

Advocacy Council for Tribal Transportation (ACTT)
January 20, 2012
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
Mystic Lake Casino & Hotel

Attendees:

- *Marc Mogan (co-chair), **Prairie Island Indian Community***
- *Jason Holliday (co-chair), **Fond Du Lac Reservation***
- *Jennie Rowland, **Bois Forte Band of Chippewa***
- *Tony Swader, **Grand Portage Band of Chippewa Indians***
- *Art Chase, **Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe***
- *Mike Moilanen, **Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe***
- *Bill Brunelle, **Red Lake Public Safety - Band of Chippewa Indians***
- *Lester Morris, **Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux (Dakota) Community***
- *Burny Tibbetts, **White Earth Nation***
- *Tom Fronk, **Bureau of Indian Affairs***
- *Derrell Turner, **Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)***
- *Jim Johnson, **MN City Engineers (SEH)***
- *Linda Aitken, Tribal Liaison; Amr Jabr, D1-Duluth; Nelrae Succio, D6-Rochester; Judy Evers, D6-Rochester; **MnDOT***
- *Millie Baird, **U.S. Forest Service Chippewa National Forest***

Guests: *Lynne Bly, Denise Hesselroth and Peter Morey, **MnDOT***
*Kevin Chesnik and Alyssa Macy, **United Tribal Reservation, Consultant - TRB Study***

Absent: *Gabe Prescott, **Lower Sioux Indian Community**, Travis Leenertz, **Upper Sioux Community***
*Annamarie Hill, **MN Indian Affairs Council**, David Enblom, **Cass County**, John Velat, **MI TTAP***

Welcome:

- Marc Mogan, co-chair, called the meeting to order. Introductions were made.
- Our host, Lester Morris welcomed the group and gave a brief overview of the complex / facility and mentioned the recent election outcomes for the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community.

Agenda: Motion made by Lester Morris to approve agenda, second by Marc Mogan, motion carried.

Minutes: No minutes from April 2011 meeting.

Old Business:

- **National Tribal Transportation Safety Summit, August 27-31, 2012:** Linda Aitken
Bids were due the second week of December 2011. Mystic Lake in Minnesota submitted a bid. A location for the Safety Summit has not yet been determined.
- **Toward Zero Deaths:** Nelrae Succio (handout)
The 2011 Statewide TZD Conference was held in Duluth on November 16-17, 2011. The 2012 conference is scheduled for October 23-24, 2012 in Minneapolis at the Doubletree by Hilton. In addition to statewide conferences, we are in the process of hiring regional coordinators. These coordinators will host monthly and annual meetings to cover topics such as regional data,

projects, and evidence based practices occurring in the region for all 4 “E”s (engineering, enforcement, education, emergency medical). Attendance is encouraged and there are no fees for attending. Upcoming workshops include:

- Thursday, April 19, 2012 - Southwest/Southcentral Coordinator (D7, D8) - Amy Roggenbuck
- Thursday, May 17, 2012 - Southeast Coordinator (D6) - Kristine Hernandez
- May 30, 2012 – Northeast Coordinator (D1) - Holly Kostrzewski
- June 7, 2012 – Northwest Coordinator (D2) - Holly Kostrzewski

A coordinator for West Central/ East Central (D3, D4) should be on board in the near future. Discussions are occurring on how best to cover the Metro area.

Signage - Dual Language Signs: Burny Tibbetts (handout)

- On August 9, 2010, the White Earth Nation adopted a resolution declaring Ojibwe Language the official language. They are now looking to strengthen the use of the language throughout the reservation and are looking at dual language signs. They are looking to partner with counties, townships and/or the State of Minnesota and are looking at changing geographic (i.e river, creek, site) signs versus regulatory signs.
- Discussed the educational / awareness piece of including both the English name with the tribal language, potential regulations and dimensions of the signs (i.e. due to length of words in the language). Montana and Oklahoma were states mentioned that have some dual language signs.
- The MN Indian Affairs Council is working with the State. There is a Legacy grant for language revitalization.

A decision was made to compile a sub group to look at an MOU, policies, etc. Those volunteering and suggested members include:

- David Enblom (suggested member)
- Nelrae Succio
- Derrell Turner
- Burny Tibbetts
- Jason Hollinday
- Rob Ege (suggested member)
- Linda Aitken
- Heather Lott
- Mike Moilanen
- Art Chase

Action:

- **Burny Tibbetts will take the lead. He will schedule a meeting / conference call on the day prior to the April meeting.**
- **Linda to contact suggested members David Enblom and Rob Ege.**
- **Tribal leaders will share data collected to date (i.e. names collected/compiled from communities to help determine potential size of signage, etc.)**
- **Derrell will check into regulations with FHWA and Federal Lands.**
- **Add topic to next meeting agenda**

