

Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021

Via Zoom

Attendance:

MoDOT

Kristi Bachman
Steve Campbell
Cindy Dunnaway
Jason Evenden
Randall Glaser
Brad Gripka
Shannon Kellner
Marc Lewis
Frank Miller
Stacy Reese
John Sanders
Bud Sherman

ACEC/MO

Becky Baltz, TREKK Design Group
Nick Correnti
Mike Herleth
Holly Lehmkuhl
Steve Prange
Tim Ross, Board Chair
Chip Touzinsky
Frank Weatherford
Morgan Mundell, President ACEC/MO

1. Introductions

ACEC Missouri Liaison Southwest District and MoDOT staff in attendance introduced themselves.

2. District Updates/Staffing Changes

Scott Bachman, Administrative Office, is retiring. His replacement is Greg Chapman.

They have held interviews for the new Construction and Materials Engineer.

The Administrative Assistance, Deidre Berry, retired.

ACEC/MO - MoDOT Liaison Committee Meeting September 16, 2021

Southwest District

They are filling vacant positions in Planning, Right of Way, Design, Construction and an Area Engineer.

3. ACEC Updates – President and CEO Morgan Mundell

The Transportation Committee is meeting this afternoon. The projections for revenue from SB 262 is \$40 million for the first year. This does not include the City and County portions.

So far there was no discussion of SB 262 during veto session.

The tax collection will begin on October 1, 2021.

The Safer Federal Workforce Task Force’s vaccination guidance continues to evolve for federal contractors. At this time, it isn’t clear how federal contractor will be defined or how the rule will be applied. OSHA will probably implement the rule.

4. MoDOT Leadership Updates/Key Initiatives

The MoDOT Districts will receive funding targets in January. They will continue to watch what is happening at the federal level. The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission recently held workshops on staffing and low volume roads.

Normally MoDOT has turnover of 600 people per year through attrition. This year they are on track for 800.

They are preparing for a \$1.5 billion STIP.

MoDOT is budgeting and requesting approval for \$45 million to shift employees to market rate.

On average, MoDOT project managers handle 43 projects, in the Southwest District the average is 50.

MoDOT leadership says the consultant budget will increase significantly.

MoDOT is discussing a process to provide a more orderly method for project solicitation.

The MoDOT Legislative priority this year is distracted driving.

5. District Staffing Resources Issues/Concerns

SW Design has 33 employees, 3 utilities staff and 5 project managers. They currently have 3 openings. They have hired 4 new employees this year.

ACEC/MO - MoDOT Liaison Committee Meeting September 16, 2021

Southwest District

6. Discuss concerns of slow payment on Invoices

This topic is from a prior meeting and has been addressed.

7. Construction Phase Services. How much does MoDOT see needing consultants on these services? Will that mainly be through on-call or through RFQs?

The Springfield RE office is down 4 inspectors and it will soon be 5. Brad has requested assistance for inspection for three projects; I-44, Route 60 (James River Freeway) & Route 60& Route 125. They plan to use on-calls when possible.

8. Tier 1 & Tier 2 Unfunded Needs

A link to the Unfunded Needs was provided in the chat.

The lists will be updated every year. Bridge and Multimodal Tier 3 are being worked on also. MoDOT is going through the prioritization process with planning partners now.

Priorities for Southwest District include the following:

I-44

Route 13 Corridor, including the I-44 interchange

Route MM from FR 160 – Route 60

Route MM at the RR Overpass

Route MM widening from I-44 to Route 360 (Cost Share with Republic)

Republic Road Corridor

Route 60/37

Route 60 – Springfield to Seymour

Route 171 – Joplin to Kansas

Route 7 - Clinton to Warsaw

Route 13 – Clinton to Springfield

Tier 3 are bigger, longer term issues.

Upgrade Route 249 to interstate standards

9. Upcoming Planning and Scoping Projects

Most Tier 1 & Tier 2 projects are in scoping. The STIP will start containing more specific projects instead of pots of money.

MoDOT is working to complete ADA projects by 2027.

Southwest District is planning to complete the urban area by 2024 and the rural area by 2026.

ACEC/MO - MoDOT Liaison Committee Meeting September 16, 2021

Southwest District

I-44 through Joplin has had a big increase in ADT. They are looking at 6-laning.
I-44 at I-49 interchange needs upgrades.
Longer term pavement treatments
7th St. in Joplin – pavement, operations and ADA

10. Future Design Build

Southwest District is considering another bridge design build for the northern counties.
I-44 improvements could be design-build.

11. Consultant Deliverables – Quality/Areas of Improvement

The detailed list of deliverables is helping.
They are providing the internal design check-list.
QC/QA process needs to be completed by the consultants.
There has been improvement in the timeliness of receiving fees and hours from consultants.
MOUs need to be provided in a timely manner.
During construction, make sure change order information is shared with PMs.
Early conversation is good when working with developers.
Make sure everyone is clear on due date expectations.
When working on projects, take as much off the project manager's plates as possible.

12. Other Discussion Items

None

13. Next Meeting Date and Location

After TEAM in March – Exact Date TBD