

MINUTES
NAHBA QUARTERLY TELECONFERENCE
October 31, 2002

The teleconference was held at 1:00 P.M. (EST) on Thursday, October 31, 2002, with the following participants:

Barbara Wessinger – South Carolina
Keith Melvin – South Carolina
Juanice Hagan – Florida
Sue Perkins – Kentucky
Allan Ritchie - Kentucky FHWA
Bryan O’Neil – DC FHWA
Bob Black – DC FHWA
Clyde Johnson – Georgia FHWA
Andy Lyles – Ohio
Kerry Yoakum – Ohio
Jimmy Odom – Oregon
John Wichman – Oregon FHWA

The following items were addressed:

(1) Elimination of the 6-1-91 FAP system from State ODA Program - Barbara Wessinger expressed that there is interest on the part of the NAHBA membership that NAHBA take as one of its objectives a change to Federal Code to allow the States to discontinue control of those 6-1-91 roads sections that are not a part of the Interstate/NHS system today.

Bryan O’Neil, Bob Black and Clyde Johnson of FHWA explained that at the time ISTEA was signed in 1991, Congress included the provision that the States continue to control (for outdoor advertising purposes) the road sections classified as Federal Aid Primary Roads on the date that ISTEA was signed into law (6-1-91). This provision for control had been heavily lobbied for by the Outdoor Advertising industry during the ISTEA hearings, to ensure that just compensation was paid for their signs should government require their removal.

After discussion, those participating in the teleconference encouraged NAHBA to conduct a survey of its membership to determine, among other things: (1) The number of signs/miles of road section that would be eliminated if 6-1-91 road sections were not controlled; and (2) The cost savings that could be realized by the states if they did not have to regulate the 6-1-91 routes. It was also recommended that the NAHBA Board discuss this concept with representatives of

OAAA in order to understand the position OAAA would take regarding this issue and to determine if a compromise could be reached with the regulated industry.

- (1) Turning over the State ODA program to local jurisdictions - Barbara expressed the concern of several NAHBA members that many State outdoor advertising permit issues can be handled in a more effective manner at the local government level. She asked those participants representing FHWA if turning over the control of the outdoor advertising program to a local government would be allowed at the federal level. Bryan and Clyde explained that Federal regulations already allow for local jurisdictions to become “certified cities” and it lays out the criteria that allows the locals to regulate their outdoor advertising at a level that may be more strict or less strict than state law.

It was discussed that several states have had jurisdictions qualify for the “certified city” designation; however, the process is time consuming and requires substantial documentation from the local jurisdiction.

The NAHBA Board will discuss this issue and post information regarding “certified cities” on its web page.

- (2) Availability of FHWA Interactive Training CD – Bryan announced that FHWA has completed the outdoor advertising interactive training CD but is waiting for funding to facilitate the cost of providing a copy for each state. It is hoped that the training program will be available for distribution in the near future.

Barbara thanked FHWA Washington for discussing outdoor advertising issues in their quarterly teleconferences with their state counterparts and added that this has greatly assisted communication between state regulatory personnel and the regional FHWA offices.

Barbara will notify the NAHBA membership of the next quarterly teleconference date and will poll the membership in advance of the teleconference for issues to discuss.

With there being no additional items for discussion, the teleconference was adjourned.

Juanice M. Hagan
Secretary-Treasurer