

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

Aviation System Planning Committee (AV020)

2016 Mid-Year Meeting

June 2, 2016

8:30-12:30 PM EST

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting. The following were in attendance

- a. Scott Sanders (on phone)
- b. Jeffrey Borowiec, Chair
- c. Denise Garcia (Member)
- d. Geoffrey Gosling (Emeritus Member)
- e. Linda Howard (Emeritus Member)
- f. William Laska
- g. David Byers (Member)
- h. Pam Keidel Adams
- i. Verne Skagerberg (Member)
- j. Laurie Cullen
- k. Marci Greenberger
- l. George Blomme
- m. Robert Ramis (Member)
- n. Elham Boozarjomehri

2. Approval of 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes – The motion to approve the minutes was moved by the Denise Garcia and seconded by Linda Howard. The minutes were approved with changes noted.

3. Review of 2016 Annual Meeting

4. Committee Updates

a. TRB Staff Update – Christy Gerencher

Christy Gerencher provided an update regarding the upcoming 2017 TRB Annual Meeting. She informed the meeting that the Technical Activities Division was facing a \$700,000 budget shortfall. Christy stated that as a consequence, the registration rates for the annual meeting would increase by 10% though this would not affect TRB's State Sponsors.

TRB was also implementing a new security process that would require all attendees intending to enter the convention center to have a badge on their person. Even presenters that were intending to leave right after their presentations would need to be registered and badge.

Christy stated that if the Committee was aware of any individuals that would be attending the annual meeting only to make a presentation, their names should be sent to Christy so that she could make arrangements to help them present without having to pay the registration fee. Christy stated that there would not be any badge cops at the Marriott Marquis. However, badges would be required for all attendees participating in sessions/workshops at the convention center.

Christy also stated that TRB had made changes to the timing of the sessions during the annual meeting. There would be no meetings in the 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm meetings. Dinner intersessions hours would be from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. There would be no other evening meetings. The Aviation Caucus reception would also be scheduled in the 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm slot. Christy would provide her email to go on the registration fee waiver list.

b. Committee Research Coordinator Update – Dave Byers / Verne Skagerberg

Verne reported that the process of developing was completed in time. Dave Byers reported that the problem statements were reviewed by the committee and good feedback was received that was provided to the AOC. Also, Verne reported that four problems statements were uploaded to the Research Need Statements (RNS) database for AV020 and more were pending to be entered pending their review by TRB staff. Verne and Dave will review the problem statements that were not selected for funding and add them to the RNS database so that they could be re-worked. A teleconference was planned for next month to review the problem statements. The following suggestions were received to improve the committee's process and develop more and quality problem statements:

- a) Verne and Dave will also communicate with other CRCs to front load the process for next year.
- b) Laurie proposed to get started in the summer developing problem statements and review them in the Fall. Working on these in January or later would be too late. She felt that the Committee needed to work with Christy to get an earlier date to get together and work on problem statements.
- c) Verne felt that working with the CRC group to kick ideas back and forth would be very useful.
- d) Will Laska suggested encouraging a focus on commercial space transportation to develop additional problem statements.
- e) Dave stated that the Committee reviewed 9 problem statements. He also suggested that the ACRP University Design competition be promoted as a capstone project with industry sponsors. This could inspire some students to take on challenges/projects that weren't funded before. The winners of the competition could give presentations to the Committee at the annual conference.

It was also suggested that for ACRP's Graduate Research Award Program consider problem statements entered in the RNS database as topics for students selected in the program.

The panel on problem statements were looking into ways and means of using available data of past problem statements and principle investigators to enhance the number of problem statements. The panel would also look into RNS databases on TRB web-sites to pick up ideas to develop problem statements. Working with CRCs across committees to encourage update of RNS databases and formulate the research ideas into problem statements. CRCs should also consider picking up older RNS items and keeping their committees aware of them during every problem statement development cycle.

The meeting was informed that the CRC Aviation Council comprised of all aviation group CRCs with Laurie Cullen and Verne Skagerberg as co-chairs.

