

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

Subcommittee on Native American Transportation Issues (A1F05(1)) – Ron Hall, Chairman

Hilton, Chevey Chase
Tuesday January 11, 2000 – 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

1. **Opening Remarks & Welcome:** At 7:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Richard Rolland, Acting Chair. Richard explained that Ron Hall, Chair of A1F051 was not able to attend. Jon Williams, TRB noted that he had received a call from Kate Quinn A1F05 Chair and that she would not be able to attend.
2. **Introductions:** Brief introductions were made by those in attendance and a sign-in sheet was passed.
3. **Review and approve agenda:** The sub-committee reviewed the agenda. Mr. Rolland noted (in reference to item 10) that in a meeting the preceding day the Committee on Historic and Archeological Preservation had been asked by their Chair, Kate Quinn, to support moving the Native American Transportation Issues Subcommittee to full committee status. A vote was taken to show support for this initiative and it passed unanimously.

There were no additions to the Agenda

4. **Background on the Sub-Committee and relation to the Committee on Historic and Archeological Preservation in Transportation (A1F05):** Mr. Ed Hall, passed Committee Chair presented a brief history of the sub-committee which was formed after the passage of ISTEA under the guidance of Ken Cook. It was noted by members present that the sub-committee has had a number of homes and now is a sub-committee of the Committee on Historic and Archeological Preservation. The issues embraced by the Subcommittee On Native American Transportation Issues are so broad that it does not fit well under any other committee. Full committee status would be more appropriate. Mr. Hall noted that the sub-committee was seen as an incubator which could help pull tribes together on issues and could take credit for many accomplishments including the formation of the Intertribal Transportation Association, involvement with the A1F05 full committee conferences, research of various issues and development of papers and presentations.

Jon Williams, TRB noted a number of points which the subcommittee could address as it considered moving to full committee status. These included:

- a. Articulate what needs to be done looking at past activities, scope and direction.
- b. Identify Research Issues
- c. Look at TRB organizational/administrative guides
- d. Liaison with other committees
- e. Concept: Main meeting not in D.C. to better draw in participants (tribal). Just have executive committee meeting at TRB annual

5. **Tribal Transportation Road Show & Equipment Rodeo.** Mr. Rolland reported on the Tribal Transportation Road Show which was held in Albuquerque, NM this last November. It was explained that the road show was modeled after workshops delivered in the past by the Colorado Tribal Technical Assistance Center. This last session was supported by all five active Tribal LTAP programs and offered participants nine classes in tracts for Tribal Leaders, Planners and Engineers. Participants could also participate in the Equipment Rodeo and compete for trophies and cash. The Tribal LTAP programs (or TTAPs) are planning another Tribal Transportation Road Show with tentative dates: October 17, 18 & 19, 2000, Albuquerque, NM. Contact: Ron Hall 970-491-8653, Fax 970-491-3502 E-mail: rhall@enr.colostate.edu
6. **Conference on Cross-Cultural Interaction and Research for Developing Transportation Improvements.** Ms. Elaine Brouillard, ATR Institute-Univ. of NM., provided information on the Conference on Cross-Cultural Interaction and Research for Developing Transportation Improvements. This conference is sponsored by TRB-A1F05, & A1F05(1), Tribal Technical Assistance Centers, New Mexico State Highway & Transportation Department, ATR Institute, and U.S. Department of Transportation – FHWA. The program will piggyback on the Tribal Transportation Road Show with cross participation expected. Dates for the Conference are October 19 – 21, 2000 Place: La Posada de Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM. A preliminary Notice and Call for Papers will go out soon. Ideas and Volunteers are greatly appreciated. Contact: Mary Jane Dorotik-Gallegos (505) 246-6217, Fax (505) 246-6001 Email: ebrouill@unm.edu
7. **Year 2000 Tribal Tourism Conference** Mr. Ed Hall reported on the success of the 1999 Native American Tourism Conference and provided a handout on the 2000 American Indian Tourism Conference hosted by Native American Tourism of Wisconsin. Dates: September 28 –30,2000, Location Oneida Nation & Green Bay, Wisconsin. To receive additional information and be placed on a mailing list write to 2000 American Indian Tourism Conference, Great Lakes Indian-Tribal Council, P.O. Box 9, Lac Du Flambeau, WI 54538.
8. **FHWA LTAP/TTAP Program** Bill Evans, LTAP Program Manager reported that he was no longer acting in the capacity of Program Manager and that his appointment had been finalized. Mr. Evans also introduced Mr. Joe Conway, Affiliates Program Team Leader, who takes over as Mr. Evans' supervisor. Mr. Evans and Mr. Conway were congratulated on their new appointments.
9. **Indian Reservation Roads Program** – Brief reports were provided on the following topics concerning the Indian Reservation Roads Program.
 - a. Transportation Planning Procedures and Guidelines (& WA Guide), it was noted that the final Transportation Planning & Procedures and Guidelines has been published by FHWA and that FHWA and the Tribal LTAP programs had been conducting workshops around the country to introduce the guidelines. Mr. Rolland provided a copy of the guidelines for review along with a document produced by Washington State Tribes and the Washington DOT titled Transportation Guide for Indian Tribal Governments. The FHWA guidelines can be found on the Web at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/flh/reports/indian/intro.htm#toc>
 - b. FHWA Directive on Relations with Tribal Governments. Nov. 16, 1999 Transportation Secretary Slater signed an Order “To ensure that programs, policies, and procedures administered by the Department of Transportation are

