

## WSDOT/ACEC Structures/Geotechnical Team

### MEETING NOTES

May 17, 2024 -- 9:00 AM – 11:30 PM

#### MS Teams Meeting

WSDOT	Evan Grimm, PE/SE	WSDOT – Bridge Design (co-chair)	x
	Katie Olleman, PE	WSDOT - Bridge Design	x
	Doug Olson, PE	WSDOT – Bridge Design	x
	Richard Brice, PE	WSDOT – Bridge Design	-
	Jeri Bernstein, PE/SE	Washington State Ferries	-
	Julie Heilman, PE	WSDOT – Hydraulic Office	x
	Andrew Fiske, PE	WSDOT – Geotechnical Office	-
ACEC	Joan Zhong-Brisbois, PE/SE	Jacobs (co-chair)	x
	Lee Andrews, PE/SE	HDR	x
	Matt Barber, PE	WSP	x
	Matt Baughman, PE/SE	COWI	x
	Stan Boyle, PE	Shannon & Wilson	x
	Monique Anderson, PE (visiting)	Shannon & Wilson	x
	Brice Exley, PE	Haley & Aldrich	x
	Eric Herzstein, PE/SE	Parsons	x
	Yang Jiang, PE/SE	HNTB	x
	Scott Phelan, PE/SE	Systra-IBT	x
	Chris Hall, PE/SE (visiting)	Systra-IBT	x
	Reza Sehhati, PE	TY Lin	-

1. Review meeting agenda (5 minutes) – All

No additional agenda item is suggested.

2. Review minutes from March 15 meeting (5 minutes) – All

Minutes are approved.

3. Progressive Design Build project highlight (25 minutes) – Chris Hall with Systra-IBT

From a consulting engineer perspective and with 30-year industry experience, Chris presented to the team the basic principles of PDB, comparison with other alternative delivery methods, and recent examples of bridge projects using PDB. Some insight from Chris' presentation include - PDB is a market driven alternative primarily to reduce risk; PDB is still

evolving with pros and cons as it is in its early stage as a delivery method. (Attachment 1)

4. Culvert Project Solutions and Lessons Learned (25 minutes) – Stan Boyle, Monique Anderson with Shannon & Wilson

Stan and Monique presented valuable lessons-learned from recent fish passage projects. Geotechnical not being able to get involved in the project early enough could end up driving up the construction cost significantly, due to limitation from ROW, requirement from environmental or from maintenance of traffic etc. Project examples highlighted special considerations when encountering soft soil, ravine fills; and being mindful of the tradeoffs. (Attachment 2)

Break (10 minutes)

5. Subcommittee work plan for 2024/2025 and meeting dates (25 minutes) – All

- Specific project highlights:
  - lessons learned from fish passage projects;
  - lessons learned from alternative delivery (DB/PDB) projects
  - Projects that unitized technological tools in the workflow
  - HQ Hydraulic can do a presentation on virtual site visits
  - Workshop on how to involve geotechnical and structure input in the early stage of projects to inform ROW, environmental permitting decisions.
- WSDOT policy updates
  - Lessons-learned from recent projects to inform future design manual updates
  - Geotechnical Design Manual updates summary
- Workforce development
  - See notes for *Question of the Month* below.
- Technology implementation
  - Brand-agnostic technological tools that are compatible with owner's requirements.

- Overcome frictions in adopting technology in geotechnical and structural workflow

– Others

## 6. Question of the month Good Practice to Provide Technical Training of EITs (15 minutes) – All

- Utilize free educational sources to gain experience, such as PCI e-learning center Richard Brice recommended:  
<https://oasis.pci.org/Public/Catalog/Home.aspx?CourseSearch=1&Criteria=177>
- EITs to organize ‘Book Club’ meet-ups to discuss BDM/GDM with technical experts and experienced designers
- Utilize virtual workspace (such as Miro, Teams) to perform hands-on technical training (learning by doing)

## 7. Adjourn

Evan thanked everyone for a fruitful year of shared best practice, lessons learned and strengthened collaborative relationship. We look forward to another productive year ahead. Joan reminded everyone to please inform co-chairs of any changes in their participation in the coming year.

The meeting adjourned around 11:25 am.

### **Future meeting dates (tentative):**

September 13, 2024

November 15, 2024

January 17, 2025

March 14, 2025

May 16, 2025

### **Attachments**

1. Progressive Design-Build: A Consulting Engineer’s Perspective
2. Fish Passage Discussion: Lessons-Learned