

**New Ohio River Bridge System Study  
Minutes and Chronological History  
January 1993 through October 2008**

*Prepared by the Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan  
Planning Commission. November 2008.*

**Bridge Study Minutes**  
October 1999 through May 2003

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# BRIDGE STUDY MEETING

Below are the minutes taken by Dr. John Brown for the Bridge Study Committee conducted on October 19, 1999 at the the Steubenville Chamber of Commerce. This is a full list of attendees and description of happenings. After every meeting minutes and happenings will be posted here.

**Adopted Meeting #1**  
 Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson  
 Bridge Study Advisory Committee  
 October 19, 1999

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Persons	Will Allison	Hancock County Commission
Present:	Don Bailey	West Virginia Department of Transportation
	Frank Bovina	Village of Mingo Junction
	Jim Branagan	Jefferson County Engineer
	Kelly Brooker	Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum
	John Brown	Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Planning Commission
	Romie Castelli	Weir-Cove Steel Haulers
	Mike Paprocki	Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Planning Commission
	George Cattrell	City of Toronto
	Pat Comiskey	City of Wellsburg
	Caleb Faux	Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum
	Gary Folden	Village of Wintersville
	Adrian Freund	Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum
	Chris Fletcher	City of Weirton
	Amy Gaeris	Wheeling-Intelligencer
	Ed Grace	City of Weirton
	Duane Heck	Brooke County Commission
	Bob Helton	City of Wellsburg
	Russ Irvin	Citizen at Large
	Perry Keller	Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum
	Mauresh Khare	Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Planning Commission
	Brian Linkesh	Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle
	Karen Monaco	Ohio Department of Transportation
	Rick Platt	Alliance 2000

Shawn Price	Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Planning Commission
Norm Schwertfeger	Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Planning Commission
David Snelting	City of Steubenville
Dan Tassey	Brooke-Hancock Assessors Office
Ronald Ujcich	Brooke County Board of Education
George Vojvodich	Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel

The meeting was called to order at 1:30. The meeting proceeded in the following fashion.

- Caleb Faux, Project Manager for the Upper Ohio Valley Bridge System Needs and Location Study introduced the purpose, content and expectations of the meeting. He introduced the consultant team of Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum (PKG) who will complete the Upper Ohio Valley Bridge System Needs and Location Study (the Study)
- Dr. Brown followed with introductory comments. He thanked the West Virginia Department of Transportation (WVDOT) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for their joint funding of the
- Don Bailey of the West Virginia Department of Transportation (WVDOT) read a prepared statement including WVDOT's willingness to fund the study.
- Karen Monaco on behalf of ODOT welcomed the Advisory Committee.
- Each Advisory Committee member introduced their perceived role.
- Mr. Faux indicated the Study was broken into two parts. Part 1. was a needs evaluation. It create "Purpose and Need" statement, a prerequisite to any bridge funding and construction project. Part 2. was a location analysis. Part 2. would only be completed if a need is shown. Part 1 is expected to take 6 to 7 months. Part 2. is expected to take 12 months. Part 1. is fully funded. Part 2. is not funded; however, upon a showing of need, the present funding sources are willing to consider or promote further funding.
- Adrian Freund from PKG provided a Power Point presentation and highlighted the need for open consensus building and respect. He noted his experience as the Planning Director for Jefferson County (Louisville, Kentucky) and the necessary consensus building to build a bridge on the Ohio between Louisville and Clarksville (Indiana).
- The Advisory Committee requested the next meeting of the Bridge Study Advisory Committee be held in West Virginia.
- Mr. Faux stated the Advisory Committee will meet on a monthly basis. Each meeting will take 1 hour. The Advisory will meet the third Wednesday of each month. Each meeting will be held at Meeting dates for the next three months are the following.

November 17 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 1:30 pm	City of Weirton Municipal Bdg 200 Municipal Plaza Ro 201
December 15 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 1:30 pm	Brooke Library 945 Main St. City of Wellsburg Meetin Room
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 1:30 pm	Jefferson Community College 4000 Sunset Blvd. Room 2000

- Mr. Faux indicated upon the gathering of information from "key person" interviews and the review of existing information, a public information meeting would be held on November 17<sup>th</sup> (4:00-7:00) at Brooke County Area High School (Bruin Drive, Room 520, Lecture Room).
- Mr. Faux stated, to gather background information, preliminary interviews would be held. He requested Advisory Committee members to provide a list of key person interviews to the consultant team before the end of the meeting.
- The Advisory Committee named David Snelting as the Chairman for the Bridge Study.
- To provide a joint and mutual response to the media, it was suggested a point person for the Advisory Committee be designated. This item will be considered at the next meeting.
- Mr. Faux presented a draft partnership agreement for the Advisory Committee to review, amend, and consider for adoption at the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. The partnership agreement would be placed on a poster board, signed by Advisory Committee members and posted at each Advisory Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55.

