

CTB Innovation and Technology Subcommittee Meeting

Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2017 at 7:30 a.m.
1221 E. Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

CTB Members present:

Hap Connors, Jr.
Alison DeTuncq
Mary Hynes Hughes
Scott Kasporwicz
Court Rosen
Shannon Valentine

Mr. Connors called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Agenda Items

1. Charter Update

The effort to develop a subcommittee charter will now become a work plan. A draft document work plan has been prepared. The document will be reviewed by the Office of the Attorney General and forwarded to the board members prior to the February subcommittee meeting.

2. UAS/Drone Exercise Lessons Learned

A video of the Thanksgiving weekend drone demonstration was presented. The video demonstrated the camera and thermal imagery features using drone technologies. Mr. Rick Via from the VDOT Operations Division and Mr. Travis Snyder from Global Professional Services discussed the technologies and displayed the drone used in the video presentation.

Drone technologies were included in the recent FASTLANE grant application. VDOT desired to use tethered drones for incident management and traffic monitoring with its safety service patrol fleet.

Mr. Connors recommended a future presentation to the full Commonwealth Transportation Board.

3. Automated Shuttle from Crystal City / Reagan National Update

A meeting with the General Manager from Local Motors is planned. A time line is being developed.

4. Strategic Partnership Update

Ms. Cathy McGhee provided an update of the Strategic Partnership. A Joint Agreement with UVA is in place that describes the nature of our partnership with them and the Smart Road Agreement serves a similar purpose with VTTI. A draft agreement will be available next month that is more generic in nature and identifies specific strategic areas that will be pursued with each entity. A slightly different agreement is also being drafted to facilitate research partnerships with the Center for Innovative Technology. None of these agreements will involve funding but will serve as a framework to seek funding opportunities or leverage activities. Ms. McGhee discussed the planned expanded automation park.

The board members were informed of the legislation regarding the lease between VDOT and UVA regarding the building and labs for VDOT's Research Council. Ms. McGhee stated that while the VDOT Research Council is housed at UVA, agreements with other universities exist to contract research at other facilities.

5. Automated Vehicle 20xx Update

Ronique Day informed the members that the next workshop will be held on March 8, 2017, at George Mason University. An agenda has been finalized. Feedback from the private sector is desired. Best practices from other states are being researched. A draft plan will be provide to the subcommittee for review and feedback.

Open Discussion:

- There is no introduced legislation regarding automated vehicles in the 2017 General Assembly Session.
- Ms. McGhee informed the members that VDOT submitted an application in response to the USDOT RFP for Automated Proving Grounds designation. This application includes a partnership with Vornado/Local Motors in Crystal City and involvement from Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.
- Ms. McGhee stated that she will be meeting with Peronne Robotics regarding advanced transportation technology applications.
- Mr. Gustafson stated that VDOT hired Ms. Virginia Lingham to serve as the VDOT connected and automated vehicle program manager. Mr. Gustafson also stated that VDOT is testing an automated vehicle at its Central Office facility. Members are invited to test this vehicle at the upcoming Intelligent Transportation Society of Virginia (ITSVA) meeting. The board members requested a briefing about the on-going activities of ITSVA.
- Ms. Hughes discussed a need to communicate upcoming connected and automated vehicle activities with local officials. Citizen groups may raise questions to officials. To ensure cooperation, an outreach program to anticipate likely questions and concerns will be beneficial. VDOT will develop talking points for a future communication plan and present them at the next subcommittee meeting.

- Mr. Gustafson provided a general update on the progress of the Innovation Technology Transportation Fund (ITTF) projects. Mr. Connors requested another update at the next subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Connors concluded the meeting at 8:26 a.m.