

WSDOT/ACEC Structures/Geotechnical/Hydraulics Team

MINUTES

November 14, 2025 -- 9:00 AM – 11:00 PM

MS Teams Meeting

	Name	Organization	Present	Year Started	Outgoing
WSDOT	Evan Grimm, PE/SE	WSDOT – Bridge Office (co-chair)	--	2023	
	Katie Olleman, PE	WSDOT - Bridge Design	x	2021	
	Doug Olson, PE	WSDOT – Bridge Design	x	2022	
	Richard Brice, PE	WSDOT – Bridge Design	-	2022	
	Jeri Bernstein, PE/SE	Washington State Ferries	-	2009	
	Julie Heilman, PE	WSDOT – Hydraulic Office	-	2022	
	Andrew Fiske, PE	WSDOT – Geotechnical Office	x	2018	
	Greg Hess, PE/SE	KPFF	x	2024	No
	Lee Andrews, PE/SE	HDR	x	2018	Yes (2026)
	Brice Exley, PE	Haley & Aldrich	x	2019	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
	Monique Anderson, PE	Shannon & Wilson	x	2025	No
	Tim Bailey, PE	GeoEngineers	x	2025	No
	Benjamin Parra, PE/SE	Parsons	x	2025	No
Cory Caywood, PE/SE	Jacobs	x	2025	No	

9:00 Review meeting agenda (5 minutes) – Greg
The agenda was agreed upon with no changes to the draft.

9:05 Review minutes from September 19 meeting (5 minutes) – Greg
The Sept 19 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as final.
Discussion on potential consultant candidate to include for Hydraulics
Consultant. Bryce to reach out to Osborne

Standing Items

A discussion-leader to present and/or lead a short discussion.

9:10 Topic of Leadership – Andrew (20 minutes max)

Andrew provided a presentation on “Appreciation”, ways to do and associated benefits.

9:30 Topic of Staff Development – Cory (20 minutes max)

Cory provided staff development overview. Lots of great discussion.

10:00 Project Highlight: Outcomes from Recent Tacoma Fish Passage Meeting – Monique and Julie.

Backup idea: WSDOT Progressive Design-Build Projects (30 minutes)

Monique provided high-level overview. Topics included lateral migration, traffic impacts (community input), wing wall design etc. Benefit of conference was hearing multi-disciplinary input for each topic (Geo, structural, biology, hydraulics, etc). Group expressed desire to have more detailed debrief in future. (added to tracking list of future topics)

10:30 Committee Business (20 minutes) – Greg

1. At the September 26 ACEC/WSDOT steering committee meeting in Tacoma, it was approved that:
 - a. Greg Hess be appointed co-chair for our subcommittee.
 - b. Our name be changed to include hydraulics along with our plan to make 1-2 subcommittee meetings each year reflect a hydraulics focus.
2. We also discussed at the Sept 26 meeting the design review service in the subcommittee charter that we would like to advertise. Here was the feedback.
 - a. Make sure that when we are advertising that we do it openly and don't just advertise to the firms in the subcommittee.
 - b. We can use WSDOT Local Programs to advertise. Jay Drye said we could contact the Local Programs Bridge group. This was Sonia Lowry at the time, but her position is now vacant. We could contact Darren Nebergall. Local Programs has a newsletter they could include us in. They can mention it in the opening session of the next APWA conference.
 - c. Link to questionnaire / input forms
<https://partners.wsdot-sites.com/acec/>

- d. Need to revise the solicitation to change Geoff Swett's name out.
Who will be the new point? Who will work with Leann George (WSDOT) to update the online form?
- e. Assign out action to someone in the group to take the next steps on advertising the service.

There was discussion about project review service. Some concern about full project review and WSDOT liability. In general, providing responses to specific questions (via online form) is preferred over full project presentation/review. Lee and Monique indicated they could help but more clarity on scope of service and target audience desired.

3. Review and vote as a group on proposed charter revisions.
Charter was approved.

10:50 Final Items and Adjourn

- Next meeting in person (location? Tacoma? Seattle?)

Tacoma at 10am in person selected. Evan to update address in invite.

- Adjourn

Future Meeting Dates:

January 9, 2026 10am-Noon in person (Tacoma)

March 13, 2026

May 15, 2026