related issues discussion (Shari Street).
   - INDOT has been developing a new template LPA contract. The contract is complete pending some final review items from INDOT's legal team.
   - Biggest changes that are reflected in this new template contract include:
     - Removed redundancies and circular references
     - Streamlined with updated verbiage (BIAS no longer mentioned, etc.)
     - Attachment A-1 is updated per SNBI and asterisks for special cases are defined.
     - Schedule section identified contract years directly
     - All four Phases (I, IA, II, IIA) now have their own interim phase.
     - Jon Olson noted that some revisions made to the contract template were not carried over in the latest version. He and Shari will coordinate to get these revisions added.
   - Also created a Contract Amendment / Contract Supplement template document.
     - Shari requested that, when creating a contract amendment, it should be clear what the original amounts were, what the proposed changes are, and what the resulting new contract amounts will be. Make it clear and easy to follow. The template is set up in this way.

4. Other business discussion items (follow up from Q1 2026 meeting).
   - iTAMS fields for Proposed work, Replacement/Rehab/Preventative Maintenance/Other and Estimated Costs – nothing new to report and no implementation schedule.
   - County Summary Reports – nothing new to report and no implementation schedule.
   - Proposing formation of another ACEC/INDOT Task Group for these two LPA needs.
     - Jon, Al, and Rob volunteered for this task group

5. iTAMS platform discussion and updates (Maricar Gonzales).
   - Updates to the iTAMS platform are underway, including:
     - Section 6.2: Users can add multiple inspectors to an inspection file. INDOT uses this to credit employees with experience and can track number of bridges for each individual.
     - Communication between ERMS and iTAMS to prevent document duplication and facilitate ease of searching.
       - Search functionality is also being updated in this step to help reduce number of false positives in search queries.
     - Section 7.5 – Additional INDOT fields for Date Open, Date Closed, etc. Used for tracking Initial inspections within 90 days of the open date.
       - Tony will send a memo on this once it goes live.
     - Testing is ongoing on an API that pulls posting sign values from photos and enters them into BRADIN.
     - With the fiscal year ending, and the current contract with SixSense ending in August, SixSense will be working on only the most critical bug fixes until the new contract is in place. No new functionality will be considered for now.
   - Jon asked in ERMS is sunsetting. Maricar stated that ERMS will not be going away but will be moving to a different application / platform sometime in the Fall.

6. Announcement: IC 25-31-1-12 (Qualifications for registration) appears to have been recently changed.
   - IC details two paths for consideration for determining applicants to be qualified for registration in Indiana to be a professional engineer.
   - Graduation with an approved engineering degree, 4 years or of engineering experience, and passing approved licensure examination.
   - A specific record of eight (8) years or more of engineering education and experience in engineering work, which indicates that the applicant has acquired knowledge and skill and practical experience in engineering work ***approximating that required for registration as a professional engineer*** under subdivision (1) and passing approved licensure examination.
   - Starting in March 2026, application to the IPLA is not required prior to registering for examination.

7. Bridge Inspection Memos discussion.
   - Since February 12th committee meeting, INDOT has published 8 bridge inspection memos.
   - Future memos to be published will include guidance for coding railings and seismic vulnerability, and for structural reviews where the strength/performance is affected.
     - Main idea with the strength/performance discussion is to ensure that a PE gets eyes on the issue, not just an ATL.

8. FHWA NBIP Metrics: April 2026 edition is now published on FHWA website.
   - Josh noted that while this metric document is available to the public, its main use is to help the government determine State compliance.

9. Upcoming FHWA metrics review: FHWA will be doing Intermediate-level reviews:
   - Metric New1 (Qualifications of Personnel-Damage, Special, and Service Inspection Types).
   - Metric 11 (Inspection Interval-Interval Criteria).

10. FHWA Data Submission: Supplemental data submission will be done in September.
    - Bill reiterated to the group that temporary codes are no longer acceptable and will be rejected in the data submission.
    - Nathaniel noted that, in the case of Railings and Transition coding (B.RH.01 and B.RH.02), "I" can be coded for a railing with unknown crash test level. Inspectors are encouraged to refer to the bridge rail field guide provided by Stephanie Wagner.
    - Josh Heigert reminded the group that some fields in SNBI are meant to remain null, while others may need an "N" or "0" coding.

