

## **Committee 13 – Environment:** September 28, 2021

### **Current Committee Leadership**

Leo Thorbecke, TRC	Chair
Kari Harris, CN	Vice Chair
Peter Masson, Golder	Secretary

### **Attendance via Teams:**

Bill James (TRC)  
Leo Thorbecke (TRC)  
Kari Harris (CN)  
Peter Masson (Golder)  
Josh Sales (Kennedy Jenks)  
Kelly Blanchard (TetraTech)  
Janet Hill (Arcadis)  
Lori Price (Jacobs)  
Martina Schlauch (Arcadis)  
Trenna Seilheimer (Arcadis)  
Matt Williams (Amtrak)  
Coley Campbell (CSX)  
Bryan Naranjo (NS)  
Kelly Farrel (HDR)  
Chris Hunsicker (NS)  
Tyler Phelps (Coldwater Engineering)  
Chris Barkan (RREC)  
Doug Dorsey (Hanson)  
Gisele Siman (HDR)  
Nao Nishio (CN)  
Leandra Cleveland (HDR)  
Alejandro Espinoza

### **Membership Count:** 35

**Leadership Changes:** Kari Harris to move to Chair, Peter Masson move to Vice Chair, Matt Williams voted in as new Secretary

**Ballots Recommended for Board Approval:** None.

**New Assignment Request for Board Approval:** None.

**Ballots in Process:** The Canadian section is currently being reviewed.

**Next Meeting and Date:** October 25, 2021 at the virtual RREC.

### **COMM 13 Agenda**

1. Roll-call / Safety Minute: Safe driving.
2. Passing of the gavel to Kari to take over as chair and Peter to vice chair. Matt Williams (Amtrak) moves into the Secretary role.
3. Leo reviews activities from last year: Mission/Vision statement, website overhaul, setting up the working groups, permitting webinar and new logo.
4. Subcommittees Updates:
  - a. Technical/Conferences (Peter: [peter\\_masson@golder.com](mailto:peter_masson@golder.com)): Peter will set up meeting to review topics from AREMA and prepare for the RREC. Kari says there's one presentation from BNSF on sustainability at AREMA this year. Leo notes due date for AREMA abstracts are Dec 10.
  - b. Education and Training (Janet: [janet.hill@arcadis.com](mailto:janet.hill@arcadis.com)): There were more than 50 participants on the permitting webinar. There was also an RT&S article in August about Committee 13. This subcommittee will reconvene to talk about what additional articles

and webinars are worthwhile. Kari discussed doing a permitting part 2 webinar by December.

- c. Membership (Kelly: [Kelly.blanchard@tetrattech.com](mailto:Kelly.blanchard@tetrattech.com)): Kelly says they worked on the logo for a while. They also incorporated membership slides into the permitting webinar. They can now use the AREMA LinkedIn account for posting content. If anyone has any good content for AREMA LinkedIn, reach out to Kelly. We had talked about having a booth at the RREC but won't be able to now with the virtual conference. They will have call to brainstorm new ideas. Added Leandra Cleveland to the membership committee.
- d. Chapter Review (Matt: [Matthew.Williams@amtrak.com](mailto:Matthew.Williams@amtrak.com)) New committee set up to review the chapters on a regular basis and make sure they get updated. Matt to chair with support from Doug Dorsey.
5. Chris Barkan reviews the decision to hold the RREC virtually. They will not abridge the program. AREMA Committee 13 will have 20 min for a presentation. We will include Nao Nishio (CN) in presentation to talk about moving from a student at the RREC to a full railroad employee and committee member. We need to consider how to coordinate with students in Comm 13 student chapter at the virtual RREC.
6. Coley to coordinate use of the CSX Fish Camp for Spring 2022 meeting in April or May
7. Closing: All thank Leo for his service!

#### **Current Ballots:**

**No current ballots for voting.**

**Canadian Section (Under development) – Peter Masson, chair.** Will find reviewers.

**Issues:** None to report

[End Committee 13 Report]