Dave Byers stated that the CRC webinar shared information that all groups have put together with different topics in the sessions. The meeting recommended to:

- a) Develop a yearlong schedule of activities that would give members and friends enough time to act and react particularly for the annual meeting and problem statement review.
- b) RNS database – it was recommended to keep sending out resources on a regular basis.
- c) Quarterly conference calls – these should focus on
 - a. Discussions regarding the web-site: the Google Account was out of date and needed to be moved off the TTI website. Jeff stated that he could facilitate hosting an AV020 page and the Strategic Plan located on the TTI web-site that would be maintained by one of Jeff's colleagues.
 - b. Committee Page needs
 - i. Content on the page was to be in accordance with TRB guidelines.
 - ii. Another important driver of content for the page would be the information from the Aviation System Planning meeting.
 - iii. The page could also help with recruiting new members and friends of the committee.
 - iv. It should be kept current to keep members engaged and use the information as a foundation for committee functioning.
- c. ACRP Update – Marci Greenberger, Senior Program Officer
Marci informed the meeting that ACRP had received over 100 problem statements. ACRP's Oversight Committee (AOC) will receive the problem statement for review in the next two weeks and results of their review will be available by July 21st / July 22nd. The finalized problem statements will be posted by ACRP during the first week of August. Request for Proposals (RFPs) will be solicited for these problem statements during the months of November and December. Marci informed the meeting that ACRP would no longer be providing electronic tools in CDs. These tools will now be web-based and available from ACRP's web-site.

Marci also announced ACRP's new Champions program. ACRP was looking for young professionals who would become advocates for the program. More information on the "Champions" program was available on the ACRP web-site.

Christy Gerencher would be attending the AOC Meeting and would interact and discuss her notes on the problem statements with the AOC members.

AV020 Panel on Problem Statements – Dave Byers and Laurie Cullen would be participating in a project designed to enhance the quality and content of problem statements. ACRP was also considering potential changes to the format of problem statements to make them easier to submit and review. Mead and Hunt was working on improving the format for ACRP. In addition, ACRP was working on improving participation of airports in submission of problem statements. Presently a majority of problem statements originated from consultants. ACRP would be giving higher weightage to problem statements submitted by airports. Marci stated that the AOC appreciated the input from the standing committees of the TRB that were very helpful in the evaluation process.

d. Young Members Council – Aviation (YMC-A) Group Update – Elaine McKenzie

The meeting was informed that the YMC-A had

- i. Workshops planned for the 2017 annual meeting
- ii. Career opportunities for youth in aviation
- iii. Pilots, Airline representatives would join a board of six people who would speak at the meeting.
- iv. Building on the success of the networking session at the 2016 meeting, the council had planned another fun networking session at the 2017 annual meeting.
- v. Call for posters – it was decided to make the requirements less rigid than paper submission. The email solicitation would be sent by Christy.
- vi. The council had received 500 abstracts in response to its solicitation and needed help in reviewing abstracts. Though the call for posters would be emailed to universities, others under 35 years of age may also respond.

e. Committee Communications Coordinator

The meeting was informed that the Committee currently had a Google site that would change shortly as discussed in the meeting and described in these minutes. The following activities were planned:

- YMC-A members interested in mentoring outreach to aviation programs were being solicited
- Scholarship sponsorships for students to attend the Symposium were also being solicited.
- MPOs (Metropolitan Planning Organizations) that would help educate airports with the role of aviation committees were also being sought to enhance airport interaction.
- The Committee was also planning a 4-day system planning course in July 2016.

f. UAS Subcommittee update – Jonathan Oliver gave a power point presentation to update the meeting on the 2016 UAS workshop. Another workshop is planned for 2017. Jonathan is writing an article for the TRB magazine. There is a webinar coming up in June with participation of FAA (Chris Swider – “Integrating UAS in NAS”) and NASA (David Hackenbing – “NASA’s UAS update). A call for papers is also in the works with Audio Applications and Technology co-sponsorship.

- g. Commercial Space Subcommittee update – Wil Laska discussed workshops at the 2016 TRB Committee meeting as well as the working sessions leveraged off the the workshop. Will stated that he was working towards a ½ day to a full day workshop with one or two sessions at the 2017 annual meeting. The workshop and the sessions would address the current state of commercial space transportation and the active operations. Will said that the subcommittee was working on enhancing interest in its activities and building support. One of committees’ focus was on the need to get more states and countries involved such as Alaska. The committee had representatives from Australia and France (Paris) and was working on trying to become a full TRB standing Committee.