responsive to the needs and concerns of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and tribes. Available on the WEB at <http://www.dot.gov/onedot/dot5301.pdf>

- c. National Indian Bridge Program – July 19, 1999, FHWA published 23 CFR Part 661 Interim final rule for the National Indian Bridge Program created under TEA-21. Differences between this new Indian Reservation Bridge program and the old HBRRP 1% set-a-side program under ISTEA were described, notably the restriction that the money can only be used for construction, with any planning or design costs having to come from the Indian Reservation Roads program or some other funding source.
- d. IRR Negotiated Rulemaking. The Negotiated Rulemaking for the Indian Reservation Roads program as prescribed by TEA-21 was discussed. It was noted that this process was to develop a new funding formula for distribution of the Indian Reservation Roads dollars. Information on the process and meetings can be found on the Web at <http://161.217.6.199/negreg/negregmain.htm>
- e. TEA-21 Technical Amendments – It was reported that TEA-21 may be opened by congress for technical amendments. The tribes, by resolution through the Inter Tribal Transportation Association, are interested in removal of the IRR program from the Obligation Limitations noted in section 1102. Dollars taken from the IRR program and other programs under this provision are then redistributed to States using the same formula as that used for the Surface Transportation Program. Although States currently do not have increased obligation authority to spend up to this new level of funding, it does give the states considerable increased flexibility and some believe that they will eventually get this increased obligation authority as well.

New Business

10. **Discussion on advancing the Native American Transportation Issues Subcommittee to Full Committee Status at TRB** Previous discussion noted the interest in moving the subcommittee to a full committee under TRB. The purpose of this agenda item was to ascertain that the subcommittee was interested in moving in this direction and if so to establish a workgroup to define Mission, Goals & Objectives, Expected Outcomes to be presented to TRB by this summer. The consensus of the group present was that we should move forward. The following volunteered to be on the workgroup:

Workgroup:

- a. JimKozak, NM, DOT
- b. Elaine Brouillard, ATR – Univ. NM
- c. Lisa Pogue, APWA
- d. Lewis M. YellowRobe, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
- e. Ed Hall, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- f. Richard A. Rolland, NW Tribal LTAP

Volunteered by others but not present:

- a. Ron Hall, subcommittee Chair & ColoradoTTAP
- b. Kate, Quinn, A1F05 Chair & FHWA

- c. ALL TTAPs
- d. Dr. Dick Winchell, Eastern Washington University

Jon Williams, TRB and Monte Wade, Texas Transportation Institute, also pledged their support.

11. **Other:** It was also reported that the Federal Lands Highway programs were involved in a rule making process that will affect the Indian Reservation Roads program. For information on this rulemaking contact Butch Wlaschin, FHWA, 202-366-9475.

Also, the new regulations for statewide planning which should include guidance on state consultation with tribal governments in the transportation planning process are due to be published by March 2000. Interested parties should contact Dee Spann, FHWA, 202-366-0233.

12. **Adjourn:** There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Attachment 1: Sign in Sheet (excluded from the Web version). For further information please contact Richard A. Rolland via email at rrolland@mail.ewu.edu