



**SCDOT/CAGC Joint Committee Meeting
January 25, 2012
Minutes**

Attendees

See attached list

The meeting was called to order by Leland Colvin with introductions.

Old Business

Update on Contractor Payments

Christy Hall gave an update on the status of contractor payments. The accounting office processes approximately one thousand to eleven hundred invoices per week. The SCDOT is now on a three cycle reimbursement from FHWA per month. They are striving for four reimbursements per month from FHWA. Christy handed out a chart (copy attached) which showed 100% of the construction estimates are being processed within 30 business days from the time an approved invoice is submitted from the RCE. 57% of the contractor payments are being processed within 30 calendar days. Estimates are processed by the RCEs within 10 days of the estimate cut-off date.

Jim Warren was introduced as the Chief Financial Officer. He is monitoring the cash balance on a daily basis. The lettings are monitored to determine how it will affect the cash balance based on projecting future payments and trying to maintain a minimum cash balance of \$25 million.

Action: Email Christy about any invoices that are older than 60 days.

SCDOT Funding Outlook and Lettings

July 2010 state projects that were let were canceled. Lettings have been planned to maintain a minimum cash balance of \$25 million and obligate all the federal funds. The Federal program is expected to \$600 million range with \$450 million going towards construction projects. April and May lettings will be posted by the end of the week and the rest of the year by the end of February. Horry, Florence and Berkeley counties have their own programs which the SCDOT will let and manage in the amount of another \$450 million.

Contractor Status

Issue: The Contractors would like to see a Monthly Status Report at each meeting.

Discussion: Leland Colvin handed out a few graphics which are part of the report provided to SCDOT senior staff every month. Current report showed 225 active projects valued at \$1,135,625,888.38 with 168 (75%) on time, 24 (11%) projects between 10 and 25 percent behind and 34 (14%) projects greater than 25% behind.

Action: Leland will provide updated handouts at every meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Safety Topic

Merritt Vann presented the safety topic of Trenching and Excavation. Some 350 contractor employees got killed during 2009. Employees need to understand the mechanics of how trenches fail and the contributing factors such as equipment too close to the trench and the use of proper trench protection. OSHA requires trenches of 5 feet (Mitchell's eye height) or greater be protected with shoring, sloping or trench boxes. Ladders should be available for escape purposes. Train and designate a competent person to monitor trench excavations and inform subs of any trenching operations going on within the project.

Davis Bacon Wage Regulations

New Wage Regulation tables are presently in the February letting. These rates are considerably higher than the old rates. Charles gave a history as to how this has progressed. In 2009, the Department of Labor (DOL) sent a survey requesting the SCDOT to provide payrolls for the previous year. In the summer of 2010, the DOL sent the SCDOT 46 wage rates, one for each county. The SCDOT requested that these be combined. In the fall of 2011, the DOL consolidated the wages into 7 tables. In January 2012, the DOL submitted wage tables to be incorporated into the contracts within 10 days. North Carolina has been dealing with this issue since November 2011 and has little success in getting an appeal. SCDOT was not notified of any updates previously. If SCDOT is to appeal these wage rates, they will need information from the contracting firms.

Action: Leslie will check with the national AGC and see if there is a template to gather all this information. Leslie and Charles will work on this issue together and gather the required information from contractors and submit to legislators and DOL.

Electronic Payments to Contractors

SCDOT wants to make it mandatory to have all contractor payments deposited electronically. Paper process requires more time and effort to accomplish versus the electronic deposit. Only concern with the electronic payments is identifying what

payments the deposit cover. Several invoices may be combined into one electronic deposit.

Action: Jim Warren to investigate what documentation can be supplied to verify which payments are included in the electronic deposit. Contractors to provide information to Christy and meet with the comptroller general's office.

Staffing Updates

David Rister - Bridge Construction Engineer

Mike Ackerman - District 3 Materials Engineer

Andy Leaphart – Director of Support Services

Jim Warren – Chief Financial Officer

Engineers Conference

The conference will be held on February 15 & 16 at the Columbia Convention Center.

Registration and agenda can be found at www.clemson.edu/t3s

Registration is \$100.00 per attendee.

Welded Hoops

The specifications do not address welded hoop tolerances. The specs only refer to spiral and circle hoops with laps. There is not easy way to adjust welded hoops while tying them in a cage for drilled shafts. Suppliers would like to see this addressed on the plans or specifications with some type of tolerances in diameter.

Action: This information was referred to the bridge subcommittee for action.

Subcommittee Reports:

Roadway Subcommittee: Did not meet

Bridge Subcommittee: Did not meet

Project Development Did not meet

Utility Subcommittee: Did not meet

Supplier Subcommittee:

There was a lot of discussion on the applications of thermo verses epoxy. Epoxy is being specified in areas that cannot be removed such as rumble strips. Also, once epoxy is applied to a road, nothing can be placed on top of it unless it is removed whereas thermo can be placed on top of thermo. Welded hoops were also discussed and the issue of applying the tolerances for circle and spiral hoops to the welded hoops when it is not addressed in the specifications. Referred to the bridge subcommittee.

Design-Build Subcommittee:

Committee held a round table discussion at the ACEC meeting which was very informative.

OTHER BUSINESS

SASHTO Event in Charleston

Tina Kennedy reported that the conference will be held August 25 – 29. Information can be found at www.sashto2012.org website. Registration will begin March 1st. Topics can be submitted to Ron Patton or Tina Kennedy kennedytb@scdot.org

Elastomeric Bearing Pads

North Carolina is having some issues with the pads and their qualified products list. This was referred to the bridge subcommittee.

Joint Material

Contractor is still having issue with getting some of their samples to pass. A QPL list is being developed and there is an approved rubber alternative that has been tested and passed as an alternative. Expansion joint material may be tested prior to installation.

Next Meeting March 28, 2012

Adjourn

Accounts Payable Report as of Jan 23, 2012

	# of Invoices	% of Invoices	Value	% of TOTAL Value
Construction Contractor Estimates	136	13%	\$ 21,324,945	76%
Purchase Orders	798	73%	\$ 2,735,985	10%
Other (ROW Acquisitions, Claims, Travel, Utilities, etc)	142	13%	\$ 2,651,953	9%
Consultant Agreements	10	1%	\$ 1,463,140	5%
TOTAL	1086		\$ 28,176,022	

*Interdepartmental Transfers are excluded.

