

2002 TRNS•PORT User Group Conference
Proposal Through Award TAG Minutes
Austin, Texas

Following is the agenda for the 2002 Proposal Through Award TAG minutes:

AGENDA	Estimated Time
Introduction, Greetings, and Roll Call	15
Election of New Coordinators	15
Review of Mission Statement	5
Review of Short/Long Range Goals	15
Web Based Functionality for TRANSPORT Handout	20
Break	10
Ballot Item Review	45
Open Discussion	

The Group was unable to schedule a conference call during the year due to conflicting schedules and member availability. All of the Group's activity occurred at the meeting in Austin, Texas.

There were seven Group members present at the meeting: David Bollie (Coordinator), Mike Jenkins (Acting Assistant Coordinator), Roger Bierbaum, John Childers, Leila Griffin (proxy), Penny Higgins, and Gary Ericksen. Three members declined to renew their membership: Janet Weigand, Paul Tanner, and David Mayo. Two new members were voted in: George Morse and Tim Lindbergh. At various times, there were approximately 40-45 people attending the meeting.

Election of Coordinators was then conducted. After numerous nominations (zero), George Morse volunteered and was elected to the Assistant Coordinator position. David Bollie was re-elected to the position of Coordinator. These two will serve in the positions for the next two years.

Following is the TAG's mission statement:

To provide guidance for planning, managing and sharing data of value effectively to the whole TRNS•PORT system and FHWA through uniformity and standardization, to ensure successful estimate and proposal preparation needs, to also include the automated proposal distribution, bid entry and analysis of contract award activities.

The TAG accepted the mission statement “as is” with no changes. This is primarily due to the fact that our TAG’s area of expertise deals with products and procedures that have been fairly stable for quite a while.

At the time of the meeting, the TAG removed all of the short term goals except for one that was kept on a conditional basis. The short term goal of renewable contracts was determined that this was beyond the scope of the TAG and, if needed, should be a ballot item that affects multiple TRNS•PORT products. The short term goal of combining PES and LAS was determined to be a long term goal and, after one short year on the short term goals list, was moved back to the long term goal list. At the time of the meeting, the issue of resolving differences between the drill down and tabbed folders functionality was thought to be a ballot item. If there was a ballot item for this, the Group voted to remove the item. Drill down was also indicated to be on its way out, also. No new short term goals were presented at the meeting. Currently, the Group has no short term goals.

There was only one new addition to the Group’s long term goals. Combining PES and LAS was moved to a long term goal because to do such a large change would require large monies available which is not the case now. Other pressing issues in the scope of the TRNS•PORT suite require the funds needed to do this task. Integrating browser technology into was kept as a long term goal. It was acknowledged that there is currently a Technical Review Team (TRT) currently working on this task for the entire TRNS•PORT suite. The TAG decided that it would make any necessary input into this through their Coordinator who is a member of that TRT. Electronic sharing of data with FHWA continues to remain on the long term goals with the recognition that some progress is already being made on the matter.

The Group next worked on ballot items. First, the Group recognized ballot items they had previously endorsed: 000461, 000670, G-75, L-41, and X-7. Particular interest was shown in L-41. Since the implementation in many states of CHAMP, or similar software, more people may have the need to access the vendor data information. This could compromise some of the confidentiality promised to vendors when they first qualified to bid.

Next the Group discussed the other ballot items. Three ballot items were newly endorsed by the Group: 5940, 5942, and 4660.

The Group then discussed ballot items that were felt were mis-categorized. The following recommendations were made:

- Items 5160, 5161, and 5940 were determined to be better suited in the General category.
- Items 4261 and 4620 were determined to be combined into one and moved to the General category.

The Group recommends the following items be deleted (with the blessing or suggestion of the state that initiated the ballot item): P-2, P-58, 4674, 5016, 5017, X-3, and 5792.

Four new ballot items from the state of Florida were presented at the TAG meeting. These ballot items were not voted on by the TAG. It was felt, after discussion, that some of the items may be errors in the system, or more information was needed. The TAG decided to let the ballot items be revised and that the state would introduce them at the TUG business meeting.

The TAG then adjourned the 2002 meeting at 4:27 PM.