SCDOT/CAGC Joint Committee Meeting January 28, 2010 Minutes

Attendees:

Jim Triplett, United Infrastructure Group Marty McKee, Thrift Development Corp. Ted Geddis, Sloan/Eastern Bridge Scott Fant, Sloan Construction Co., Inc. Sally Paul, SPC, Inc. John Jordan, Cherokee, Inc. Grady Wicker, Eagle Construction Co., Inc. Randy Snow, United Contractors Ben Whetstone, C. R. Jackson/Satterfield Greg Cook, U.S. Group, Inc. Danny Shealy, SCDOT, DOC Tim Henderson, SCDOT District 6 Brian Parnell, SCDOT, DOC Susie Lominick, SCDOT, DOC Kevin Harrington, SCDOT Wes Spencer, SCDOT District 4 Ed Eargle, SCDOT, Preconstruction Charlie Smoak, SCDOT Preconstruction Support David Rister, SCDOT Bridge Construction Al Barwick, SCDOT, DOC C. L. Matthews, SCDOT, DOC Todd Steagall, SCDOT, DOC Charles Eleazer, SCDOT, DOC Jim Feda, SCDOT, DOM Kyle Berry, SCDOT, District5 Jim Porth, SCDOT, District 7 Bryan Jones, SCDOT, District 1 Lee Neighbors, SCDOT, District 2 Ryan Miller, SCDOT, District 3 Joel Wimberly, SCDOT, Utilities Steve Ikerd, FHWA Sammy Hendrix, CAGC

The meeting was called to order by Danny Shealy with introductions.

Safety Discussion

Jim Triplett led a discussion on OSHA shifting to an enforcement mode of operation, even to the extent of criminal prosecution. We have heard the budget for enforcement personnel and activities is 3 times larger than before. This will increase safety awareness and improve the working environments for our working men and women.

Old Business

<u>Update – Going Paperless</u>

Ideas presented by Jim Triplett:

- Proposer Folder with standard submittals for each Contractor
- Committee of Brian Parnell, Leland Colvin, Greg Cook, Jim Triplett, Marty McKee to review options
- CAGC possibly send "paperless" directive to membership

Ed Eargle added electronic plans are being considered and a small group is working toward that goal.

Danny Shealy added we need to get on common ground with a priority list of forms contractors want to see electronically. The Road and Bridge committees are working on this.

Some forms may take more work than others to modify for electronic use. Also, a process needs to be established before we start sending information electronically.

Update – Stimulus Money

Danny Shealy provided a color handout for the second round of money if it is approved. The first round of money is almost complete. There are a few projects in the March and April lettings. The balance of any money will be used on the I-26 Laurens rehab and I-385 Design Building projects.

John Walsh discussed future stimulus money. SCDOT is hearing the amount for SC will be \$477M, much the same as the first round. A major change will be the implementation requirements. As much as one half may be required to be under contract within 90 days. Estimates are \$300M needs to be ready by March 1.

The projects highlighted in orange are to be contracted within 90 days of the new stimulus bill being passed. The projects highlighted in Green should be under contract within 11 months of the new stimulus bill being passed.

There is also \$109M allocated for resurfacing if approved. Last week \$88M was approved in normal federal aid resurfacing.

DOT is taking steps now to be in position to move forward if a second stimulus bill is approved.

DOT is also looking at how to shorten the time to 10 to 15 days from when the award letters are mailed until the contracts are executed. Jim Triplet asked if the contracts can be e-mailed or mailed prior to the award letter. Danny Shealy responded the award has to be approved first.

John Wash added advertisements will be shortened to three weeks if the new stimulus money is received.

<u>Update – Revised Checklist for NTP Project Submittals</u>

Charles Eleazer provided a handout of what is on extranet.

Jim Triplett noted we need to clarify "NTP" docs versus "pre-work" docs.

<u> Update – Agenda for Engineers Conference</u>

The conference dates are March 23 & 24, 2010. Danny reported the agenda is not set. Information is needed to support why an item should be on the agenda before it is added. Jim Triplett, Sally Paul and Marty McKee will provide information from CAGC by February 1, 2010.

