I. WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 2:48 PM CDT by Committee Chair Brent Ogden.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was held at the 2018 ITE Annual Meeting at the Hilton Minneapolis Hotel in Minneapolis, MN. There were eighteen members and guests who participated:

<table>
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<th>In Person</th>
<th>By Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brent Ogden</td>
<td>Dee Chappell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Lancaster</td>
<td>Steve Venglar</td>
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<td>Brian Gilleran</td>
<td>Gene Russell</td>
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<td>Karen Hankinson</td>
<td>John Van Hoff</td>
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<td>Bob Seyfried</td>
<td>VJ Kulkarni</td>
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<td>Nicole Jackson</td>
<td>Stephen Laffey</td>
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<td>JoNette Khunau</td>
<td>Joe Palsa</td>
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<td>Siva Narla</td>
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<td>Josh Cotter</td>
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<td>Mike Meeks</td>
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<td>Dillon Turner</td>
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III. ITE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Siva Narla (ITE staff) reported on two ITE-related items:

- ITE staff is looking forward to completion of the Recommended Practice for the preemption of traffic signals near railroad crossings. It is hoped that it can be published by April 2019.

- Siva discussed the new One ITE program. The objective is to more closely connect the ITE Districts and Sections. As part of the concept, there are proposals to change some district boundaries, including the division of the Western District into two separate districts.

IV. ITE COMMITTEE ITEMS

1. Conference Sessions Update

The Committee’s ITE Annual Meeting session scheduled for August 22, 2018, is entitled “Implementing Best Practices to Provide Safe Integration of Rail Transport”. The four presentations will be:
Designing New Features to Control Right Turns on Red (Naree Kim, Iteris)
Green Line LRT Transit Mall (Dan Soler, Metrotransit)
Blue Line LRT Extension in Shared Corridor (Jim Alexander, Metrotransit)
Use of New TxDOT Preemption Procedures and Forms (Nicole Jackson, CTC)

There was a discussion of potential 2019 ITE Annual Meeting topics. The meeting will be in Austin, TX, July 21 – 24. Possible topics could include the Highway–Rail Crossing Handbook and the preemption Recommended Practice, both of which should be newly published by then, and the transit system in Austin.

2. MUTCD Report

Brent reported that an ANOTHER TRAIN COMING sign was approved by the Rail-road/LRT Technical Committee after much discussion and many sponsor comments, and then approved by the Council in June 2018. It will now be forwarded to FHWA for possible inclusion in the next edition of the MUTCD.

A new warning sign for bicycles at railroad crossings was presented to the Railroad/LRT Committee by the Bicycle Committee, and then sent out for sponsor comments.

There is a Roundabout Committee composed of several members of MUTCD Technical Committees. The Roundabout Committee has a task force, headed by Tom Lancaster, the RR/LRT representative on the Committee, to determine if revisions are needed to Section 8C.12 of the MUTCD, “Grade Crossings Within or in Close Proximity to Circular Intersections”.

There is no information yet regarding a possible publication date of a new edition of the MUTCD.


The second draft of a Third Edition of this handbook was submitted by Brent Ogden, and hundreds of comments were received. Brent is now responding to the comments and will submit the results to ITE on August 24. The proposed handbook will be reviewed by FHWA and FRA. In the future, regular updates to the handbook are planned.

4. Update of Recommended Practice for the Preemption of Traffic Signals Near Grade Crossings

Tom Lancaster reported that responses to a draft of the proposed updated RP have been received from a review panel, and responses are being prepared. The next steps are to publish a summary of the proposed RP in the ITE Journal and ask for comments, respond to the comments, submit the revised RP to a Committee vote, submit the revised RP to a review panel vote, and submit the revised RP to an International Board of Directors vote.
As a part of the preparation of responses to the review panel comments, there was a discussion of several of the comments:

- It was the Committee consensus to use the term “Preemption Clearance Interval” as a replacement for “Clear Track Green Interval” because sometimes the track clearance interval is other than green.

- The Committee determined that a publication date should be associated with each reference in the RP, because there might be subsequent revisions to the references.

- It was decided that a comparison of preemption timing worksheets should not be made, because they are examples, not recommendations.

- The Committee suggested the use of the term “highway traffic signal” rather than “traffic signal” or “traffic control signal” or “highway traffic control signal”.

- The Committee recommended the use of the term “stop line” except where there might be confusion as to whether the stop line is located at the railroad crossing or at the downstream highway intersection.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Possible future activities for this Committee could include the presentation of webinars for the upcoming new editions of the railroad crossing handbook and the preemption RP. Articles could also be prepared for the ITE Journal regarding these new publications. Siva stated that ITE would promote any webinars on these subjects, and that typically a webinar would be held shortly after publication of the new documents.

Although an ANOTHER TRAIN COMING sign has been approved by the MUTCD council, it does not indicate the direction from which the train is coming. Additional research is needed for enhancements to the sign to provide an audible indication, train direction, and a train symbol. The task force from the sign will continue its work.

VI. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, Washington DC, Sunday January 13 through Thursday January 17, 2019, at the Washington Convention Center

- ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit, Austin, Texas, Sunday July 21 through Wednesday July 24.

VII. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 pm.