



**AMS ITS/Surface Transportation Committee  
Teleconference Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, 21 August 2013  
3:00 – 3:40 PM EDT**

**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	Absent
Paul Bridge	Vaisala, Inc.	Member	Present
Mike Chapman	NCAR	Member	Present
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
Daniel Melendez	OFCM designee (STC)	Ex Officio	Absent

**Approval of Past Minutes and Agenda**

The draft minutes of the 15 April 2013 AMS ITS/STC Teleconference Meeting were approved as written.

The previously distributed agenda for this meeting was also approved.

**Routine Updates**

USDOT Update from Paul Pisano: Paul highlighted the following:

- As scheduled, *Clarus* was turned off in June.
- A successful Stakeholder Meeting was held in Little Rock in July. The two main focal areas were 1) Connected Vehicles and 2) Building relationships between state DOTs and the weather and climate enterprise
- Integrated mobile observations projects have gone forward including enhanced MDSS and driver warning systems.
- The development of QC tools for mobile observations is also receiving support.

- The AMS Summer Community Meeting had two sessions focusing on transportation including automated vehicles and updates on current activities.
- Paul discussed some upcoming USDOT training opportunities and later provided the following details on them:

**New Online Training:**

***FREE* for U.S. local, state, regional, metropolitan, and Federal government agencies:**

Consortium for ITS Training and Education (CITE) is now accepting registrations for the following online, BLENDED (instructor-led) courses:

**Principles and Tools of Road Weather Management September 6 – October 26**

Through this course, participants are exposed to various strategies for addressing road weather problems, including Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS) and the development of crosscutting decision support systems to respond effectively to weather situations. This course is part of the Specialized Learning Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) curriculum established by the ITS Professional Capacity Building (PCB) program.

**Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS) Equipment and Operations October 25 – December 7**

Adverse weather is our common enemy in road maintenance, traffic, and emergency operations. Transportation agencies are well aware of the operational and logistical challenges of such weather. Many agencies are fighting this age-old battle by implementing Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS). The goal of this course is to, not only discuss RWIS initiatives and considerations, but through workshops, exercises, and self-assessments, explore individual state and local deployment challenges which will leave participants with an action plan tailored for their specific needs. **Instructor:** Leon Osborne is the instructor for both road weather courses. He is a professor of atmospheric science and director of the Regional Weather Information Center at the University of North Dakota.

**Managing High Technology Projects in Transportation (ITS Project Management) September 13 – October 19**

This course describes the necessary steps for successful project completion, including planning, analysis, design, implementation and testing. It also discusses procurement techniques, staffing requirements, cost estimation and methods for project control. The course emphasizes the differences between project management for high technology projects and the procedures typically used for construction. **Instructor:** Paul R Olson, P.E., PTOE. has been designing, building, managing or assisting in the management of high technology projects for over 33 years. He has experience with Washington State DOT, Consulting Engineering and with Federal Highway Administration Resource Center.

**Introduction to Systems Engineering October 18 – December 14**

This course presents system engineering tools and techniques, and covers all phases in the project life cycle from vision through development, design, operations, and maintenance

**Instructor:** Richard W. Denney, Jr., P.E. is a National Highway Institute Master Trainer and Certified Instructor. He provides technical expertise nationwide in traffic operations, systems engineering, architecture, and ITS technology areas.

All course materials are on-line but students have access to course instructors through pre-scheduled conference calls. **Cost is \$250 each; FREE for U.S. local, state, regional, metropolitan, and Federal government agencies!** - use sponsor code **PCB** when you register. If you are interested in taking any course, please register @ <http://www.citeconsortium.org/registration.html>. For more information, contact Denise Twisdale (301-405-6323) or Kathy Frankle (410-414-2925).

Mobile Observations Subcommittee Update: Brenda Boyce was not available to participate and provide an update.

TRB Update: Paul Pisano reported that Wilf Nixon's term as Chair of the Weather Committee is ending this year and that there was a mid-year TRB meeting scheduled, but the Weather Committee was not formally involved, but there was a weather session.

ITS America Update by Art Handman: Nothing new to report.

### Old Business

Action Item Review - Committee Website from Mark Askelson. The AMS is still lagging considerably behind on updating Board and Committee websites. Mark is still waiting until they get to our Committee's site, so that we can incorporate changes.

BAMS Journal Article by Curtis Walker: Curtis Walker recently sent out information on the paper and discussed the progress. Several committee members (Sturges, Askelson, and Koermer) indicated where they were on drafting various sections of the paper. The goal is to have a fairly complete draft available before the Annual Meeting, so that it can be discussed by the entire Committee in February.

### New Business

- 1) Upcoming AMS Conferences: Jim Koermer and Paul Pisano reported on the two transportation sessions scheduled in conjunction with the next AMS Annual Meeting to be held next February in Atlanta. One session is a joint one with the Environmental Information Processing Technologies (EIPT) and Policy Conferences and is entitled "Observing the Weather and Environment along the Nation's Transportation Corridors", which will take place on Tuesday, 4 February 2014, from 1:30PM-3:00PM. The other is an EIPT session entitled "Road Weather", which is also currently scheduled for 4 February from 11:00 AM to Noon. Sufficient abstracts have been submitted to fill both sessions.
- 2) AMS Summer Community Meeting: There was no additional information, other than what Paul reported above, since none of the other Committee members present were able to participate in this teleconference.
- 3) BAMS Article(s): The Committee was reminded that the BAMS article on Mobile Observations came out in the June 2013 issue and that we are working on a much broader article on road weather – past, present, and future. There were no other follow-on actions brought up or discussed.
- 4) USDOT ITS Strategic Plan: The next 5-year (2015-2019) plan will be written this fall and the ITS Joint Program Office (JPO) is seeking input from the community on what are the priorities. Paul Pisano reported that there will probably be less emphasis on connected vehicles and more on automated vehicles, but there is a need to determine what else? Ken

Leonard the head of the ITS JPO has a weather background and probably would pay attention to ideas from the weather community. There are some outreach DOT webinars and meetings on weather that may be helpful. Here is information sent by Art Handman on the webinars:

“To learn more about the ITS JPO visit [www.its.dot.gov](http://www.its.dot.gov), and to read current status and provide feedback through our focused website, please visit:  
[http://www.its.dot.gov/press/2013/stakeholder\\_strategicplan.htm](http://www.its.dot.gov/press/2013/stakeholder_strategicplan.htm)

Registration is open to anyone, though all webinars will have a core focus audience, in order to concentrate on issues and questions specific to various stakeholder groups. In addition, stay tuned for announcements about ITS JPO strategic planning sessions at several conferences over the summer and fall.

Register for these webinars at: <http://www.itsa.org/strategicplanwebinar> and learn more by visiting:  
[http://www.its.dot.gov/meetings/strategic\\_plan\\_webinar.htm#sthash.XH99m7zM.dpuf](http://www.its.dot.gov/meetings/strategic_plan_webinar.htm#sthash.XH99m7zM.dpuf).

- 5) Next Meeting: This is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4, from 7:00AM-8:30AM in Atlanta, probably at the AMS Headquarters Hotel. A continental breakfast will be served.

### **Open Discussion**

There were no additional items brought up for discussion.