

MEMORANDUM

November 7, 2016

TO: ACEC-INDOT Bridge Inspection Committee Members

FROM: Mark Riehle, Lochmueller Group

RE: ACEC-INDOT Bridge Inspection Committee Meeting Minutes
(Meeting held November 4, 2016)

The following were in attendance:

Merril Dougherty, INDOT
Bill Dittrich, INDOT
Adam Post, United
John Lukac, BLN
Bobby Chandler, Clark Dietz
Pat Connor, LTAP

A.J. Wortkoetter, INDOT
Jeremy Hunter, INDOT
Rob Coop, USI Consultants
Mark Riehle, Lochmueller Group
Jonathan Olson, BF&S

Item #1

Load Rating Policy.

- INDOT is currently working on updates to Part 3 (Load Rating) of the Bridge Inspection Manual.
- As part of the FWHA Fast Act, an emergency vehicle is being added that will affect load ratings for all bridges, including county bridges. The emergency vehicle has substantial weight, 62 kip tandem axle. The addition of the emergency vehicle will require an update to the posting policy. A special sign is being detailed for the emergency vehicle, the time frame of when it will be added to the MUTCD is unknown. Professor Bowman at Purdue University is currently doing research to determine what affect this loading will have on bridges. INDOT is currently looking at other states' posting policies.
- INDOT might be able to bring in Michael Baker next year to give formal training on AASHTOWARE.
- The current policy states that the load rating of the structure is not required until the initial inspection (not during design). Although a good idea to check the rating during the design, the load rating should be incorporated into the initial inspection.
- INDOT is moving towards rating all state bridges in LRFR. This is not a requirement for county bridges, LFR is still acceptable. It takes little time to input a bridge in AASHTOWARE in LRFR after being input in LFR, it is recommended inputting the bridges in AAASHTOWARE in both LFR and LRFR at the onset. You can then choose which rating you would like to use in case the policy ever changes.

Item #2

Training Update.

- NHI Courses:
 - o 130055 2 Week Bridge Inspection class - INDOT will host again in 2017.
 - o 130053 3 Day Refresher Course - INDOT will host again in 2017.
 - o 130078 3.5 Day Fracture Critical Class - scheduled December 5-8, 2016; some slots still available. INDOT will check on need for class in 2017.

- o 130110 - Tunnel Inspection - KYTC District Office will offer in Louisville, Feb 6-10, 2017.
- o 135047 1 Day Scour at Highway Bridges - INDOT will look at schedule and have a couple sessions in 2017.
- o NHI has a NEW one week bridge inspection class for PE's instead of the 2 week course. The bridge inspection manual has not yet been updated to accept this class, but if anyone is planning on taking the course, contact Merril Dougherty as INDOT plans to accept the course.
- S-BRITE Certification Inspecting Steel Bridges for Fatigue - The final certification course was held October 4-5, 2016. INDOT to check if additional courses are need in 2017.
- Bridge Inspection Conference will be held in February and will be the day before or after the Bridge Design Conference.

Item #3

LPA Inspection Contract.

- INDOT will send out updated spreadsheet for compliance months. The Load Rating update requirement has been changed from Phase 2 of an existing contract to Phase 1 of the next Contract for several counties. Scour assessments will remain on Phase 2 of the existing contract for those counties.
- Scour assessment should coincide with compliance month. INDOT has seen some being done after compliance month.
- It was discussed if HEC-RAS analysis should be included for bridges over major waterways in the scour assessment. It is not required, but the bridges should be rated scour critical and a scour P.O.A. would be required.
- Completing a counties bridge inspections prior to the compliance month is not acceptable. This has happened and approval from INDOT and FHWA was required to change compliance month. INDOT will no longer approve counties inspected before the compliance month, this will require a re-inspection of the bridges during the compliance month at the full cost to the LPA.
- Consultants should reiterate to LPA's that they have 20 days to review the draft reports per the new LPA Bridge Inspection Contract.
- Consultants need to be sure to include transmittal letter of final books to LPA in ERMS.
- Final books need to be completed 150 days after compliance month for Phase 1 and 2 and 120 days for Phase 1A and 2A. This time frame is needed for county to complete/update asset management plan.
- If a county has enough bridges for inspections to take 2 months, the completion date for the final book would be one month later as well.
- The purpose of the printed copy of the book is open door law, the LPA has to have a book on file for the public.