New Business:

NCHRP 17-49 Guide for Effective Tribal Crash Reporting Project: Alyssa Macy / Kevin Chesnik, Project Consultants (powerpoint)

The consultants gave an overview of the above safety project. The goal is to produce a guide for development and implementation of effective tribal crash reporting programs to improve tribal transportation safety. Discussion today included requirements of tribal reporting, gaps in reporting and

potential for a future standardization reporting form for all states. In looking to gather tribal community reporting for Minnesota, a recent meeting with Kathleen Haney from Public Safety succeeded in DPS offering to facilitate collection of data. Through the Toward Zero Deaths efforts, Brad Estochen (MnDOT) is working with DPS to gather more consistent information.

Action: Representatives at today's meeting will give their tribal representative a heads up regarding an upcoming survey and encourage participation.

Transportation Data and Analysis (TDA): Peter Morey / Denise Hesselroth (handouts)

- In an effort to provide accurate information for the Traffic Information System (TIS), the Office of Transportation Data and Analysis is looking to obtain accurate information for tribal reservation roads.
- The criteria being looked at is any road owned by a public entity, drivable by a standard passenger car, open to the public for eight months out of the year and includes roads owned by both the Tribes and Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- There was a handout and discussion regarding Federal reporting requirements, BIA vs. FHWA functional classifications and the many local reservation roads that don't meet ADT standards.
- As a way to obtain the requested information, it was suggested the Office of TDA send a written request directly to the Tribal Council.
 - Note: Burny Tibbetts, White Earth Nation indicated he shared their GIS information with MnDOT and is willing to pass it along again.

Action: Denise and/or Peter will compile a letter and submit to each Tribal Council.

Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan: Lynne Bly (handouts)

MnDOT is in the process of developing the 20-year statewide long-range transportation plan. District Planners will be in contact with each tribe to request an opportunity for government-to-government consultation about any concerns for long-range planning for the transportation system.

Lynne also distributed a Minnesota GO, 50-Year Statewide Vision handbook. MnDOT launched the Minnesota GO visioning process to better align the transportation system with what Minnesotans expect for their quality of life, economy and natural environment. The plan will require consistency and collaboration across jurisdictions and sectors. This is a vision for all forms of transportation.

2011 Tribes & Transportation Conference Update: Linda Aitken

Linda received the 2011 Michigan TTAP draft report for the 2011 Tribes & Transportation Conference yesterday. **Action: Linda will distribute the report to this group via email.**

The group discussed a potential location for the 2013 Tribes & Transportation Conference. Suggested locations were the Lower Sioux Indian Community or the Red Lake Band of Chippewa (Thief River Falls). Based upon Gary Ruud's availability the week of Oct 13 or October 29-30 were suggested dates.

Action: Bill will check to see if facilities are available for the Red Lake Band to host this event. He will respond to Linda this week.

Round Robin

Derrell Turner

There is concern that the scholarship programs are not being fully utilized. These include:

- Eisenhower Tribal College (TC) Fellowship Program which allows students attending TC's the opportunity to pursue careers in transportation.

- Eisenhower Graduate (GRAD) Fellowship Program designed for students who are pursuing a masters or doctorate degree in an accredited university in the US and its territories.

Nelrae Succio

Road Safety Audits: There was discussion regarding interest in additional road audits. If there is interest, Derrell Turner offered to check into the availability of safety funds and Nelrae is willing to talk with MnDOT's Traffic Engineer, Sue Groth. There was also discussion regarding county highway safety plans and the need to work through the ATP.

Bill Brunelle

Bill thanked the group for allowing him the opportunity to participate in today's meeting. There are many different perspectives and he was glad to be able to share insights from the law enforcement side.

Marc Mogan

- Mark indicated the need for future conversations amongst the Tribes regarding road data. With the potential for loss of funding, how to move forward, redistribution of tribal allocations, etc. needs discussion.
- The Northern MN Indian Affairs is meeting next Monday, January 23, at the Kelly Inn.
- MMAP21: Bill is waiting to go to house floor for a vote. Tribal leaders to meet offline. The Extension Act goes through March 31.

Linda Aitken

Linda has been meeting with the Indian Affairs Council and others to develop education/training for the State agencies – Educating non-Indian people about Indian people and government. This is a critical piece that is missing when State staff are required to consult with tribes on issues that affect/impact Indians and/or tribal governments. Commissioner Sorel supports this initiative.

Tom Fronk

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 12-14, 2012 as part of the Partners in Action Conference and will be held in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Several comments received about a wonderful 2011 Tribes & Transportation Conference

Mike Moilanen made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Burny Tibbetts. Motion carried - meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: April 20, 2012

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359