



# **Executive Committee Conference Call** (12/17/03)

*Jim Grove, Center for PCC Pavement Technology*

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## **TPF-5(066) Material and Construction Optimization for Prevention of Premature Pavement Distress in PCC Pavements**

Purpose of Project: To develop optimal mix design and test methods for monitoring Key performance parameters and conduct demonstration tests in participating states.  
<http://www.ctre.iastate.edu/pccpoolfund/>

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### **Present:**

Tom Cackler  
Dan DeGraaf  
Jim Grove  
Todd Hanson  
Doug Schwartz  
Bob Steffes  
John Volker  
Jerry Voigt

### **Absent:**

Sandra Larson  
Max Grogg  
Marcia Simons  
George Woolstrum

Next call date: January 21, 2004 at 8:30 AM.  
Note change from usual second Wednesday of the month date

## **STATUS REPORT**

### **State Visits:**

Jim Grove reported on an excellent site visit with 24 attendees (including a good number of contractors) in Michigan on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Jim has scheduled New York for early January, Texas for late January and hopes to also get to Louisiana sometime during January.

### **MCO Manual:**

Jim also discussed the MCO manual. The RFP for the technical editor is nearly ready to go out. (Editorial note: it is out; see the PCC Center's website <http://www.ctre.iastate.edu/pcc/index.cfm>) Jim and Dale are working on setting up the TASC (technical advisory subcommittee) and will plan a kick-off meeting for Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> during TRB. Details on the meeting location and time will be sent to the TAC executive committee; members are welcome to attend.

### **Lab Trailer:**

Bob Steffes, formerly of the Iowa DOT, is on board with the PCC Center and he and Jim have been working on the layout. They have met with Featherlite and are ready for a final layout discussion. They will also be talking to Kiefer Built, an alternative supplier, as per ISU purchasing regulations. Then it will be determined if competitive bids will be needed or if it can be purchased from a sole source vendor. Their original meeting with Kiefer was postponed due to weather, but they are planning to talk to them on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Jim will send the TAC executive committee a fax with the final design for input before ordering. Jim talked to ISU transportation services regarding the truck - it looks like it will be a Ford 550. ISU transportation services will own the truck with the PCC Center "leasing" it from them. The contributions from industry partners will be used for purchasing the trailer. Gordon Smith is collecting the money and will be able to "loan" the money committed but not yet contributed.

The PCC Center has advertised for two lab technicians – working on the MCO project will be part of their duties, particularly next summer with the mobile lab. We have hired Bryan Zimmerman, a graduate from the community college’s engineering technician program. We also will have a graduate student assigned to this project.

Missouri is on track for the first demo project. Jim met with the contractor on December 3 to gather some preliminary information. He will plan to attend a technical partnering meeting with the contractor and Missouri DOT personnel, tentatively scheduled for sometime in January.

Jim asked for suggestions for other projects, he’d like to get the next ones scheduled as well. Doug suggested a project on TH52, south of Rochester, south of I-90, for the Minnesota project. John thinks the Platteville bypass would be a good one for the Wisconsin project. Doug and John will discuss the details on possible projects and scheduling with Jim. Jim will be discussing possible projects with North Dakota and Nebraska for this summer. With these projects completed, the lab and personnel should have things pretty well set and be ready to hit the road for some of the states further away. Another state or two would be good to include in the planning in order to accomplish at least five projects this summer.

### **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

Jim indicated he has been requested to make presentations on the project in a number of states at their Paving Workshops. They include Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri/Kansas, and the Southeast Chapter. Hopefully, this publicity will be of benefit to the project.

### **BUDGET**

The budget emailed to the committee was discussed. This budget represents the MCO funding from participating states. Industry money is being used for equipment and is not shown on the budget. The money from participating industries is being used as leverage for some matching funds through ISU. The federal funding for the MCO manual is also not shown on the budget. Although this budget shows five years of funding, the contractual commitment is for one year. The budget is reviewed each fall and adjustments can be made. The “SWAT team” component of the project is part of staff time allotments.

A comment was made regarding the travel budget looking light. We are hopeful to stay within the budgeted amount, but recognize that will take some economizing.

One of the key elements to secure future funding will be showcasing the results of the research on an on-going basis. Technology transfer is critical to show organizations the benefits to their investment. In order to facilitate that endeavor, CTRE’s publication group will be dedicating one person to the PCC Center. Concise updates, targeted for a specific audience, will be used to showcase the project. Jerry suggested the ACPA R&D Updates could be used as an example for effective short reports, and perhaps ACPA can also be used as a means for dispersing information.

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

The second Wednesday of the month has been our regular conference call time schedule. It was decided to continue with that basic schedule and make changes when needed – January being the first month with a significant conflict. Due to TRB, the January conference call will be on the third Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. The time frame was discussed, and it was decided to change it permanently to 8:30 a.m.