



Annual Partnership Topic (APT)

Committee on Mobile Observations Tuesday, 19 January 2010 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 | | |
| 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) |
| | Jon Tarleton | Quixote Transportation Technologies |
| | Jim Block | Telvent/DTN/ Meteorlogix |
| | Ben McKeever | Research & Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), USDOT |
| Y | Paul Pisano | Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Road Weather Management Program, USDOT |
| Y | Gina Eosco | American Meteorological Society (AMS) |
| Y | Leon Osborne | Meridian Environmental Technologies & University of North Dakota, Surface Transportation Weather Research Center |
| | Greg Krueger | Michigan DOT |
| | Michael Hooper | Sirius XM Radio |
| | Jim Sayer | University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) |
| | Robert Koeberlein | Idaho DOT |
| Y | Bob Baron | WxWorks, Inc., Baron Group |
| Y | Richard Clark | Millersville University |
| Y | Kevin Petty | Vaisala |
| Y | Sheldon Drobot | NCAR |
| | Art Handman | Chair, Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSA) Weather Committee (ex-officio) |
| | Ed Boselly | Chair, AMS ITS/Surface Transportation Weather Committee (ex-officio) |
| | - TBD - | Auto Industry Representative |
| | Non Members | |
| Y | Gary Rasmussen | AMS |
| Y | Fred Klein | Noblis |
| Y | Curtis Marshall | NWS/OST |
| Y | Mike Barth | NOAA/ESRL |
| Y | Patty Miller | NOAA/ESRL |
| Y | Brian Bell | Global Science & Technology (GST) |

The meeting began at 5:30 PM EST and ended at 7:00 PM EST.

Agenda Approval

The agenda was approved.

Old Business

1) The *Minutes* from the 6 October 2009 telecon were approved and will be posted to the AMS Enterprise Commission document library. The committee charge summary will also be posted at: <http://www.ametsoc.org/boardpages/cwce/docs/BEP/index.html>

New Business

1) Report from the USDOT on **IntelliDriveSM Initiative** – Paul Pisano (FHWA): Paul Pisano provided updates on the IntelliDriveSM Initiative. He also pointed the committee to the newly released USDOT report titled *Strategic Research Direction, Research Priority Areas and*

Performance Metrics to Guide Departmental Strategic Plan for Research, Development, and Technology Activities (2010—2015). A link to this activity can be found at:

http://www.rita.dot.gov/publications/federal_register/2010/html/rita_2010_01_08.html

Paul discussed upcoming surface transportation meetings including the SIRWEC (5-7 February 2010) and PIARC meetings (8-10 February 2010) in Quebec City, and the ITSA meeting in Houston (3-6 May 2010). Paul provided an overview on the *Clarus* Initiative and the status of the *Clarus* projects and of the number states participating in *Clarus*.

2) Report on **IntelliDriveSM Sensor Research** using the Detroit testbed – Sheldon Drobot (NCAR): Sheldon provided an update on the preliminary results of environmental sensing experiments from the Detroit IntelliDriveSM testbed. The temperature data were more accurate than pressure data. The pressure data last winter only had a precision to 10 hPa, which is more than an order of magnitude too low for use in meteorology. Investigation of this issue is ongoing and recommendations to the SAE to increase the precision to at least 1 hPa (0.1 hPa is desired) are planned. Sheldon provided an overview of the prototype Vehicle Data Translator (VDT) activities and indicated that additional data collection is planned near Detroit this winter.

3) Report on the **Mobile Platform Environmental Project** – Brian Bell (GST): Brian introduced the committee to the new NOAA funded MoPED project. The GST team will develop and demonstrate a mobile observation network capability for the National Weather Service (NWS). The project is in the early stages. Data are beginning to flow. NOAA indicated that they want to explore how these data can be used to support the 2-5 km resolution analyses and forecasts. GST is also exploring the commercial aspects of these data.

4) Discussion on committee charge topics and proposal for **Subcommittees**: The committee reviewed the charge topics and the list of volunteers who expressed interest in various topics. Some committee members have yet to identify the topics they would like to concentrate on, so an additional message will be sent to the members to help fill-in the table. After we have a more complete table, we will identify leads for each topic. The goal is to move ahead with the subcommittees by the end of February. We would like to have draft reports from each subcommittee by 1 August 2010 so that we can begin to converge on draft report materials by the time of the AMS Summer Meeting in State College, PA (2nd week of August). In the fall of 2010, we will provide an overall draft report to Tim Spangler (Chair of the Board on Enterprise Planning) and will then plan a Town Hall discussion next January at the AMS Annual Meeting in Seattle.

5) Discussion of strategies for collecting driver preference information (**Web Survey**) for in-vehicle weather and road hazard information: 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 information. A simple web based survey framework would be utilized. The committee provided feedback on the process and wanted to make sure it would be designed to seek feedback from people in all weather climates (especially snow and ice states). The next steps are to draft some questions and route them to the committee. The committee may also be used to test the survey instrument. The goal is to have a draft survey in place by late spring. We also need to identify some funds to support this effort (perhaps \$5K).

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6) Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society (**BAMS**) article: An “In Box” article on mobile observation related activities has been prepared and routed to the committee. Feedback is still welcomed. The plan is to submit the article to BAMS in February.

7) Next telecom meeting: The next committee telecom will be held on **Wednesday, 24 February 2010 at 11:00 AM EST.**