

ACEC-INDOT Bridge Inspection Committee Meeting Minutes

Time: August 9th, 2019, 9:00am-10:45am

Location: INDOT Brookville Sub-district

Minutes Prepared by: Jonathan Olson, BF&S

The following members were in attendance:

Andrew Fitzgerald, INDOT - Chair	Stewart Kline, IACHES (Tippecanoe County)
Scott Minnich, United Consulting – Vice Chair	Michael Vereb, Lochmueller Group
Jonathan Olson, BF&S – Secretary	John Lukac, BLN
Stephanie Moore, INDOT	Timothy Barkey, IACHES (Adams County)
Bill Dittrich, INDOT	Bobby Chandler, Clark Dietz
Jennifer Hart, INDOT	Rob Coop, USI Consultants
Randy Strain, INDOT	

The following members were absent (with prior notification, unless stated):

Jose Ortiz, FHWA	Pat Connor, LTAP
Nate Pfeiffer, INDOT	Adam Post, INDOT
Craig Parks, IACHES (Boone County) – Discontinued from Committee	

Meeting Summary:

1. Load Ratings (Jennifer)

- a. BRADIN is the authoritative source for load ratings. Load rating values migrate into BIAS overnight. Please verify load ratings are transferring correctly into BIAS after entering into BRADIN.
- b. Next load rating status update from consultants is due to Jennifer on 8/16/2019.
- c. Mass upload into BRADIN cutoff is end of September. Any mass uploads need to be submitted before this time.
- d. Load rating progress for entire state is approximately 70%. Of that Toll Road progress is approximately 30%, LPA is approximately 62%, and State is approximately 85%.
- e. There has been some delay on the LPA side getting new load posting signs in place. Part of this delay could be a result of many LPA's requesting signs at the same time.

2. Bridge Inspection Manual (Bill and Andy)

- a. Andy sent out some new draft chapters of the bridge inspection manual before this meeting via email. They included updates to Parts 1 and Part 2, as well as a new Asbestos section in Part 4. Comments are requested back by September 1st.
- b. The manual changes incorporates existing bridge inspection memos. Asking for comments on things that are missing, incorrect, or need to be organized differently.
- c. Asbestos reports in BIAS are mostly for INDOT. They do their own inspections and will be putting them into BIAS. INDOT doesn't want to redo work for deck replacements, rail replacements, etc. If asbestos is not disturbed, then don't want to trigger asbestos work.

3. Fracture critical inspections (Randy)

- a. Randy asked if inspectors are getting close enough on arms-length fracture critical inspections. Pictures indicate sometimes not getting close enough. It was stated that pictures aren't always taken in the same exact location as the actual inspection location. Some areas on bridges, such as middle of floor beams are very hard to inspect arms-length.
- b. Andy brought up that drone inspections will need to be discussed in the future for difficult access areas.
- c. It was stated that it is preferable to have pictures of hard to inspect areas as evidence the inspection was completed correctly. Having pictures in conjunction with written documentation is important for reviewers.
- d. Bill stated that some fracture critical reports are attached in BIAS in unusual areas. The location needs to be consistent and according to INDOT guidance.

4. By-Laws and Application (Andy)

- a. The by-Laws have been reviewed and approved by ACEC Officers.
- b. The by-laws were voted on by the committee and approved.
- c. Andy said that all members need to send in application if they haven't already.
- d. Minutes, by-Laws, and member list will be on the INDOT website.

5. Compliance Months (Stephanie)

- a. September compliance months NTP are going out in August, which is one month early. From here on out, the PO and NTP will be scheduled for 1 month in advance of the compliance month. Bridges cannot be inspected early, but prep work can be started.
- b. Brenda Fox is sending out FMIS request 2 months in advanced of when PO is due. LPA needs to sign and return.
- c. Stephanie and Andy need to get memo out regarding advanced NTP.
- d. So purchase orders are not delayed for certain counties, INDOT needs to schedule the PO's around the end of fiscal years for INDOT and FHWA.

6. Border Bridges (Andy)

- a. INDOT has already met with Indiana and Illinois border counties.
 - i. Vermillion, Warren, Vigo, Newton, Benton, Lake
- b. Indiana is now meeting with Ohio – Approximately 26 structures.
 - i. Ohio has agreed to lead most of the inspections.
 - ii. Ohio also has BIAS.
 - iii. Ohio inspects bridges annually. They also define a bridge if a structure is greater than 10 feet, rather than 20 feet.
- c. The goal of these meetings are to create a memorandum of agreement to spell out who is responsible for what.
- d. There will be an annual meeting with Illinois and Kentucky.
- e. There are no border bridges with Michigan.
- f. If the other state is a lead on inspections, Indiana inspector will take information from other states report and put it into BIAS.

- g. INDOT has a list of items that need to match between states and items that don't have to match to make coding easier.
7. Extended Frequency (Randy)
- a. Please notify Bill if submitting extended frequency bridges. There are some workflow issues in BIAS.
 - b. All bridges should be inspected in Phase I, and bridges on 48 month inspections should skip phase 2.
 - c. Jonathan stated that they completed extended frequency reviews for Clinton County and approximately 24% of the bridges got approved to go to 48 month inspections. However, many of the bridges were slabs without joints.
 - d. Jonathan stated that a lot of bridges in great condition are being disqualified for open/leaking joints. In the future it would be good to consider if this is really a good qualifier for extended frequency.
8. LPA status and Local Contracts (Stephanie)
- a. Stephanie said she is busy working on invoices, contracts, and advanced NTP.
9. BIAS Update (Bill)
- a. Send Bill email for any BIAS requests at this time. Don't need to copy INBRIDGES email.
 - b. BIAS currently seems to have some issues updating in the morning.
 - c. Tunnel inspections – now that metrics have come out, INDOT is finding solution/software to document inspections.
 - d. INDOT has had some Element data issues due to NHS routes changing.
 - e. BIAS ERMS link is extremely slow and pulls in too much irrelevant data. It's much easier to log into ERMS directly and find info. This is a good opportunity for improvement.
 - f. Consultants are uploading lots of files to ERMS related to load ratings and bridge plans. It is difficult when incorrect information is accidentally uploaded as consultants don't have write/edit access to their own information. Would be nice to have edit/write access or a defined coordinator at INDOT to help address errors.
10. Training Update (Andy/Bill)
- a. NHI 2-week course is next week (August 12th – 23rd) – space is still available.
 - b. NHI 3-day refresher is the following week (August 20th - 22nd) – space is still available.
 - c. S-Brite Fracture Critical Inspection class just finished (August 6th – 7th).
 - d. Scott requested that some training be scheduled for fall/winter for better availability for field personnel.
11. Other discussions
- a. Jonathan stated that the contract task group hasn't made much progress yet. They will be meeting directly after this meeting. Will update committee when further progress is made.

12. Next meeting

- a. November 15th at 9:00am in the same location. Note that this is different than the date discussed during the meeting.