

**ACEC – INDOT
BRIDGE INSPECTION COMMITTEE**

MEETING NO. 13 MINUTES

January 6, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Mike Cox. Those in attendance were:

Jim Mickler	INDOT, Greenfield District
Bill Dittrich	INDOT, Planning and Production Division
Brian Harvey	INDOT, Planning and Production Division
Ron McCaslin	INDOT, Central Office
Bill Williams	Monroe County/IACHES
Keith Hoernschemeyer	Federal Highway Administration
Michael Cox	Beam, Longest and Neff, L.L.C.
Adam Post	United Consulting
Mike Obergfell	USI Consultants, Inc.
Mary Anne O'Toole	Collins Engineers, Inc.
John Ashton	Collins Engineers, Inc.
Tony Marino	RW Armstrong
Drew Storey	InspectTech
Jon Sera	Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc.

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

1. Mike Cox started off the meeting with a brief overview of the agenda.
2. Bill Williams discussed the status of the revised contract appendices. He had not had much luck in getting the revisions approved. He will continue to try to make contact with the LPA and Grant Administrator for INDOT. Bill felt that the topic will probably be pushed back until November. Mike Cox and Bill Williams will continue to push this topic towards a resolution.
3. Bill Dittrich displayed where the meeting minutes were on INDOT's website. Mike Cox recommended that the old QC/QA documents be removed from the webpage. There were no comments concerning the Meeting No. 12 minutes.
4. Brian Harvey noted that the updated county consultant list is now pretty much complete. The list will help in the future to determine schedules, permissions, and who to contact. The group discussed that it would be appropriate to send the notice-of-selection to Brian Harvey to acquire permission for that county. The Group then discussed how companies should get access through the software versus access per individual inspectors.
5. The group then discussed reduced and increased frequency inspections. Mike Cox passed around handouts to the group that displayed query results. The results compared the number of bridges in Indiana that would require both increased and reduced frequencies based on the criteria which Illinois has developed. It appears that more bridges would be pushed out to a 48 month interval, rather than those that would require a reduced interval inspection of less than 24 months for this criteria. The group then discussed the possibility of using the Illinois criteria. Keith

Hoernschemeyer will pass along some study information to the group. Keith recommended the group take some time to review other states policies before moving forward. Bill Dittrich and Keith both felt that this may take some time to get a policy approved through the FHWA. The group discussed how this might be implemented and possible ramifications to contract amounts. Jim Mickler questioned if criteria should be different for state and county intervals. The FHWA advisory states that criteria has to be statewide for all jurisdictions. Jim recommended that the minimum vertical clearance criteria should be higher for increasing the interval.

6. Mike Oberfell discussed Fracture Critical Inspections. Mike felt that some of the QC/QA comments were physically impossible to improve on. He also felt that QC/QA personnel should have asked questions of inspectors before submitting a compliance letter. Adam Rheil is going to give a presentation at the County Bridge Conference to help inform the inspection community on QC/QA grading criteria. The group questioned the increased cost to clean truss bridges. Keith Hoernschemeyer stated that these bridges must be cleaned prior to inspections. Arms-length inspections have been required since 1988. It is not required to be within arms-length of more than the first 12 inches of each floor beam from the lower chord connection location. The group recommended that the word get out to counties that inspection costs are rising up due to Inspection Manual Criteria. Following the meeting, Mike Cox will draft a letter regarding the cleaning of structures that will eventually be sent to Stephanie Yager for distribution to County Commissioners.
7. Tony Marino questioned how to handle navigational clearances for bridges that were previously coded based on IDNR criteria. Bill Dittrich recommend deleting the data from these fields and maybe recording the data under remarks if you want. Bill said to zero out this field and it will not be collected in the future. INDOT will do an update for this field.
8. John Ashton discussed the Prefinal coding guide, Volume 1. He would like ACEC – INDOT group to review and comment. Volume 1 is the NBI items only. He will post on the FTP site. John and Drew Storey discussed possible conflicts between InspectTech and coding guide. Comments will be addressed if received by March 31st, when the coding guide will be published. Jon Sera will notify the inspection community of the draft coding guide at the county Bridge Conference during his presentation.
9. Drew Storey went through a list of proposed tasks for the new contract. The group discussed each task item and verified its current need and priority.

The next meeting for the ACEC - INDOT Bridge Inspection Committee is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 14th, 2011, 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.

This meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Prepared by,

Butler, Fairman, and Seufert, Inc.