

Technical Committee on Cost Estimating
Phone Conference
April 18, 2008

Present:

Lesly Tribelhorn, Montana
Greg Davis, Florida
Dave Kent, New York
Jeff Hisem, Ohio
Travis Koestner, Missouri
Ryan Griffith, Kentucky
Jay Drye, Washington State
Roger Beirbaum, Iowa
John Riedl, Oregon
Maria Burke, Texas
Scott Bickford, Maine
Ken Spear, Wyoming

Keith Platte, AASHTO
Jim McDonnell, AASHTO
Jim Sinnette, FHWA

Absent:

Norie Calvert, Maryland
Mike Fowler, Vermont
Tim Quinn, Minnesota
Darrell Richardson, Georgia
James Frick, South Carolina

The TCCE will co-sponsor two 20-7 with the TC on Preconstruction Engineering Management. They are:

Best Practices for the Analysis and Approval of Contractor Bids:

<http://www.transportation1.org/nchrp/20-7/uploads/20-7%20Proposal,%20Analysis%20and%20Approval%20of%20Contractor%20Bids.doc>

Identification of Best Practices in the Estimation of Preliminary Engineering Costs:

<http://www.transportation1.org/nchrp/20-7/uploads/20-7%20Proposal,%20Estimation%20of%20Preliminary%20Engineering%20Costs.doc>

The TCCE has given the “Best Practices for the Analysis and Approval of Contract Bids” the higher priority because it supports the TCCE goals more.

The TCCE has a couple more weeks to provide comments on the Risk-based chapter (Jay Drye – lead)

The cost estimating definitions have been finalized and will be added to the TCCE manual as an appendix (Ryan Griffith – lead).

The Parametric Chapter is under development and the team is going through internal comments. The goal is to try to get a revised chapter out to the TCCE for comment sometime in June (Mike Fowler – lead).

The Inflation Forecasting Chapter is on hold. There is a concern that the use of fossil fuel inputs into forecasting models and tools may result in inaccurate forecasts by overstating inflation. The TCCE sub team working on this chapter needs more time to explore how emergent technologies should be incorporated into forecasting tools. John Riedl – lead and Jeff Hisem will summarize what the sub group has found out and where this chapter is headed.

The two 20-7 Proposals (Price Indexing; Mike Fowler – lead, and Maximizing Contractor Competition; Tim Quinn – lead) will not be submitted for the April 21 call. Both of these proposals will be further discussed at the Annual Meeting for potential submission next year. (TCCE AGENDA ITEM)

The TCCE will share cost estimating guidance on the AASHTO TCCE website. Both Washington State and Missouri DOT have guidance that can be shared with the public. At this time, only guidance that the State is willing to share to the public unrestricted will be included. Make sure that the States know their guidance will be posted on a public Internet site. Send guidance to Keith Platte who will create the webpage. The posting of password protected guidance on the AASHTO TCCE website will be discussed at the Annual Meeting. (TCCE AGENDA ITEM)

The TCCE will send Jim Sinnette information on cost estimating survey requests that States have received so far this year. Jim Sinnette will establish a FHWA Internet site to document the surveys and responses. Also, if you have specific questions for a TCCE survey, please send those questions to Jim Sinnette. This item will be discussed further at the Annual Meeting (TCCE AGENDA ITEM)

Jim McDonnell will generate the list of cost estimating contacts.

Keith Platte will send the Recycled Asphalt Paving report to all members of the TCCE.

Dave Kent will provide TCCE members with information from the cost estimating workshop in Minnesota regarding the R/W and utilities cost study. This is the second part of NCHRP Report 574. This will result in a separate document for R/W and utilities. There is draft guidance now with a completion date in June.

Jim Sinnette will send the draft policy for a TCCE peer review team for cost estimate reviews prior to the Annual Meeting for review and discussion at the Annual Meeting. (TCCE AGENDA ITEM)

Lesly Tribelhorn will send out the SCOD work plan to the TCCE for comments. This plan will be submitted to Jim McDonnell in the next few weeks for the July SCOD meeting.

Lesly Tribelhorn will prepare a draft meeting agenda for Annual Meeting in Saratoga Springs, New York. The TCCE meeting will be October 1 and 2; and the TEA meeting will be October 3 and 4. Lunch will be scheduled for 90 minutes for the TCCE meeting. There is a webpage for more information on the TEA/TUG meeting.

Keith Platte sent out external comments on the TCCE manual by e-mail dated December 7. Manual authors should review these comments for potential revisions.

Lesly Tribelhorn will see if one more teleconference can be scheduled for the TCCE prior to the Annual Meeting. This teleconference may be sometime in early August.