

**Highway Construction Materials Technician Certification Board
Meeting Minutes**

April 5, 2006

Meeting was announced by posting at the ODOT Training Center and on the internet web site at <http://oktechcert.org/Meetings>.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Reynolds Toney. The following members/guests were present.

MEMBERS

Reynolds Toney	ODOT
Scott Seiter	ODOT
Kendall Adams	M.J. Lee Construction Co.
John Privrat	Duit Construction
Karl Sirmons	ODOT
Shawn Davis	ODOT
Craig Parker	Silverstar Construction
George Raymond	ODOT

GUESTS

Bill Gamel	ODOT Consultant
Gabe Woolery	Carter Burgess
Deanna Loveland	OAPA
Calvin Karper	FHWA
Gary Evans	ODOT
John Benson	FHWA

TRAINING CENTER STAFF

Steve Sawyer	Program Director
Karla Irvin	Administrative Assistant

1. Reynolds Toney determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.
2. Motion to approve minutes of January 31, 2006 with correction of meeting date made by Craig Parker, seconded by Shawn Davis. Approved unanimously.
3. Gary Evans, ODOT Assistant Chief Engineer/Director of Operations, asked to hear about the status of the Inspector Training program. The Chair moved to agenda item #6. Danny Gierhart expressed the need for training of asphalt construction inspectors and outlined a 2

to 3 day course including a field manual. The course structure would include:

1. Introduction to Asphalt Construction basics.
2. Pre-work review of plans, pay items, specifications, etc.
3. Construction checks and trouble shooting.
4. Post construction documentation and follow up.

Danny reiterated his contention that this training was necessary and overdue and clarified that he had enlisted the involvement of ODOT Construction Residencies, OAPA, and private construction companies. Craig Parker suggested that the training might help resolve discrepancies in Contractor vs. ODOT expectations. Danny also explained that, due to process changes, asphalt mix designs were being developed and submitted by technicians with less experience and expertise resulting in a need to develop training for mix designers.

John Benson reported that four modules for concrete construction training had been designed with the assistance of ODOT and the ACPA. He also expressed his support for the development and implementation of a construction inspector certification process as well as annual training. Steve Sawyer explained that any process for certifying construction inspectors would be substantially different than the one currently employed for certifying materials technicians.

Calvin Karper expressed a strong opinion that there should be a process for ensuring the qualifications of construction inspectors and that, due to the unstable nature of the modern workforce, that process should not be dependent upon the passing of knowledge from peer to peer. He recommended some existing NHI courses on bridge construction inspection for inclusion in the inspector training program.

4. Bill Gamel reviewed the status of statute revision (agenda item #7) and suggested that development of the inspector training program should go forward so that some modules were ready to implement as soon as the statute revision was approved. Gary Evans asked about funding and Steve Sawyer explained that the program would be funded in the same manner as the existing QC/QA modules.
5. Agenda item #5. Reynolds Toney reported that the subcommittee had discussed the issue of asphalt mix designer training and certification and reported their recommendation that the modules be developed and implemented by the fall of 2006. (In conjunction, a Special Provision requiring mix designs to be submitted by certified mix designers would be drafted by ODOT and implemented by January 1 of 2007.) Karl Sirmons moved that the Board authorize the subcommittee recommendations. Motion seconded by George Raymond. Approved unanimously.
6. Agenda item #4. Steve Sawyer reported that;
 - a. both attendance and the failure rate were the highest each had been during his tenure as Program Director.
 - b. the “key elements” would be reviewed and revised during the summer of 2006.
 - c. a key element guide would be developed and published by the beginning of the next training and certification session.

7. Agenda item #8. Karl Sirmons informed the Board that many ODOT and contractor field personnel had been complaining since the inception of the certification program that central lab (Materials Division) technicians were not required to be Board certified. Reynolds Toney and Scott Seiter explained that the central lab was accredited annually by AASHTO and AMRL but their individual technicians are not required to be certified because they do not sample or test materials for acceptance purposes. Karl noted that the central lab does referee testing of disputed acceptance test results. Reynolds informed the Board that ODOT policy did not require certified technicians for referee testing. (A referee test is not an acceptance test.) John Benson felt that there was a legitimate concern that the results of a referee test could be used for acceptance. Karl also noted that some lab managers were not certified. Shawn Davis suggested that lab managers were usually administrative supervisors and did not necessarily sample or test materials for acceptance purposes. Steve Sawyer reiterated the ODOT requirement that acceptance testing and sampling be done by an RHCMT. George Raymond reminded the Board that Liaison personnel are certified.
8. There was no new business.
9. Meeting adjourned by the Chair.