Item #4

Bat and Cliff Swallows Data Collection.

- New requirements for inspectors to enter into BIAS if bats or evidence of bats was seen under the bridges. This allows for FHWA to query to the bridges and determine which bridges have been checked.
- All team leaders should have received an email for the bat training. This training was meant to cover a broad audience, not just bridge inspectors.
- The course needs to be completed and data should start being collected immediately.
- INDOT will send out a memo clarifying that the training needs to be completed and the data collection should begin.

- INDOT will add a column to spreadsheet confirming if inspectors have completed the training.

Item #5

BIAS Update with Link to ERMS.

- BIAS is now linked to ERMS, the original release caused BIAS to run slowly, an ERMS Data button was added that must be clicked if data is need for that structure.
- If still experiencing problems, send report to inbridgeshelp@indot.in.gov.
- If IPAD is having problems, must go to App Store and download update. The IPAD will not say an update is needed.
- Critical Finding is now available in BIAS. An email should still be sent to Merrill Dougherty to cross check critical finding is working in BIAS. Do not forget to send close out information.
- INDOT is working to get the scour assessments in BIAS. This should work with dropdowns and direct you through the assessment.
- Will foundation type be added back into BIAS?
 - There is not a current plan to add this into BIAS. If the information is needed, will need to go back to old reports.
- The current plan is to have training in January for all BIAS users in Webex. Administrators will have training at INDOT.
- Other problems?
 - Pictures are loading backwards, issue to be emailed to inbridgeshelp.
 - Child Assets Viewer not able to be sorted, issue to be emailed to inbridgeshelp.
 - Load Ratings must be approved before starting routine report, otherwise additional routine report must be created. Issue to be sent to inbridgeshelp.
- Some team members have been denied access to ITAP to upload items in ERMS. If not on INDOT's list, they are not approving. Resubmit approval letter to inbridgeshelp if having this issue and team member is certified.
- There is sometimes a 10-15 minute delay when creating a new user, this is just a backlog and will eventually show up.
- Mona Davis is interim manager of inbridgeshelp email, until someone is hired.

Item #6

Other Topics.

- Team Leader and Team Member updates need to be emailed to inbridgeshelp by the end of the year. This can just be a summary in an excel file, does not have to be qualification forms.
- If any team leaders have received a letter stating their certification is going to expire, new certifications should be emailed to inbridgeshelp.
- There have been updates to the NHS system. The Indianapolis MPO has gotten their maps updated. For the most recent NHS system go to FHWA website, this is the official site for the NHS system. A link was in Merrill Dougherty's presentation at the County Bridge Conference. Merrill will send presentation to Pat Connor to post online.
- Will new NBI requirements be released soon?
 - This is unknown as it has been stated for years that they will be released soon. The first version will be released for comments only.
- Will County Bridge Conference be 2 days next year?
 - Looking into booking room for 2 days next year, room was not available for 2 days this year.

- NBI error check has been run for INDOT bridges, not many errors.
- County bridges requiring changes will be sent around 2nd week in March.
- When can underwater inspections be removed?
 - If the bridge can be probed, underwater inspection is not required.
Need to look at old reports for history.
- If you are doing a special inspection on a specific area of a Fracture Critical Bridge with a rating of 4 or less to avoid a full Fracture Critical Inspection, the Fracture Critical Inspection and Special Inspection should be on alternating 24 month cycles. Neither inspection should be coded as 12 months.
- New FHWA Bridge Engineer is Jose Ortiz. Hope to have him attend meeting soon.

Item #7

Next Meeting Date. The next committee meeting will be held on Friday, February 10, 2017 at 9:00am in INDOT N642 conference room.