

ACEC/NCDOT

STRUCTURES SUBCOMMITTEE+++

Structures Conference Room C

February 16, 2026, 10:30 AM

MEETING MINUTES

1) Attendees

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a) David Snoke
(Absent) | g) Emily Murray - Volkert |
| b) Gichuru Muchane | h) Jeff Loftus – McAdams |
| c) Trey Carroll | i) Tony Laws – RS&H |
| d) David Stutts | j) Joshua Gentry – RK&K |
| e) Hoang Dieu | k) Greg Cols - AECOM |
| f) Jeremy McCartha | l) David Ragan – H&H (Absent) |
| | m) Nick Pierce – SMU |
| | n) James Hawk - SMU |

2) Meeting Kick-off

- a) Previously approved minutes were published and available on ACEC website
- b) Subcommittee Updates
 - i) New PEF committee member reviews and voting likely to take place before the next scheduled meeting.

3) Bridge Design Workshop Series

- a) Review of topics for next workshops to schedule
 - i) Targeted January/February Workshop was not possible due to venue and selected speaker’s availability before retirement.
 - ii) Discussion potential candidates for next topics
 - Bridge Rehabilitation and Repair topic. Emily Murray to reach out to Tim Sherrill to see if he is willing to still present. Ideas include discussion of draft manual, funding sources, common repairs and general practices, and virtual field trip. (Scheduled for April 14th at McKimmon Center)
 - Strut and Tie Research is complete. Although updated geometry requirements in AASHTO reduce the number of situations where STM is required, it is still a topic of interest among the members. Trey Carroll will reach out to Dr. Georgio Prestos regarding presenting later this year.
 - Mechanically Fastened FRP to Retrofit Existing Prestressed Concrete Bridge Beams also complete and could be topic for later in 2026. Nick Pierce will contact Dr. Seracino
 - Alligator River Bridge Replacement (As soon as summer 2026)

- NCDOT presentation on Standard Plans (Timber Replacements or Cored Slab/Box Beam Assumptions)
- Green River Bridge is still a topic of interest since the audience for lunch workshops is different than conferences.

4) **Training/Professional Development Opportunities**

- a) PCI Bridge Seminar
 - i) May 5th date confirmed
 - ii) Marti Harrell of Georgia/Carolinas PCI will send a draft agenda when available.
- b) Other training opportunities
 - i) NCDOT Preconstruction Workshop – March 16th & 17th
 - ii) Updates for potential NCDOT recorded online training? SMU still anticipates providing some recorded training but after implementation of the new workspace is complete.
- c) NCLUG is conducting a survey of topics of interest for the summer conference. Encourage everyone and especially structures folks to provide input. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScD4EaBhvcY-ziIYhUUSaEic5fgWSVZyKxDg_I0IxWLKbtCew/viewform

5) **Anticipated PEF Opportunities**

- a) Updates from SMU – LSC is expected to advertise late summer 2026 and will still include planning and design as SMU will still manage the program even through PMU will manage the projects. SMU is utilizing firms for GESC reviews and there may be some upcoming preservation projects.
- b) Helene bridge replacement update- SMU estimates they have reviewed 94 PGDs and about 40 final plan sets with another 50 or so under contract. Collaboration has been good and things are going smoothly, all things considered. There are still a few more express design build groups that will be shortlisted from the July 2025 teams.

6) **Technical Topics**

- a) Recent revisions to manuals, standards, etc.
 - i) Reviewers are still seeing a lot of plans with the old note for post-tensioning of units on cored slab and box beam typical sections. Note should reference the project special provision.
- b) Upcoming revisions to manuals, standards, etc.
 - i) SMU is working on revisions to the in-kind timber manual. Discussion of the timber bridge manual/standards usage led to request for the committee to develop and circulate a survey on how/when timber bridge standards are being used and what additional guidance is needed. Emily will develop a survey for committee comment and coordinate with ACEC to circulate.
 - ii) A revision to Chapter 7 concerning mass concrete is forthcoming. There

have been instances in which mass concrete provisions were inadvertently missed on certain projects.

- iii) Work is still in progress on the preservation/asset management manual.
 - c) Digital Delivery, OBD/Open X, and ProjectWise implementation
 - i) SMU is gearing up for rollout of the new integrated workspace and would like feedback from the committee on some of the changes that are going to be necessary to advance modeling to the next step. Nick Pierce distributed a draft revision to chapter 4 of the SMU Open Bridge Manual and draft bar bending detail sheet for feedback. Going forward, plans will need to be prepared without repeating bar designations to facilitate modeling with ProConcrete. The bar bending detail sheet is similar to what is used in some other states and SMU is interested in feedback on the completeness of the details and how to implement them within the plan set (ie do bill of materials tables stay with the various bridge plan sheet components or get consolidated and presented along with the bar bending details sheet.)
 - d) Research project updates
 - i) New project starting in the fall on rail car bridges coming out of service.
- 7) **Open Discussion/Other Topics**
- a) David Stutts and others will be taking on various role of Tim Sherrill for bridge preservation projects. It will be a combined effort between him and field ops project engineers Kristy Alford and Adam Cole as well as Doug Cantrell who oversees engineering development.
- 8) **Next Subcommittee Meeting:**
- a) May 4th, 2026