# BRIDGE STUDY MEETING

Below are the minutes taken by Dr. John Brown for the Bridge Study Committee conducted on November 17, 1999 at the the City of Weirton's Municipal Building. This is a full list of attendees and description of happenings.

**Adopted Meeting #2**  
 Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson  
 Bridge Study Advisory Committee  
 November 17, 1999

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Persons	Don Bailey	West Virginia Department of Transportation
Present:	Frank Bovina	Village of Mingo Junction
	Jim Branagan	Jefferson County Engineer
	Kelly Brooker	Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum
	John Brown	Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Planning Commission
	Romie Castelli	Weir-Cove Steel Haulers
	Joe Cicchirillo	City of Follansbee
	Pat Comiskey	City of Wellsburg
	Gary DuFour	City of Steubenville
	Caleb Faux	Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum
	Gary Folden	Village of Wintersville
	Steve Folk	West Virginia Department of Transportation
	Adrian Freund	Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum
	Greg Gurney	Ohio Department of Transportation
	Duane Heck	Brooke County Commission
	Bob Helton	City of Wellsburg
	Russ Irvin	Citizen at Large
	Perry Keller	Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum
	Brian Linkesh	Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle
	Larry Main	Brooke County Health Department
	Mike Paprocki	Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Planning Commission
	Rick Platt	Alliance 2000

Rick Platt	Alliance 2000
Shawn Price	Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Planning Commission
Bob Riccelli	Brooke County Commission
John Ross	Weirton Steel
David Snelting	City of Steubenville
Dan Tassej	Brooke-Hancock Assessors Office
Ronald Ujcich	Brooke County Board of Education
Richard Warner	West Virginia Department of Transportation
Bob Wirgau	City of Weirton

On November 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30, the Bridge Study Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairman Da Snelting. The meeting proceeded with the following fashion.

- Minutes for October 19<sup>th</sup> were adopted as presented.
- Caleb Faux, Project Manager for the Bridge Study and a member of the consultant firm of Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum (PKG), provided a progress report on activities for the last 30 days.
  - Ten stakeholder interviews have been held.
  - A Bridge Study website with minutes, future meetings, announcements and a public comment section is available through BHIJ's website at [www.bhjmpc.org](http://www.bhjmpc.org).
  - Graphics and data for the public information meeting at Brooke High School have been prepared.
  - Preliminary traffic modeling in coordination with the BHIJ Transportation Division has been initiated.
- Upon discussion and review, members of the Bridge Study Advisory Committee signed a Team Partnership Agreement. See Attachment 1. The Agreement will be present all monthly meetings of the Bridge Study Advisory Committee. It was understood the Agreement did not precede the function/position of local administrators or local advocacy groups. It was prepared to assure the Advisory Committee think and speak as a single voice.
- Caleb Faux distributed metropolitan statistics for residential population (1970-1996), residential population rate of growth by % (1970-1996), projected change in population (1996-2020), residential population projected rate of growth by % (1996-2020), change in employment (1970-1996), employment rate of growth by % (1970-1996) and projected change in employment (1996). It was agreed the statistics provide a need for the Bridge Study Advisory Committee to work as a regional whole.
- Adrian Freund, from PKG Consultants, proceeded with a priority goal-setting exercise to confirm why a regional bridge system need study is necessary. Committee members individually voted on what they perceived as the five most important factors. Noted factors, as provided by the Committee, follow. This list is not stated in a priority order. The priority will be accumulated and presented at the next committee meeting.
  - Economic development and job retention
  - Intermodal transportation

- Enhance the location of industries and business centers
  - Provide minimum travel time
  - Promote population centers
  - Establish criteria similar to the for the Interstate Highway System
  - Aesthetics/design
  - Fund availability
  - Time
  - Environmental
  - Residential and commercial relocation
- PKG consultants indicated their work program for the next 30 days included a summary of existi bridge conditions, interviews and the continuation of traffic modeling.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00. The next meeting of the committee will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 1: the conference room of the Brooke County Library (Wellsburg, WV).

## **ATTACHMENT 1.**

### **The Upper Ohio Valley Bridge System Needs and Location Study Team Partnership Agreement**

We, the Upper Ohio Valley Bridge System Needs and Location Team are committed to determining the need for an Upper Ohio Valley Bridge and upon a determination of need provide a technical and responsible site (s) recommendation. The Team will work together in a spirit of cooperation. We will strive for trust and understanding among those involved, speaking only as a unified voice to the media. We will communicate frequently and openly, and work to safely produce a quality product for the safety, convenience and quality of life i the Upper Ohio Valley.

In addition, we agree to the following goals.

- Prompt decision making by all
- Win-Win approach to resolve conflicts.
- Maintain a positive work environment through open communication
- Quality that meets or exceeds the stakeholders expectations, without the need for rework.

To view the minutes from the last meeting click here.