

18 April 2013



**AMS ITS/Surface Transportation Weather Committee  
Teleconference Meeting Minutes  
Monday, 15 April 2013  
3:30 – 4:20 PM EST**

**Meeting participants and role:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Status</b>
Jim Koermer	Plymouth State Univ.	Member, Chair	Present
Elliot Abrams	AccuWeather	Member	Absent
Mark Askelson	Univ. of North Dakota	Member	Present
Brenda Boyce	Booz-Allen-Hamilton	Member	Present
Paul Bridge	Vaisala, Inc.	Member	Absent
Mike Chapman	NCAR	Member	Absent
Steve Conger	AvaTerra Services, Iteris	Member	Absent
Jeremy Duensing	Schneider Electric	Member	Present
Tina Greenfield	Iowa DOT	Member	Absent
Fred Klein	Noblis, Inc.	Member	Absent
Curtis Marshall	National Weather Service	Member	Absent
Kathy Osborne	Meridian Environ. Tech.	Member	Present
Leigh Sturges	Narwhal Met, LLC	Member	Present
Curtis Walker	U. of Nebraska Lincoln	Student Member	Present
Art Handman	ITS America	Ex Officio	Present
Wilf Nixon	TRB	Ex Officio	Absent
Paul Pisano	FHWA	Ex Officio	Present
Judson Stailey	OFCM	Ex Officio	Absent
Sabrina Tajeron	OFCM designee (STC)	Ex Officio	Absent

**Old Business**

The draft minutes of the 8 January 2013 AMS ITS/ST Meeting in Austin, TX, were approved as written.

The draft meeting agenda was modified to let Mark Askelson go first because of another commitment.

**Routine Updates**

USDOT Update from Paul Pisano: Paul highlighted the following:

- Actions are moving forward on the *Clarus* transition to MADIS. *Clarus* will be turned off in June, but all data for all states will take longer to transition over to MADIS.
- Integrated Mobile Observations are progressing in several states and NCAR is assisting with their work on the Vehicle Data Translator.
- NHTSA decisions on rulemaking are being worked to possibly include weather elements.

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- There is a new course from the University of Maryland, entitled “Weather Responsive Traffic Management”. It will start the first week of May. State DOTs can sign up for free and others will have to pay \$250 per person.
- The DOT funding situations remains similar to that last reported.
- The next Stakeholder Meeting will be on 16-18 July and held in Little Rock, AR, This will include a morning training session starting on the first day. More detailed information will be sent to constituents.

Mobile Observations Subcommittee Update by Brenda Boyce: The Subcommittee has met and trying to develop a strategy. They are actively pursuing a presentation(s) at the AMS Summer Community Meeting. Brenda is on the Planning Committee for that event.

TRB Update: No report.

ITS America Update by Art Handman: ITS America is having its Annual Meeting from 22-24 April 2013 in Nashville, TN. There is a “Weather Management” session with four papers planned. Detail can be found on the ITS America website at <http://www.itsa.org/annualmeeting> .

### **Old Business**

Action Item Review - Committee Website from Mark Askelson. Mark still has not heard back from the AMS, which is in the process of updating all AMS websites. He did recently send another e-mail requesting the status. Jim Koermer relayed that this process seems to be taking longer than anticipated and that the modifications are being done on a Commission by Commission basis and that CWCE boards and committees probably have not yet been addressed. Mark and Jim will continue to follow up. This item was covered after agenda approval to accommodate Mark’s schedule.

BAMS Journal Article by Curtis Walker: Curtis had previously e-mailed a draft outline for the article to the Committee prior to the meeting. Leigh Sturges suggested that the article should include the human interface aspects in providing support. Mark Askelson suggested that “Mitigation Strategies” be in its own section. Jim Koermer and Paul Pisano suggested having a section on potential benefits to the weather enterprise beyond just road weather. Curtis was looking at using the summer to develop a draft and was seeking volunteers to help with various sections. Leigh, Mark, and Jim indicated that they could help with various sections.

AMS Washington Forum: This forum was held 2-4 April 2013 and Jim Koermer chaired a panel session, entitled “New Developments and Opportunities in Surface Transportation”. Ed Leonard from USDOT, Bill Mahoney from NCAR, and Kevin Petty from Vaisala were the panel. We were also to have Andy Stern from the NWS on the panel, but he was a sequester victim. The session went well with good introductory remarks by the panelists and the session perhaps generated more publicity than any other session. The USA Today picked up on the session and had articles in both their print and online editions. This article piqued ABC News interest and they interviewed Bill and Kevin, but only Bill was shown on the spot on ABS Nightly News with Diane Sawyer. Bill was told by ABC News that the show was seen by 6.9 million viewers. The following links were provided:

- a. See Forum Info and Agenda:  
<http://www.ametsoc.org/meet/fainst/2013washingtonforum.html>

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- b. See USA Today Article:  
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/weather/2013/04/03/vehicle-accidents-weather/2050281/>
- c. See ABC News with Diane Sawyer: <http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/video/car-danger-surviving-life-threatening-severe-weather-vehicle-18884329>

### **New Business**

- 1) Revisions to the AMS ITS/STC Terms of Reference (TOR) Document: A request for suggestions for revisions to the current 2006 TOR was sent out before the meeting. Most of the suggestions were incorporated and sent to ITS/STC members, just before the teleconference. A few late inputs were also discussed/approved during the teleconference and a cleaned up version was e-mailed to the Committee after the meeting for final review.
- 2) Next Meeting: In early July, Jim will send out a Doodle poll to set up a July Teleconference—probably in the latter half of the month.

### **Open Discussion**

There were no additional items brought up for discussion.