

WSDOT/ACEC Structures/Geotechnical Team

MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2023 -- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

MS Teams Meeting

	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	x
	Amy Leland, PE/SE (visiting)	WSDOT – Bridge Design	x
	Jeri Bernstein, PE/SE	Washington State Ferries	
	Julie Heilman, PE	WSDOT – Hydraulic Office	x
	Andrew Fiske, PE	WSDOT – Geotechnical Office	x
	Srikanth Sree Ramoju (visiting)	Washington State Ferries	x
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	
	Stan Boyle, PE	Shannon & Wilson	x
	Brice Exley, PE	Hart Crowser	
	Eric Herzstein, PE/SE	Parsons	x
	Yang Jiang, PE/SE	HNTB	x
	Scott Phelan, PE/SE	Systra-IBT	x
	Reza Sehhati, PE	TBD	x
	Greg Hess, PE/SE (candidate)	KPFF	

1. Review meeting agenda (5 minutes) – All

No additional agenda items proposed. Congrats to Katie Olleman on the PE license.

2. Review minutes from May 19 meeting (5 minutes) –

All Minutes are approved.

3. New team member Greg Hess (5 minutes) – All

Structures/Geotechnical Team Charter 2020 indicates that "WSDOT Membership should include a diverse representation of WSDOT to best address the focus issues. It is also recommended to have an equal membership of WSDOT and consultant engineers, typically 5 to 7 for each group. "

Currently ACEC members outnumber WSDOT's; As such the team agreed to first consider WSDOT candidates (Geotech for example) and if no one is

available, it is still an option to keep the current roster as is. Team members should also rotate every three years unless when an exception is taken.

4. WSDOT/ACEC Annual Meeting recap (10 minutes) – Evan/Joan
 - PDB presented by Ricky Bhalla, PE was informative.
 - Multi-disciplined collaboration to tackle fish passage program.
 - Innovative design material such as UHPC and BIM adoption.
5. Structures/Geotechnical Team meeting topics 2023-2024 (20 minutes) – All

Project Highlight Sign-up	ACEC Member
Friday, November 17, 2023	Culvert project lessons learn/ site-specific problems/solutions (Stan Boyle and Shannon Wilson), date TBD depending on availability Seismic hazard and code implementation, date TBD
Friday, January 19, 2024	PDB project showcase (Scott Phelan) , date TBD
Friday, March 15, 2024	SR-520 Montlake construction, date TBD
Friday, May 17, 2024	

6. Ferry Project highlight (25 minutes) – Srikanth Sree Ramoju (Sree) on behalf of Jeri Bernstein

Sree discussed ferry assets and relevant projects including (1) Terminal Asset and asset management; (2) terminal structure seismic upgrade; (3) vehicle transfer span (hydraulic); (4) terminal electrification. Sree also highlighted the impact from climate changes on the design and construction.

Break (10 minutes)

7. WSDOT (Bridges & Structures) Future Bridge Office Consulting Contracts/ Project Delivery Update (25-30 minutes) – Amy
 Unprecedented time in terms of workload /fish passage program; year 2024 will expect more work; Staff augmentation in DB (consultants acting as WSDOT technical staff attending task force meetings, but decision-making still resides in ATC by WSDOT) and DBB (consultant acting as WSDOT PM);
 Amy wanted to keep open communication through technical committee meetings for feedback on WSDOT design guides and technical solutions to design issues.

8. Engineering Risk in preservation design work (Part II) (30 minute) – Evan

Evan sent previous discussion notes. With the goal of better preparedness for future preservation work, the team identified more items like scour, streambed degradation, bearing replacement, concrete repair; conduct low-risk preservation items to prevent growing into bigger risk in the long run; determining the right level of analysis; individual bridge-based preservation work bundling.... Evan will bring these updates to Design (Amy Leland and her team) for summary/future action.

9. Question of the month (10 minutes) *Displacement thresholds for an existing bridge adjacent to the construction* – Joan/ All

Considerations include (1) a right level of monitoring and sufficient frequency without being too often; (2) existing structure condition and its sensitivity to external disturbance; (3) location (rural, urban, unique location such as waterfront); (4) soil condition /foundation types and geotechnical recommendations. It is considered beneficial for WSDOT to provide the baseline threshold values and allow Design-Builders an opportunity to propose different values for approval.

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned around 11:45am.

Future meeting dates:

November 17, 2023

January 19, 2024

March 15, 2024

May 17, 2024