

National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

**Council Meeting—Thursday, January 08, 2009—Arlington, Virginia
Minutes of Meeting**

Chairman Billingsley called the meeting to order at 8:00am.

Executive Secretary Bob Garrett called the roll and the following council members were present:

AAA	No Delegate		
AAR	Mel McNichols	IACP	No Delegate
AASHTO	Del McOmie	IBTTA	Maurice Palumbo
	Dave Woodin	IMSA	Don Fullerton
	Rick Werts	ITE	Ross Airmoloo
	Tim Taylor		Gene Putman
	Ken Kobetsky		John Fisher
	Tom Hicks		Paul Carlson
	Bruce Ibarguen		John LaPlante
	Ed Fischer		Andy Ramisch
AHAS	Jerry Donaldson		Gene Hawkins
AHUA	Jim Keaton		Ronnie Bell
APWA	Steve Oliver	NACE	Lee Billingsley
	Julio Fuentes		Jeff Blue
	Jim Sparks		John Logan
AREMA	Richard Campbell	HFR	Phil Garvey
ARTBA	Tim Cox	GHSA	Ron Lipps
ATSSA	Dave McKee	NSC	Dan Magr7
LAB	Richard Moeur		
APTA	Paul O'Brien		

Honorary, Non-Voting Members: Jim Pline, Dick Luettich, Dave Kuemmel, George Butzer

Secretary Garrett declared a quorum with 35 of 37 voting members present. Also present were approximately 150 other members and visitors.

Garrett also reported that the registration for this meeting, as of today, is 240 (The final registration was 249)

Moved by Logan, seconded by Hawkins to approve the minutes of the last two council meetings June 20 & 21, 2008. Motion approved unanimously.

Chairman's Report of Executive Board Actions

Chair, Lee Billingsley, reported that the Executive Board had met last evening and took action on the following items:

- Approved the budget for the January 2010 meeting with an early/late registration fees of \$110/\$160.
- Approved a contract with the Hilton Crystal City Hotel for the January 2010 meeting. The meeting will be held January 6-8, 2010.

- Approved unanimously the proposed bylaws changes to accommodate the addition of ASCE and APBP as new Sponsors.
- Approved 12 new Technical Members, one Member and two Associate Members with assignments to Technical Committees as indicated in (Attachment No. 1). Chairman Billingsley then introduced the new members.
- Approved the appointment of a new task force to develop guidelines for awarding CEU's and PDH credits for attendance at NCUTCD meetings. The new task force will include John LaPlante, chair, Ken Kobetsky, Bruce Ibarguen and Gene Putman.
- Approved the production and sale of pins with the NCUTCD logo which will be available at the June 2009 meeting.
- Approved the appointment of John Fisher as Vice Chair of the Signals Technical Committee.

Moved by Oliver, seconded by Moeur to approve the proposed bylaws amendment which adds two new Sponsors, ASCE and APBP. (Attachment No. 2) Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Billingsley invited the Member delegates from the two new sponsors to take their seats as voting members of the council.

FHWA Report

Hari Kalla presented a power point report on FHWA activities. He thanked the NCUTCD for the work on preparing and submitting extensive comments on the recent NPR. The NPA constituted 67 pages in the Federal Register and generated a response of over 2,000 letters and over 15,000 comments. It will take FHWA staff considerable time to analyze all of the comments and publication of the final rule is anticipated in the second half of 2009. FHWA will not be able to make a decision on the NCUTCD recommended Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (SNPA) until they analyze all of the comments. Some significant issues FHWA will be working on in the future include:

- MUTCD application on private property
- Traffic control devices for toll plazas, managed lanes and preferential lanes—should there be a separate chapter in the MUTCD?
- Diagrammatic sign designs
- RV accessible symbol
- Traffic signal issues
- Yield or stop signs at passive grade crossings
- High visibility safety apparel
- Future directions for the MUTCD—Strategic planning need in terms of:
 1. Format
 2. Content (what is a TCD, etc.?)
 3. New and emerging issues such as; congestion mitigation (hot lanes), environmental/climate change, advertising within the ROW

Kalla reported that the use of metric in the MUTCD is no longer mandatory. There are three options that are being considered for the MUTCD:

1. English units with metric in (paren)
2. Metric units with English in (paren)
3. Only English units

He asked for NCUTCD input on this issue. Some comments from the audience included:

- All other government agencies use primary metric or all metric.
- MUTCD as a national standard must include metric units.
- All states have abandoned metric.

Edit Committee Report

Edit committee chair, Tom Hicks reported that the committee had met with all members present. The following items were discussed:

- The need for Technical Committee proposals to be based upon research results.
- Each technical committee is being requested to develop at least one research statement for review in June.
- Agreed that metric units should be shown in the MUTCD, but English units should be shown first.
- Question of what is a traffic control device was again discussed in depth and each technical committee is requested to comment upon the traffic control device definition; review the list of devices of what are TCD's and add to the list of TCD's any additional devices for their part of the MUTCD.
- Discussed the demise of NCUTLO and indicated a need to have Chapter 11 of the UVC dealing with rules-of-the-road maintained in sync with the MUTCD. Request the technical committees to review their parts for what may appear to be inconsistencies between MUTCD material and the material in the UVC.
- Edit committee will continue to consider the issues of traffic control devices on private property.

Canadian NCUTCD Report

John Logan made a power point presentation on recent activities of the Canadian NCUTCD. The report is ([Attachment No. 3](#))

Research Committee Meeting Information

Research Committee chair, Ken Kobetsky, reported that the committee will sponsor a tour of the FHWA Turner Fairbank Research Lab tonight. A large turnout is expected and car pool cars are needed. Persons attending will meet in the hotel lobby at 5:30. Note: An anonymous donor paid for a 55 passenger bus.

Technical Committee Action Items

There were no action items to be presented at this time

Announcement of Summer 2009 Meeting - June 18-20, 2009.

Bill Lambert gave information on the June 2009 meeting being held in Manchester, New Hampshire. He reminded delegates that, for this one meeting, the schedule will be Thursday – Saturday, rather than Wednesday – Friday.

History of NCUTCD Presentation by Gene Hawkins

Gene Hawkins made a presentation on the history of the MUTCD.

NCUTLO and UVC

Ray Pusey gave a brief report and answered questions of the status of NCUTLO and the Uniform Vehicle Code (UVC). He reported that AASHTO has acquired about 2,000 paper copies of the UVC and has agreed to give one to each NCUTCD officer and committee chair, free. The remainder will be offered for sale.

Pedestrian Task Force

Pedestrian Task Force chair, John LaPlante, reported that they had met yesterday with 16 members and four visitors present. A report of the meeting is (Attachment No. 4).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Garrett, Executive Secretary