

## WSDOT/ACEC Structures/Geotechnical Team

### NOTES

March 14, 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	--	2021	
	Doug Olson, PE	WSDOT – Bridge Design	x	2022	
	Richard Brice, PE	WSDOT – Bridge Design	x	2022	
	Jeri Bernstein, PE/SE	Washington State Ferries	--	2009	
	Julie Heilman, PE	WSDOT – Hydraulic Office	--	2022	
	Andrew Fiske, PE	WSDOT – Geotechnical Office	x	2018	
	Derek Case (Guest)	WSDOT – Construction	--	--	--
	Brian Aldrich (Guest)	WSDOT – Bridge Design	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	--	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	x	2022	No
	Monique Anderson (New)	Shannon & Wilson	vacation	2025	No
	Tim Bailey (New)	GeoEngineers	x	2025	No
	Benjamin Parra (New)	Parsons	x	2025	No
	Cory Caywood (New)	Jacobs	x	2025	No
	Norman Smit (Guest)	TY Lin	x	--	--
	Kevin Almer (Guest)	TY Lin	x	--	--

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

No addition agenda item proposed.

Standing Item: Staff Development is to present first.

9:05 Review minutes from January 17 meeting (5 minutes) – All

Meeting minutes approved.

9:10 Standing Item: Staff Development (15 minutes) – Greg Hess

Greg discussed how to build, maintain and perpetuate a culture of quality to ensure consistent quality deliverables.

What is quality, why QC is imperative, lessons learned, and training.

Holistic ‘quality concepts’ that involve strategic staff assignment, clear expectations implement self-check before QC check, embrace common-sense and strive for the simplest approaches, keep the end goal (construction) in mind, and look for systematic ways to reduce costs.

9:20 Project Delivery Series Part 2: Areas of Success and Challenge in Design-Build and Progressive Design-Build taken from a SME Perspective. (45 minutes) – Collaborative Presentation Team of Brice, Lee, and Guests Trevor Lighty, Brian Aldrich, and Derek Case.

A great discussion (Part II) that unpacked more SME challenges, success, and best practices for the DB and PDB projects. A few highlights:

- Communicate the needs for information being complete and clear to facilitate reviews; also acknowledge that differences are okay and do not necessarily compromise the intent of ‘completeness and being clear’.
- Try to define details related to service life and durability requirements in an earlier stage, and with clearer direction to minimize the challenge to reinforce the requirement.
- Proactively discuss the needs for a special provision and try not to assume.
- Tactics to handle compressed schedule and enhance effective collaboration between design engineers and owner’s reps.
- Scoring challenges related to maintenance and lifecycle costs, as well as ATC and practical Design.
- Given the positive impact, Evan suggested presenting this to a wider audience in the near future.

10:05 Project Highlight: SR 520 Montlake Lid. (45 minutes) – Reza Sehhati and Guest Presenters Norman Smit and Kevin Almer

A detailed presentation packed with insightful information on SR520 Montlake Project. Great discussion on project purpose, team, stats, infrastructure components, design challenges, seismic features, future compatibility, and construction.

10:40 ----- **Break (10 minutes)** -----

10:50 ACEC Membership Changes (10 minutes) – Joan and Stan

1. Introductions from incoming members who will join this team starting September 2025: Monique Anderson, Tim Bailey, Cory Caywood, Ben Parra  
The incoming ACEC members had an opportunity to introduce their background and inspiration. Joan and Evan highlighted the goal and mission of this team and the standing agenda items for the upcoming year.
2. Accepting recommendations for future membership considerations.

### Standing Items

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

*11:00* Standing Item: WSDOT Design/Construction Policy (15 minutes) – Scott Phelan Postpone to a future meeting.

*11:15* Standing Item: Technology – BIM Research (15 minutes) – Rick Brice  
Rick discussed the status and needs of WSDOT digital delivery initiative and reviewed the national strategic BIM roadmap.

*11:45* Discuss future meeting dates and adjourn  
The team shared positive feedback on the meeting format of the past year.  
In May meeting, the team will bring their ideas on the future meeting topics of the upcoming year.

Meeting adjourned around noon.

### **Future meeting dates:**

May 16, 2025