New Business

CPM Schedules

Danny Shealy reported as follows:

- Districts 1, 4, 6, 7 Of 180 projects, 82% are on schedule. 17% are over 10% behind schedule.
- Districts 2, 3, 5 Of 135 projects, 88% are on schedule, 12% are over 10% behind schedule.
- Projects \$10M and over are reported to the commission if they are more than 5% behind schedule or 10% over budget.

CPM Schedule Specification

A draft handout was provided. CAGC to provide comments by 2/5/10 to finalize some issues.

- Milestone date for a contract execution. Need bonds, insurance to execute. If not executive in 30 to 60 days, work cannot start. Then the contractor wants time added when it was not the fault of DOT for the delay.
- Certificate of Insurance Expiration Date. Sometimes the certificates of insurance expire before the project is completed. CPM schedules should include an activity for Certificate of Insurance and show the expirations date/.

DBE Requirements on Projects

Jim Triplett noted the goals seem to be increasing, sometimes as high as 25% such as a recent project in Beaufort County. It can be so high so as to prevent a contractor from bidding due to lack of available work remaining after the DBE goal is met. Also, with the poor economy, the more work that is required to be sub-contracted leaves less work for the general contractors to do and so we are sending people home instead of keeping them working. We realize the DBE community faces the same challenges and all we ask is for the percentage goals not to increase, but remain steady.

Ted Geddis noted there can be a bonding issue/concern on some projects with very high DBE goals since most qualified firms cannot provide a performance bond and puts more liability on the General Contractor.

Danny Shealy – DOT cap is 20% unless it is a special project. ARRA enhancements have gone over this percentage on a few projects.

DOT has to meet federal goals and all contractors are encouraged to provide subcontract information for any firms utilized that are not included in the project participation goals.

Danny Shealy – We will add this to the agenda for our May meeting and talk about the federal report and how we are doing with DBE's. We will have more information at that time.

Highway Division Meeting June 24-27, 2010

CAGC will work with SCDOT to discuss PDH's and SCDOT participation at the meeting.

Subcommittee Reports

Roadway Subcommittee

Marty McKee thanked Todd for working on the checklist.

On EPA Guidelines, new requirements have been passed for projects after August 2011 changing how storm water runoff is handled. Twenty acres or more will fall under the new guidelines. It will require sampling, testing, and treatment of water leaving a project. They are looking at 280 NTU's daily max when you leave a project. In 2014 that drops to 10 acres.

As it stands now, even if the water is contaminated before a project starts, it will be up to the contractor to meet the standards.

We will have more information after talking to Ray Vaughan who is working with DHEC.

Bridge Subcommittee

Did not meet in December, 2009.

Project Development

Sammy Hendrix reported the committee met in January. They discussed reviewing projects at their completion for feedback in areas such as change orders and what we can change in the future before the plans are let. Danny agrees this is worth discussion.

Utility

Greg Cook reported on legislation that has been written and provided a handout. The bill is sponsored by Senator Mike Rose. The House bill may be filed as early as today. Greg provided a handout on the key points of the bill

At the very least we have the utilities interest in being part of the process.

Sammy Hendrix explained that the bill will go to subcommittee. They will want both sides to sit down and talk about the issues. This may not happen until next year, but the process has started. It will be helpful to everyone if SCDOT will

compile and be able to testify to the cost to taxpayers for utility delays. This information will help make our point. Danny Shealy noted DOT can show that approximately 25% of charge orders are utility delays and we can get the cost associated with this.

Also we can point to the safety issues involved.

Jim Triplett and Sammy noted it has been probably ten years since this committed produced a bill for consideration. The CAGC and SCDOT need to rally together to support this positive legislation. This is a good opportunity to make a difference in our industry and for the tax payers and we need to prove we can actually come together as a group and get something done.

Supplier

This committee will meet again in April or May.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2010 which is the day after the Engineering Conference.