5. 2017 Annual Meeting Planning (Sessions and Workshops)

Jeff discussed the proposed sessions for the up-coming annual meeting. Christy informed the meeting that there were some additional slots that were yet to be decided on. Jeff requested the Group to decide on Committee priorities for the upcoming meeting.

I. International Priorities:

- a. Linda Howard – Strategic planning for the London Region was challenging and had many issues that needed consideration.
- b. Rapid aviation growth in China and its associated challenges and problems with focus on Beijing.
- c. Dave suggested that on similar lines, India was another hot topic.
- d. It was also put forward that airports were also emerging in Africa and therefore studying Aviation development in that region was of interest.
- e. Christy informed the attendees that there was no designated slot for international issues and therefore the above topics would have to compete with others. It was also felt that the above topics could be too much for a single TRB session to cover and the topics could form part of the symposium instead.

II. Modernizing vs NAS vs the European system. Though the topic was more suited to AV060 (Airport Airspace Capacity and Delay), we could be a co-sponsor.

III. Next Gen Challenges for GA airports would be an excellent way to focus on GA airports.

IV. Rising costs of Master planning and difficulties in getting such studies justified and funded for General Aviation (GA) Airports. Also, how can the dialog related to smaller airports be enhanced. Forecasts for smaller airports ended up as landside forecasts only. TAF forecasts were not accurately predicting operations. Pam Keidel-Adams suggested that the TAF forecasts may be more suited to the larger airports. The master plan for smaller airports could evolve into 5-year business plans providing a pathway for self-sustainability in the short term (5 year periods).

V. The Airport Layout Plan (ALP) used to be a planning document. It is now reduced to an airspace document only. Some people feel that the ALP has so much in it that drives cost but the end product may not be relevant for GA. The term “Reality Based Planning” was used to

suggest that the ALP effort for GAs should be trimmed. Only data that is really needed should be collected and that there should be an effort to identify this requirement for GA.

The following final topics emerged through consensus

1. Strategic Planning
 2. NextGen and Airport System Planning
 3. Current Issues in GA airport planning and Operations.
6. 2018 National Aviation System Planning Symposium (NASPS) Planning

The 2018 Symposium was proposed for Anchorage (Alaska). The Ted Stevens International Airport ranks second on the ATW world transport list to Paris. Anchorage was within 9.5 hours of most of the world. Lake Hood was the world's busiest Seaplane base and Meryl Field the busiest GA airport with a unique tower simulator and aviation museum on airport property.

The Airport Manager of the Ted Stevens International airport had offered to help out with the hosting of the symposium. The airport lobby that could seat 300 was on offer for a dinner event. The University of Alaska was willing to participate and provide tours.

Verne stated that a History of the Symposium, where the committee wants to go in the future and how we want to keep the research segment fresh were important priorities for the group.

A comprehensive, cohesive plan for the symposium should evolve by the annual meeting.

- a. Task group committees would discuss their events
- b. Can have sub-committees use open session formats with round tables vs planned sessions.
- c. Need to market the symposium using the open sub-committee meeting as a tool to attract attendees at the annual meeting and to have more people interested.
- d. It was felt that the planning committee needed to get a jump start on the symposium. Two sessions were planned.
- e. Workshops could be scheduled on either the Sunday before the Symposium or on Thursday. Each workshop would have a duration of 3 hours each. The workshops would have greater flexibility in style and would be more interactive. At the same time. Due to conflicts with other events and perhaps the football season, the number of attendees will be limited.
- f. Sessions need to be focused and stay organized. For example, AV010 has put up 2 sessions on multi-modal issues for the past two years.

7. Triennial Strategic Plan – Review & Discussion

The meeting discussed proposed new activities from the Triennial Strategic Plan:

- The committee would sponsor at least one webinar every year
- Start a blog on aviation system planning issues
- Prepare a white paper on critical issues.

- Introduce a committee mentorship program
- Identify stakeholders and information needs for aviation system planning.

8. New Business

No new business was brought to the attention of the chair.

9. Adjourn

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:30 pm.