1. Call to Order .......................................... Co-Chairs Paul Mattox, WV and David Oates, ACEC
   a. Self Introductions (Roster Enclosed) ........................................ Joint Committee and Guests
   b. Joint Committee Membership Updates ........................................ Co-Secretaries
       ........................................................................................Jim McDonnell and Matthew Hardy, AASHTO
       ........................................................................................Matthew Reiffer and Vivian Moeglein, ACEC
   c. Approval of the Minutes from May 19, 2010.................... Co-Chairs Mattox and Oates
2. Reauthorization and Legislative Update: .................... Jack Basso and Janet Oakley, AASHTO
3. AASHTO Update:
   a. Financial ..................................................................................... Jack Basso, AASHTO
   b. Policy ....................................................................................... Janet Oakley, AASHTO
   c. Engineering ........................................................................... Jim McDonnell, AASHTO
4. ACEC Update:
   a. Acquisition of Consultants and Overhead Rates ................ Vivian Moeglein, ACEC
5. FHWA Update on Initiatives and Programs ......................... King Gee, FHWA
6. Old Business ............................................................................... Co-Chairs Mattox and Oates
   a. Cost Recovery Update ............................................................. Vivian Moeglein, ACEC
   b. Audit Guide Implementation ..................................................... Vivian Moeglein, ACEC
7. New Business
   a. International Scan Implementation Coordinator ................... Gordon Proctor
   b. AASHTO Highway Safety Manual ............................................. Kelly Hardy, AASHTO
   c. Every Day Counts Initiative:
      i. Overview ........................................................................... King Gee, FHWA
      ii. AASHTO Coordination .......................................................... Jim McDonnell, Shannon Eggleston, and Matthew Hardy, AASHTO
      iii. ACEC Coordination ............................................................ Vivian Moeglein, ACEC
   d. AASHTO Transportation Asset Management Guide: A Focus on Implementation ....... Matthew Hardy, AASHTO
1. Co-Chairs Paul Mattox, West Virginia, and David Oates, ACEC, called the meeting to order at 6:15PM.

2. Members of the committee introduced themselves. [See attached attendance.]
   - New members of the committee are Jim Porter, Dan Purvine and Peter Mesha of ACEC, and Tom Cole, Idaho DOT

3. The committee approved the minutes from the October 22, 2009 meeting.

4. Jack Basso, AASHTO, provided a legislative update on the surface transportation reauthorization bill.
   - The Highway Trust Fund is projected to be solvent through at least Fiscal Year 2011, but receipts are not sufficient to keep pace with expenditures, and funding levels will drop by 50% once the balance is depleted.
   - Current revenues can only support approximately $221 billion over the next 6 years. In order to support House Transportation Committee chairman Oberstar’s $450 billion highway and transit bill, an additional $135 billion is needed in new revenue, or roughly equivalent to a 10-12 cents per gallon increase in the federal gas tax.
   - The best case scenario is to try to move the bills as far as possible before the election and set up potential action during a lame duck session of Congress.
   - Policy debates over the content of the bill are difficult without a clear funding picture.

5. Janet Oakley, AASHTO, and Matt Reiffer, ACEC, led a discussion on the transportation provisions of draft climate change legislation unveiled by Senators Kerry and Lieberman.
   - Under the bill, oil companies and refineries must buy GHG emission allowances at a fixed price set by the cap-and-trade auction system established for other covered entities (utilities, industrial sources, etc.) In 2013, the price floor is $12/ton and the ceiling is $25/ton, projected to raise at least $19.5 billion in revenue from transportation fuels.
   - The bill provides three pots of funding for transportation programs:
     - $2.5 billion maximum annually to the Highway Trust Fund
     - $1.875 billion maximum annually for TIGER discretionary grants
     - $1.875 billion maximum annually for competitive grants to states and MPOs for transportation emission reduction planning and programs
   - Essentially, 77% of revenues from transportation fuels are diverted for other purposes in the bill, e.g. deficit reduction, consumer price protection, renewable energy research, etc.
   - New fees on transportation fuels could undermine any additional legislative efforts to raise transportation revenues for reauthorization. AASHTO and ACEC joined with other stakeholder groups in opposing the current language and insisting that all transportation-based fees be reinvested in transportation infrastructure via the Highway Trust Fund.

6. King Gee presented a report from FHWA.
   - In response to input from FHWA and from interested private sector groups, the EPA has revised its proposed rule change on coal combustion, which would have characterized fly ash as a hazardous material. EPA is currently accepting public comments on two alternatives, classifying fly ash as a “special waste” or modifying current regulations governing disposal, including road demolition.
   - FHWA has obligated all $26.5 billion in ARRA funding, and the focus has turned to outlays. A second stimulus is unlikely at this point.
   - U.S. DOT is currently collecting project applications and comments on selection criteria for the next round of TIGER multimodal discretionary grants, totaling $600 million.
   - FHWA is developing a sustainability tool to help evaluate highway projects, with a prototype expected in the Fall.
   - U.S. DOT has posted a new strategic plan for 2010-2015, and comments are being accepted until June 15. The plan is an early indication of its transportation reauthorization proposals. Secretary LaHood is currently conducting a series of listening sessions on reauthorization across the country.
   - FHWA will unveil its new “Everyday Counts” initiative later this week at the AASHTO Spring Meeting. The goal is to accelerate project delivery and reduce work zone impacts on the traveling public.
   - The revised Audit Guide was approved by AASHTO in October 2009. It is the product of extensive collaboration with ACEC, aimed at improving the quality of audits and promoting a uniform interpretation of existing rules and regulations. The focus now is partnering between ACEC, AASHTO and FHWA on implementation, including numerous education and training sessions for DOT auditors, firms, and CPAs. FHWA has contracted with the National Highway Institute to develop training modules.
   - The cost recovery process stemming from the OIG report is still proceeding. DCAA is working through the firms’ audit findings, although final resolution will be very complicated as individual states apply those findings and calculate changes to specific projects.

8. The committee discussed the development of sustainability rating systems, including an initiative from ACEC-ASCE-APWA toward a performance-based process for reviewing infrastructure projects.
   - Hal Kassoff, ACEC, noted the Green Streets and Highways Conference on November 14-17 in Denver.

9. Ken Kobetsky, AASHTO, announced the completion and availability of a new Highway Safety Manual. A series of training opportunities will be available through the FHWA Resource Center.

10. Ken Kobetsky provided committee members with the list of NCHRP projects reviewed by the Standing Committee on Research. New projects totaled $17.35 million. The TRB is selecting project panel members.

11. The committee members congratulated Ken Kobetsky on his impending retirement and thanked him for his many years of dedicated service to the transportation sector.

12. Co-chairs Mattox and Oates announced the next committee meeting will be held in Biloxi, Mississippi, in October 2010.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.
American Association of State Highway and Transportation
Joint AASHTO–ACEC Task Force
October 28, 2010

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