



Annual Partnership Topic (APT)

Committee on Mobile Observations Tuesday, 6 October 2009

Telecon Meeting Minutes

Able to Participate	Committee Member	Affiliation
Y	Bill Mahoney (Co-Chair)	National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)
	Jim O'Sullivan (Co-Chair)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Y	Andrew Stern	National Weather Service (NWS)
Y	Dave Helms	NWS Office of Science & Technology (OST)
Y	Jud Stailey	Office of Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM)
Y	Jon Tarleton	Quixote Transportation Technologies
	Jim Block	Telvent/DTN/ Meteorlogix
Y	Ben McKeever	Research & Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), USDOT
	Paul Pisano	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Road Weather Management Program, USDOT
Y	Gina Eosco	American Meteorological Society (AMS)
	Leon Osborne	Meridian Environmental Technologies & University of North Dakota, Surface Transportation Weather Research Center
Y	Greg Krueger	Michigan DOT
	Michael Hooper	Sirius XM Radio
Y	Jim Sayer	University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI)
	Robert Koeberlein	Idaho DOT
	Bob Baron	WxWorks, Inc., Baron Group
Y	Richard Clark	Millersville University
Y	Kevin Petty	Vaisala
Y	Sheldon Drobot	NCAR
Y	Art Handman	Chair, Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSA) Weather Committee (ex-officio)
Y	Ed Boselly	Chair, AMS ITS/Surface Surface Transportation Weather Committee (ex-officio)
	- TBD -	Auto Industry Representative
	Non Members	
Y	Gary Rasmussen	AMS

The telecon began at 11:00 AM EDT and ended at 12:00 PM EDT.

Agenda Approval

The agenda was approved.

Old Business

- 1) The *Minutes* from the 24 August 2009 'kick-off' telecon were approved and will be posted to the AMS Enterprise Commission document library.
- 2) The APT *Committee's Charge Summary* was revised based on member feedback. The revised version reflects the notion that mobile observations will benefit the surface transportation community as a whole and not just roadway stakeholders. The document will be posted to the AMS Enterprise Commission document library.

New Business

- 1) APT Work Plan – The Committee Work Plan was reviewed and modifications were made based on member feedback. The revisions are summarized below:

- Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society (BAMS) In-Box Article – The limit is 2500 words. The article will be used to introduce several activities that are associated with mobile observations including the USDOT IntelliDrive Initiative, APT Committee, National Academy Network of Networks (NoN) report and related follow-on activities, and mobile data research activities. We will target the end of October for an initial draft.
- Participate in Town Hall Meeting at AMS Annual Meeting – The goal is to ensure that the mobile observations topic is included in NoN discussions. Bill Mahoney will connect with the planning group for this Town Hall to get an idea of the envisioned scope. Members also recommended that the APT activities be briefed at the next Transportation Research Board (TRB) meeting and at the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSA) Annual meeting. Jim O-Sullivan will chat with Wilf Nixon, Chair of the TRB Surface Transportation Weather Committee, to see if this topic can be added to their agenda. Art Handman, Chair of the ITSA Weather Committee, will work to include this topic on the ITSA Weather Committee agenda and/or be briefed at ITSA.
- Conduct Community Web Survey on Mobile Data/Applications – The objective of this activity is to obtain some initial feedback from drivers (including commercial vehicle operators) on their opinions about the concept of using their vehicles as mobile sensors and obtain information on their desires for route-specific in-vehicle weather and road condition hazard information. A simple web based survey framework would be utilized. Several committee members volunteered to work on this task (e.g., Drobot, Boselly, Sayers, Clark, Handman). Bill Mahoney will explore the funding implications of this effort.
- Prepare Full BAMS Article on APT Activities/Results – The members indicated that this activity needs to occur last on the list of activities as the Board on Enterprise Planning (BEP) needs to review and approve the final committee report. There were also recommendations that articles be considered for transportation journals such as the Journal of the TRB, Traffic Technology International, ITS International, and Thinking Highways. It is likely that a publication reporting on the results of the committee would not be published until the middle of 2011.
- Prepare APT Summary Report – This report will need to cover all the major discussion elements listed in the Committee's charge document. The members indicated that lists of proposed committee activities are located in several places and a definitive list is needed. Bill Mahoney will address this by preparing an actionable list and distributing it to the members. When completed, the APT report will be vetted by the BEP. It was noted by the committee that the primary target needs to be identified as it is unclear whether the audience is the meteorological community or the transportation community. There was some concurrence that we need to consider both as our audience. Our findings should be constructed at an information level that would be usable for a wide audience. Our mobile observation topic is broad and we cannot be expected to provide exhaustive findings.

2) Establishment of 'Task Forces' – The chair proposed that the committee may want to consider establishing small task forces or sub committees to focus on specific topics that we are charged to address. This may help us move along several threads in parallel. A champion would need to be identified for each task force and they would need to ensure that progress is being made. If task forces are accepted, the chair asked that each member of the committee assign themselves to one or more topics. Bill Mahoney will create a table that lists the topics to be addressed and members can use that to evaluate their interests.

3) Next Telecon – The next telecom is scheduled for Tuesday, 15 December at 11:00 AM MST. [\[This telecom was subsequently cancelled.\]](#)