1. **Committee and Subcommittee:** Committee 7, Timber Structures; Subcommittee 3, Construction, maintenance and inspection of wood bridges and trestles.

2. **Letter Ballot Number:** 07-20-05

3. **Assignment:** C3-1-14 Review and update Parts 4 and 5 and associated commentary of Chapter 7.

4. **Ballot Item:** 5.2.4 Superstructure

5. **Rationale:** The intent of this ballot is for minor updates to the language and terminology. Paragraph b – remove the word “any.” Add “spacer blocks” since some railroads use spacer blocks. Paragraph c – change devices (usually refer to bolts) to system. Paragraph d – it is appropriate to mention specifically the individual components of the superstructure (stringers and shims) in general. The ballast decks are covered in Paragraph e. Paragraph f – specify shims and stringers, and change “uniform” to “sufficient.” Stringers may be walking off the cap and most of the time the timber bears uniformly on the cap. It is more important to focus on the stringer bearing area. Removed the sentence referring to chord bolts since this is already referred to in the previous sentence. Paragraph g – replace the use of word “foreign” with “not part of.”

6. **Vote:** Approve_________ Disapprove_________ Abstain_________

    *Note: If you have a conflict of interest on the topic being considered, you must mark the ballot "Abstain."

7. **Comments:** Comments must be provided when voting to disapprove or abstain. Use additional space on back or attach sheet as necessary.

    ____________________________________________________________________
    ____________________________________________________________________
    ____________________________________________________________________

8. **Voting Deadline:** Please vote ONLINE. If you are unable to vote online, please e-mail your ballot to Stephanie Swanson at stephanie.swanson@bnsf.com. The deadline to vote is **May 29 2020.**

9. **Signature:** I have read the regulations Governing AREMA Technical Committees and have complied with all its requirements.
American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association
Letter Ballot 07-20-05

Signed: ______________________ Name (Please Print):

______________________________

Date: ________________________ E-mail (if changed):

______________________________
American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association
Letter Ballot 07-20-05

Deleted text noted by strikethrough.
Added text shown in red.

Modify paragraph 5.2.4 Superstructure:

5.2.4 SUPERSTRUCTURE (201421)

a. On open-deck bridges, ascertain the size, type, spacing, anchorage and uniformity of bearing of the ties. Note condition as to soundness, mechanical wear, spike killing, and other defects.

b. On open-deck bridges, determine the size, condition, and security of anchorage of any guard timbers, and tie spacers, or spacer blocks.

c. Inspect all walkways, railings, and refuge bays; noting the condition as to soundness and security of the fastening devices-system.

d. Note condition (decay or mechanical wear), position, and securement of all stringers and shims members to determine if any are broken or have moved out of position and whether fastening devices are functioning properly.

e. On ballasted-deck bridges, note whether the ballast is clean and in full section. Note the depth of ballast, and condition of deck boards and ballast retainers. Also examining the bridge for ballast leaks.

f. Examine all stringers and shims for soundness and surface defects. Note size, kind, condition, type, and the number used in each panel span. Note if the bearing area is sound, all stringers sufficiently bear on the cap, if all stringers are properly chorded bolted, and securely anchored to caps, and if all shims and blocking are properly installed, secured and fully bearing on caps. Note whether packers or separators are used and the condition of all chord bolts.

g. Note and report the presence of any wires, cables, pipe lines, or other attachments which are foreign not part of the bridge structure.