

WSDOT/ACEC Structures/Geotechnical Team

MINUTES

January 17, 2025 -- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

MS Teams Meeting

	Name	Organization	Present	Year Started	Outgoing
WSDOT	Evan Grimm, PE/SE	WSDOT – Bridge Office (co-chair)	x	2023	
	Katie Olleman, PE	WSDOT - Bridge Design	x	2021	
	Doug Olson, PE	WSDOT – Bridge Design	x	2022	
	Richard Brice, PE	WSDOT – Bridge Design	x	2022	
	Jeri Bernstein, PE/SE	Washington State Ferries	x	2009	
	Julie Heilman, PE	WSDOT – Hydraulic Office	x	2022	
	Andrew Fiske, PE	WSDOT – Geotechnical Office	x	2018	
	Derek Case (Guest)	WSDOT – Construction	x	--	--
	Brian Aldrich (Guest)	WSDOT – Bridge Design	x	--	--
	Erin Pletcher (Guest)	WSDOT – Hydraulics	x	--	--
ACEC	Joan Zhong-Brisbois, PE/SE	Jacobs (co-chair)	x	2017	Yes
	Lee Andrews, PE/SE	HDR	x	2018	Yes (2026)
	Matt Barber, PE	WSP	x	2019	Yes
	Matt Baughman, PE/SE	COWI	x	2020	Yes
	Stan Boyle, PE	Shannon & Wilson	x	2018	Yes
	Brice Exley, PE	Haley & Aldrich	x	2019	No
	Greg Hess, PE/SE	KPFF	x	2024	No
	Yang Jiang, PE/SE	HNTB	x	2022	No
	Scott Phelan, PE/SE	Systra-IBT	x	2022	No
	Reza Sehhati, PE	TY Lin	--	2022	No
	Trevor Lighty (Guest)	KPFF	x	--	--
	Ivan Liu (Guest)	COWI	x	--	--

9:00 Review meeting agenda (5 minutes) – All

[No additional item is suggested.](#)

9:05 Review minutes from November 8 meeting (5 minutes) – All

[Meeting minutes are approved.](#)

9:10 Project Delivery Series Part I: Areas of Challenge in Design-Build and Progressive Design-Build taken from a SME Perspective. (30 minutes) – Collaborative Presentation Team of Brice, Lee, and Guests Trevor Lighty, Brian Aldrich, and Derek Case.

[The team unpacked the SME challenges, success and best practices for the DB and PDB projects. SMEs refer to design team and owner reps.](#)

Emotional intelligence, early involvement & communication, owner's early decision in risk & allocations, and transparency are among the best practice.

- ATC process. If WSDOT says no, tell us why. Do you give conditional approvals?

9:40 Project Highlight: WSDOT HQ Hydraulic presentation on virtual site visits. (45 minutes) – Julie Heilman and Guest Presenters Erin Pletcher
Julie and Erin presented the purpose, process and the technical details of virtual site visits. This innovative practice benefits the communication with co-managers, increases efficiencies, streamlines/integrates data and design across disciplines. The challenges included cyber security and emerging skills to set up/ operate the system.

10:25 ----- **Break (10 minutes)** -----

10:35 Project Highlight: Port of Seattle Pile Driving (20 minutes) – Brice Exley
To be presented in the future meeting.

10:55 ACEC Membership Changes (10 minutes) – Joan and Stan

1. Review plan to transition membership
2. Introduce resumes for new members

We are progressively transitioning ACEC members in the 2025-2027 time frame who have been serving more than 4 years on this sub-committee.

There are four candidate resumes distributed to the subcommittee for concurrence/or objection. ACEC members please provide your vote prior to next meeting in March. We will consider additional candidate resumes as more ACEC members rotate off.

Standing Items

A discussion-leader to present for 5 minutes followed by 10-minute discussion.

11:05 Standing Item: WSDOT Design/Construction Policy (15 minutes) – Matt Barber

Matt and the team discussed selected elements of the Standard Specifications and WSDOT design policy including girder fabrication and installation tolerances, deck repair requirements, and resin bonded anchors.

11:20 Standing Item: Technology 3D Production (15 minutes) – Ivan Liu/Matt Baughman

Ivan discussed experiences with 3D and BIM tools in bridge design, detailing lessons learned, and proposing best practices for owners.

11:35 Standing Item: Staff Development topic TBD (15 minutes) – Doug Olson
Doug presented valuable staff development principles from recruitment and onboarding to training and development.

11:50 Adjourn
Meeting adjourned around 11:55 am.

Future meeting dates:

March 14, 2025

May 16, 2025