11. Metric 12 (Quality Inspections) PCA discussion.
    - Reference BIM 26-01 email sent to all bridge inspection consulting firms under contract to provide copies of their formal "QC/QA Procedures for Bridge Inspection" to INDOT for review and feedback.
    - INDOT will be updating Part 4 of the IBIM (goal by end of November 2026).
    - Proposing formation of another ACEC/INDOT Task Group for QC/QA updates.
      - John and Kyle volunteered for this task group

12. Metric 13 and Metric 14 discussion and updates (Jennifer Hart).
    - Jennifer noted in advance that there were no updates to discuss and therefore did not attend the meeting.

13. Metric 16 (NSTM Inspections) PCA discussion – actions done and planned upcoming.
    - INDOT issued BIM 26-06 dated March 9th on requirements for Floor Beams as NSTMs.
    - Will be issuing emails to randomly selected bridge inspection consulting firms to carry out QA review sampling of NSTM Plans of Action.
    - INDOT will be updating Part 5 of the IBIM (goal by the end of November 2026).
    - INDOT is still planning QA observation on sampling of NSTM field inspection operations and inspection reports 2nd half of this year and in 2027.

14. NSTM discussion for coding SNBI Item B.C.14 and NSTM Inspection Interval.
    - Follows FHWA review of LPA NSTM inspection report.
    - NSTM report table of all NSTM components and connections that had a couple coded as 4, but Item B.C.14 was coded 5 and inspection interval was set for 24 months.
    - Discuss idea for IBIM to have Component/Connection Table use Agency-created/defined condition ratings similar to Element-level Inspections (Good, Fair, Poor, Severe).
    - Tony communicated to the group the results of a discussion he had with FHWA regarding coding NSTM members and NSTM bridges.
        - If an NSTM *bridge* has its condition (B.C.14) rated 4 or less, it must receive an NSTM inspection at an interval of no more than 12 months.
        - Using Table 20 to give a 0-9 rating to an NSTM *member* is no longer appropriate.
            - The description for the "Poor" condition in table 20 notes that "…strength and/or performance of the component is affected." In this instance, "component" specifically refers to the superstructure, deck, substructure, etc., and *not* to the individual NSTM member. This means that a member cannot receive a rating of 4 if B.C.14 is rated above a 4.
            - Assigning an agency-only description of "Good", "Fair", "Poor", or "Severe" to the NSTM members can sidestep this issue without forcing otherwise Fair+ condition structures into receiving unnecessary NSTM inspections, while also keeping track of the specific NSTM members that are in Poor or worse condition.
            - NSTM bridges with NSTM members rating "Poor" or "Severe" will need to have those specific members inspected at 12-month intervals. The inspection type must be "In-Depth" instead of "Special" due to the specific personnel requirements of those inspection types.
            - The group will continue to discuss this item at the next ACEC meeting. Tony will consider creating a task group for this issue and will release a memo once finalized.

15. Metric 18 (Scour) PCA discussion.
    - INDOT issued BIM 26-04 dated February 27th and BIM 26-07 on April 16th addressing SNBI Items B.AP.03 (Scour Vulnerability) and B.AP.04 (Scour POA) for all LPA bridges.
    - Validation deadline for LPA bridges: December 31, 2026.
        - Nathaniel will begin to send out monthly e-mails to consultants with the status of their bridges regarding Scour Vulnerability and Scour POA coding.
    - Task Group created Scour Assessment Form. Feedback received and will be meeting with FHWA after today's meeting to address final comments. Expect to publish shortly thereafter.
    - INDOT completed DRAFT update to Part 6 of the IBIM and is currently addressing comments. Expect to publish following final FHWA review.

16. Training:
    - NHI 130053: Bridge Inspector Refresher Training – responses for need low; INDOT may look to schedule a course later in Spring 2027 (April?).
    - NHI 130078: NSTM Course – pausing decision on hosting; getting closer with FHWA for the SBRITE approved equivalency training.
    - SBRITE NSTM Course – Scheduling a training session in early to mid-August.
    - NHI 135047: Stream Stability and Scour at Highway Bridges for Bridge Inspectors – still want to offer; waiting on FHWA to allow the course to be offered/scheduled.

17. Jonathan Olson – discussion on iTAMS reports requiring different inspection comments for different inspection types.
    - This behavior was intentional when iTAMS was created. While it creates the problem of new inspection reports of one type not pulling the most up-to-date information from another inspection type, It prevents the accidental erasure or overwriting of data when supplementing a Routing report with a damage report, underwater report, or similar.
    - A workaround or tweak to iTAMS is not ruled out for the future, but not on the plan for this time adjacent to the INDOT fiscal year shutdown and SixSense contract renewal.

18. Round table open forum discussion/issues/needs.
    - No additional discussion topics raised.

19. Next Meeting – August, 2026.
    - The group agreed to meet on August 18, 2026.