

# **AHB50 – Traffic Control Devices**

Annual Meeting – January 13, 2014

7:30 – 9:30 PM

Marriott, Washington B3

## **Draft Meeting Minutes**

**Recorded by Tim Gates, Committee Secretary**

### 1. Welcome and introductions (Carlson)

After the welcome and introductions, Paul Carlson emphasized the goals of the committee, which include:

- Communicate and disseminate TCD information
  - Presentations, posters, webinars, reports, papers,
  - Special issues or initiatives
- Promote TCD research
  - Problem statements, TRB RNS database,
- Coordinate with other TRB committees
- Coordinate with the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD)
- Identify new technology and emerging ideas that can lead to new concepts in traffic control devices applications.

### 2. Staff report (Cunard)

- Next January, TRB is moving to DC Convention Center. Several benefits: more space, ADA accessible, all under one roof, internet throughout, more poster area, connected hotel (brand new Marriott) with 1,400 beds and will accept the government rate, several other hotel options within close proximity, several food venues within the Convention Center, and several more in the surrounding area. Sessions will be held in the Convention Center, but the committee meetings will be held in the Marriott.
- More than 12,000 attendees this year (largest ever, slight increase over last year).
- Approximately 8% increase in papers submitted.
- The TRB App has been downloaded more than 7,000 times. Approximately 2/3 of those are for Apple IOS products.

3. Paper review update (Carlson)

**Committee Paper Submission Summary**

| Year                                   | 2011           | 2012           | 2013           | 2014           |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| TRB Papers Received                    | 3,900          | 4,300          | 4,800          | 5,200          |
| AHB50 Papers Received                  | 33             | 27             | 34             | 49             |
| Reviews Completed/Assigned             | 145/163 89%    | 129/135 96%    | 155/173 90%    | 199/220 90%    |
| Papers in AM Program                   | 26             | 23             | 27             | 25             |
| Papers making initial publication list | 22 resubmitted | 16 resubmitted | 19 resubmitted | 14 resubmitted |
| Papers to be published                 | 8              | 7              | 8              | 10             |

4. Committee membership status (Carlson)

- Need to rotate 1/3 of the membership
  - 19 members (25)
  - 2 emeritus members
  - 1 young member (4)
  - 2 international members (5)

Committee members with 9+ years of service will likely be rotated off of the committee. People who would like to volunteer off of the committee should also contact Paul or Tim

5. Discussion of sponsored sessions

Workshop 106 – Doctoral Student Research in Transportation and Operations. Mike Knodler: The PhD presentation session was well attended this year. There has been discussion to move this to a poster session and include it during the “general” TRB session (M-W). Mike’s opinion was that the session should probably remain as a lectern session, since it serves as a quasi interview process for persons seeking an academic position.

Session 276 – Rethinking the MUTCD. This was a very well attended session. Gene Hawkins gave a brief summary of this session. Perhaps we could include a similar session next year when the federal rulemaking process for the next version of the MUTCD has begun.

Session 423 – Methods for Field Assessment and Evaluation of Driving Behavior and Roadway Safety Systems (P)

Session 425 – Research on Traffic Control Devices (P)

Session 486 – Research on Flashing Yellow Arrows and Permissive Left-Turn Displays

Session 515 – Pedestrian Planning, Design, and Safety

## 6. Committee roles

- Committee Research Coordinator –**David Noyce will be taking over this assignment. Tim Gates, Kent Kekeis, David Hurwitz, Kent Kacir, Kim Eccles, Tim Cox, and Scott Nodes have volunteered to help David Noyce.**
- Committee Communication Coordinator – **David Noyce will coordinate the Website, Ghazan Khan and Scott Kuznicki have agreed to help.** Paul will initiate a new Listserve using the A&M access. Gene Hawkins had agreed to help.
- Paper Publication Task Force – **Tim Gates will head up the paper publication review committee.** Tim solicited people to assist in the re-review process. This will also include selection of a committee paper award. Tim will also be charged with determining the committee paper award selection process as a part of this committee. **Volunteers included Scott Kuznicki, Michael Reese, Gene Hawkins, Ghazan Khan, Richard Ryan, David Hurwitz, Matt Wilding, Mike Knodler, Jeff Miles, Paul Carlson, and David Noyce.**

7. Developing TCD research needs. **David Noyce will likely head this subcommittee.** We are certainly behind in our development of research needs statements. We should strive to have at least 5 research need statements that are less than 3 years old. We currently do not have any active statements posted that are less than 3 years old. Prior to the meeting, Paul solicited the members and friends to develop research needs statements in advance of this meeting. There was very good response, as approximately 20 draft research needs statements were received over the course of a few days.

8. Discussion of TCD symposium and/or demonstration. TRB has sponsored Visibility Symposiums in the past, but that area seems to be losing interest. Gene Hawkins requested an international TCD symposium. Kim Eccles suggested sponsoring a design competition. Perhaps give a topic and students would create the proposed solutions. For example, wrong-way driving is one possible topic. David Hurwitz mentioned that other committees had initiated a competition this year with resounding amount of participation. Roger Wentz discussed the circle of innovation process in which problems are identified and constituents rank the possible solutions via an online survey. **Kim Eccles will lead the design competition effort. Tim Cox and Mike Hamlin, Michael Reese, and Mike Knodler agreed to help Kim.**

## 9. Research Status Reports – time permitting

- Speed activated Chevrons
- FHWA TFHRC TCD studies
- FHWA TCD PFS update
- Criteria for LED-enhanced TCDs

## 10. Next meeting of AHB50

- Face-to-face –Possible venues for a summer meeting would include: AASHTO SCOTE in Minneapolis, alternative intersection conference in Salt Lake City in July, ITE in Seattle in August
- Webinar

11. Discussion of 2 hour versus 4 hour meeting. Gene Hawkins suggested that compression of the program makes it difficult to avoid conflicts with a 4 hour meeting. Scott Kuznicki suggested that a 2 hour meeting does not give much opportunity for research updates within the committee meeting. Some people may appreciate an update from the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. It seems that the consensus is to maintain the 2 hour meeting.