

TRB TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

June 15-16, 2022
Executive Conference and Training Center, Sterling, VA

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements (Ford) Information

- a. Policy Statement on Preventing Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying was noted.
- b. Bias/Conflict of Interest Discussion There were no conflicts of interest reported.

8:40 p.m. Self-Introductions (All) Discussion

8:55 a.m.

Approval of January 12-13, 2022 Minutes (Ford) Action

• The minutes were approved.

8:55 a.m.

Approval of Consent Agenda (Ford) Action

• The consent agenda was approved.

8:56 a.m.

Staff Leadership Reports (Ford, Symmes, Pedersen)

- Greg Symmes of the Academies reported on the search for the next TRB Executive Director, in reference to Neil Pedersen's upcoming retirement. The hope is to select the candidate around late August.
- Neil Pedersen gave his Executive Director's Report with an update on the ongoing sale of the Woods Hole Academies property, the latest federal appointments at key agencies, TRB's operations and its gradual, hybrid model return to the office, Executive Committee membership changes, and a finance report that shows expenditures moving back up to where they were pre-Covid. The Executive Committee gave Neil a standing ovation when he mentioned he has been to 47 TRB Annual Meetings.

9:25 a.m.

TRB Division Committee Report (Hendrickson) Information

A PowerPoint presentation helped describe the organizational structure of NASEM was
provided, detailed the reports the Committee reviewed in the first six months of 2022, and
reported on TRB's advances in DEI percentages among volunteers.

9:35 a.m.

TRB 2022-2027 Strategic Plan (Shaheen) Action and Discussion

- A quick overview of the plan was given and it was followed by discussion, including about:
 - Metrics on how our research is being shaped by the most crucial metrics related to key societal issues like climate, equity, and others should be added in the plan. The possibility of forming a small group to move forward on this was discussed.
 - Surveys and communications and outreach should be a part of building impact and outcome metrics.
 - The plan was adopted.

10:10 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m.

Critical Issues in Transportation (Shaheen) Discussion

- An overview was given of this key TRB report, which is based on major issues and cross-cutting dynamics and was followed by a discussion, which included:
 - o It seems some context is lacking in the report on how these issues were chosen.
 - There seem to be quite a few issues missing; for example, the technology section is almost exclusively on CAVS.
 - Some of the language isn't urgent enough, such as in sections on safety and climate. Use the date to say how many years we have, not vague terms like "not immediate."

11:10 a.m.

Panel on Regulatory Issues for AV/CV (Ford) Discussion

- Guest speakers offered an overview of the many efforts needed for AV/CV regulatory issues, including strong federal leadership, research data, public messaging and trust, and much more.
- A discussion followed the presentations.

12:10 p.m.

Lunch

1:15 p.m.

Policy Session on Reimagining Good Movement (Wilson, Dowell, Hayes)

- Overviews were given on the movement of goods since the start of the pandemic and how public consumption has shifted.
- Modal first impressions and perspectives were offered from various Executive Committee members.

3:05 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m.

Plenary Discussion

- The discussion included discussion of:
 - There are so many players in the goods-movement space and we need to understand those inter-relationships.
 - How do we take the data and use it? That seems to be a good fit for TRB, with something perhaps like a more dynamic tool for the shifting environment of freight movement or partnerships with ports, for examples.
 - Our lack of knowledge in the movement from agricultural production to the distribution centers is not being tracked and it is misinforming our investment decisions.

5 p.m.

Break for Evening Activities

Thursday, June 16, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Policy Session Follow-up Session (Ford) Discussion

• Further discussion occurred from the previous day's discussion on good movement research.

9:05 a.m.

Future Policy Sessions (Houston) Information

• The January session will be on characteristics of successful megaprojects. Speakers will be identified.

9:35 a.m.

Technical Activities Update (Grimes/Brach) Information

 A new brochure has been created with infographics and how to get involved. The TRR and other key publications like the HCM were highlighted. Net revenues from Annual Meeting were down \$2 million from 2020. There were some savings in travel, food, and AV. Feedback on AM was detailed.

9:55 a.m.

Communications Update (Mackie) Information

The new logo and newsletter designs were highlighted, as were the success of media relations
and social media and DEI incorporated into our digital projects. Preparations for helping the
next Executive Director have ownership of TRB communications are underway.

10:05 a.m.

Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan (Lewis) Action

- An overview was made of the 7-point strategy.
- The plan was formally approved.

10:20 a.m.

International Subcommittee Strategic Plan (Iwasaki) Action

- TRB is planning to increase efforts in Africa and will be presenting itself at more international conferences going forward.
- The plan was formally approved.

10:35 a.m.

Marine Board Update (Grabowski) Information

• A report was given on the results of the Marine Board Spring Meeting in Irvine, California, with keynote speaker DOT Deputy Secretary Polly Trottenberg.

10:45 a.m.

Young Member's Council (Kontou) Information

 Highlights were presented, including the well-attended Young Member's session at the Annual Meeting.

11:05 a.m.

Cooperative Research program Update (Hedges) Information

• An update was given on the number of reports CRP released in 2021 and the first half of 2022.

11:30 a.m.

Consensus and Advisory Studies Update (Menzies) Information

- The report releases since the Executive Committee last met were listed.
- A discussion followed about whether CAS should focus on women in transportation or traffic safety trends, or both.

11:50 a.m.

Other Business (Ford) Information

 Having USDOT representation here was valuable. NAS and Keck buildings in downtown was suggested but they may not have rooms big enough. Finding a place with better connectivity services is a priority for future meetings.

12 p.m.

Lunch

1 p.m.

Adjourn