MINUTES

Participants: Karthik Obla
Bruce Blair Ray Seipp
Peter Bohme Paul Tennis
Ted Chandler Brad Violetta
John Cunningham Matt Wood
Terry Harris Rick Yelton
John Holliday
Al Innis
Steve Kosmatka Staff: Julie Garbini
Colin Lobo Jennifer LeFevre
Jeff O’Leary

I. WELCOME & ANTITRUST STATEMENT – Mrs. Garbini noted that Advisory Council Chair Jamie Gentoso was on an airplane from a delayed flight and would not be able to participate. Mrs. Garbini welcomed Advisory Council members to the call and said that the call would be conducted in strict accordance with the Foundation’s Antitrust Statement and all U.S. Antitrust laws.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Mrs. Garbini asked if there were any additions or changes to the minutes from the August 28, 2018 call and there were none.

MOTION: The Advisory Council hereby approves the minutes from the August 28, 2018 conference call.

III. PROJECT FUNDING AND MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

a. Project Payment Schedule and Management System; Measures of Success – Mrs. Garbini reminded the participants that we track project progress and pay based on percent complete and milestones achieved. She also noted the Measures of Success items and that we take care to demonstrate how the work we fund is being used and making an impact.

b. MIT Concrete Sustainability Hub – Mrs. Garbini reported that MIT researchers have participated in several important meetings lately, including the Transportation Research Board (TRB), Global Cement & Concrete Association, National Council on Science and
Environment, Embodied Carbon Network, ACI Strategic Development Council, Missouri Legislature, and the CONEXPO-CON/AGG Team regarding the 2020 Show Tech Experience. She also reported that CSHub Executive Director, Dr. Jeremy Gregory, will provide an update during a joint session at the NRMCA Convention and PCA Spring Board Meeting. Mrs. Garbini noted that the Foundation’s Spring Board meeting is planned for the third week in March where discussions about funding and plans for the next phase of MIT work will be a major topic of discussion. She noted that PCA had already voted to approve moving forward with the next phase at the CSHub.

Mrs. Garbini asked if there were any questions regarding the MIT work and there were none.

c. Other Project Highlights & Coming Deliverables – Mrs. Garbini reported that several deliverables are slated for release this year, including a new respiratory training video to assist in complying with a new silica rule that we will highlight at the convention, the Guide to Concrete Trails and Paths, and the study on the impact of extended mixing time. She noted that the PavementDesigner.org website continues to be very popular with over 13,000 design runs processed and used in all 50 states and internationally. Mrs. Garbini reported that the Guide to Concrete Overlays of Asphalt Parking Lots continues to be quite popular and that the main driver recruitment video now has over 34,000 views on YouTube.

Mrs. Garbini asked if there were any questions on programs and pending releases and there were none.

IV. FINANCIAL STATUS/BUDGET – Mrs. Garbini reported that the endowment currently stands at about $19M and that approximately $150,000 is budgeted for new project funding beyond what is already earmarked for MIT and projects approved in previous years but with payments occurring in 2019. She encouraged members to consider projects based on merit as the Board of Trustees will work out budgeting priorities and we could work with the Primary Investigator to spread project payments out to make funding work.

Mrs. Garbini asked if there were any questions regarding the Foundation’s financials and budget and there were none.

V. PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. Project 19-01: Beneficial Reuse of Waste Streams Associated with Drinking Water Sources for use in Ready Mixed Concrete, $135,357 over 24 months, Requested by University of Akron – Advisory Council members believed that this was a project that would benefit companies that process drinking water and therefore should be funded by that group.

MOTION APPROVED: To recommend that Project 19-01 be rejected for funding.

b. Project 19-02: Linking Accelerated ASR Test Methods to Field Exposure: Broadening to Moderate Alkali Contents and Moderate Alkali Loadings, $200,000 over 36 months, Requested by Researchers at University of Texas at Austin, Oregon State University and University of New Brunswick – Mrs. Garbini noted that we are already working with
OSU and UNB on another project and that this project would build on that work. Several Advisory Council members spoke in favor of the project. There was some discussion on the possibility of asking the researchers to narrow the scope of some of the project tasks in an effort to both increase its relevance and to scale down its cost. Others suggested the payments could be stretched out over a longer period.

MOTION APPROVED: To recommend that Project 19-02 be approved for funding provided that the researchers be asked to reduce the project’s scope in an effort to increase relevance and decrease the project budget.

c. Project 19-03: Concrete Strength Model to Optimize Concrete Mixtures, $115,200 over 24 months; Requested by ERD Consultants – It was explained that the researcher who submitted the project had created a model for optimizing strength in concrete mixtures based on an equation that he also created. The goal of the project is to formalize and validate the model. Given his reluctance to share the equation, there were concerns that this is a proprietary project. Others also believed that modeling like this was already occurring in the industry.

MOTION APPROVED: To recommend that Project 19-03 be rejected for funding.

d. Project 19-04: Performance-Based Specifications Development for Ready Mix Industry in the US – Production, Quality Control and Quality Assurance Procedures, $125,917 over 36 months, Requested by East Carolina University – Advisory Council members noted that the test methods identified were not necessarily reliable and there were concerns that this project would not be applicable to building markets. In addition, on the pavement side the research is similar to the PEM work already being conducted at the CP Tech Center in conjunction with other partners.

MOTION APPROVED: To recommend that Project 19-04 be rejected for funding.

e. Project 19-05: NRMCA Class B Entry Level Driver Training for the Ready Mixed Concrete Industry, $50,000 over 12 months, Requested by NRMCA Workforce Development and Safety, Environmental and Operations Committees – Mrs. Garbini said this project came at the request of NRMCA’s Workforce Development Committee and the Safety, Environment and Operations Committee. It was noted that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has new entry level driver training requirements and this proposal will help the industry meet them by developing a curriculum specific for entry-level ready mixed concrete drivers. Discussion ensued regarding the benefits of providing training on a company-level and questions arose regarding plans for pricing. It was suggested that this training be provided at little-to-no cost to the industry and state affiliates who could work with local driving schools.

MOTION APPROVED: To recommend that Project 19-05 be approved for funding provided that it be offered to the industry and state affiliates at little or no cost.

f. Project 19-06: Concrete Materials and Pavement Instructional Laboratory, $175,000 over 5 years, Requested by University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – Mrs. Garbini noted that PCA is considering this and that ACPA National has rejected funding for this project, but suggested that the local chapter may consider. She also noted that donor
companies like Continental Cement had committed to the project. The Advisory Council members did not feel that capital improvement of a university lab was something that fell within the Foundation’s purview and they did not want to open the door to multiple requests to fund other labs as opposed to specific research projects.

**MOTION APPROVED:** To recommend that Project 19-06 be rejected for funding.

g. Project 19-07: Harvesting Ponded & Landfilled Fly Ash for Use in Concrete, $121,350 over 18 months, Requested by Ohio State University – It was noted by several members of the Advisory Council that this work is already being done by other companies and that it is something the power industry should fund.

**MOTION APPROVED:** To recommend that Project 19-07 be rejected for funding.

VI. **OTHER BUSINESS** – Drs. Lobo and Obla reported that sensitivity and resistivity project is going well. The first phase is complete, and a draft report will be ready soon.

Mrs. Garbini encouraged anyone who would be attending NRMCA’s upcoming convention to plan to stop by the Foundation’s booth. She also noted that Foundation updates would take place at several committee meetings and reminded everyone that MIT’s Jeremy Gregory will be providing an update at one of the joint sessions.

Mrs. Garbini asked if anyone had any further business and there was none.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no other business, the call was adjourned.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer LeFevre, Recorder