

## SCDOT/CAGC Joint Committee Meeting

July 24, 2009

### Minutes

#### Attendees:

Jim Triplett, United Contractors, Inc.  
John Jordan, Cherokee, Inc.  
Ken Atkinson, Palmetto Corp.  
Marty McKee, Thrift Development  
Scott Fant, Sloan Construction Co.  
Ben Whetstone, C, R. Jackson  
Sally Paul, SPC, Inc.  
Greg Cook, US Group, Inc.  
Grady Wicker, Eagle Construction Co., Inc.  
Mark Ashmore, Ashmore Bros., Inc.  
Joe Sox, Sox & Sons  
Ted Geddis, Sloan Eastern Bridge  
Benjy Hardee, A.O. Hardee & Son, Inc.  
Monica Hardee, A.O. Hardee & Son, Inc.  
Danny Shealy, SCDOT  
Charles Matthews, SCDOT  
Charles Eleazer, SCDOT  
Christy Hall, SCDOT District 3  
Todd Steagall, SCDOT  
John Walsh, SCDOT  
Lee Neighbors, SCDOT  
Leland Colvin, SCDOT  
Ed Eargle, SCDOT  
Tim Henderson, SCDOT District 6  
John McCarter, SCDOT District 4  
David Glenn, SCDOT District 6  
Bryan Jones, SCDOT District 1  
Jim Porth, SCDOT District 7  
David Cook, SCDOT  
Robert Morgan, SCDOT District 5  
Joel Wimberly, SCDOT District 5  
Kevin Harrington, SCDOT  
Doug McClure, SCDOT

Milt Fletcher, SCDOT  
Jason Johnston, SCDOT District 4  
Charles Smock, SCDOT District 5

The meeting was called to order by Jim Triplett with introductions.

## **Old Business**

### Update on New Seeding Specs

Todd Stegall reported the approved spec will be ready in August or September. There will be a training class August 6 at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium at SCDOT. Many seeding contractors attended a training class already held. Revisions were made to the spec based on suggestions/comments at that session.

### Update on Profilegraph for Bridges

Charles Matthews has been collecting information from SCDOT Residents. Danny Shealy went to several bridge deck sites that have already been poured. They did not pass visual inspection (bumps, etc. could be seen) so he can see why they will not pass the profilegraph. The perception was that the problem was the profilegraph, but visual inspection showed that is not the only problem.

DOT is pulling together information on how some bridge decks were able to pass and what was done so they were able to pass inspection to hopefully help other contractors.

Ted Geddis reminded the committee that everyone wants to get better bridge decks and this is how the discussion began originally.

## New Business

### Improve the Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Submittal Process

Jim Triplett led a discussion on how improving the efficiency of this process will save everyone time and money and suggested going completely paperless.

The **recommendation** is to send this issue to the Road and Bridge subcommittees to review and look at possibilities to challenge and revamp the process. The submittals can be things in the spec, choices in the spec and what is chosen.

Charles Matthews added each job stands on its own. Unfortunately there are a lot of liability issues and it keeps the Residents on task to know what the contractor is going to do. The trail of paperwork is needed for legal/liability issues.

Danny sees two issues: 1) Road and Bridge Subcommittees review the submittal process; and 2) Need a task force to look into the paperless issue. A DOT IT person will need to be on this committee to determine what can be done. Danny will provide this name.

**Action:** E-mail to Sammy Hendrix by July 31 with names for the committee. Four or five DOT representatives and 3 contractor representatives.

Leland Colvin suggests another group to look at Design Build. Need a small group to work with Leland.

Charles Eleazer added the areas that can be standardized need to be noted.

#### Eliminate or reduce the CPM scheduling requirements for “small” projects

Danny asked why contractors want to eliminate or reduce CPM requirements. Do all contractors agree on this?

Jim Triplett gave an example of a 30 day schedule where money is spent on this when it really isn't necessary. Cash flow information can still be furnished.

Joe Sox added if utilities are involved a CPM is needed.

Danny added the CPM schedule is supposed to be a useful tool to manage the project. How do we address weather and other impacts to the project? Go to a “no excuse”?

Jim stated the Resident retains the authority to ask for an update.

Danny – Going back a couple of years it was straight line time versus pay. The contractors did not like this so DOT went to CPM. That is how we got where we are today. If it can be agreed upon as to how to track, DOT will consider.

Jim suggests a task force to look into and see which jobs can be considered for no CPM schedule.

Danny added that CPM is used by DOT as a resource allocation for reports to the Commission and also to defend and justify as needed. DOT generates reports each month and CPM information is used. The reports DOT is asked for can change each month and we go to the CPM to get the information needed. Contractor updates need to be current. DOT needs information to report cash flow.

If there is no CPM, DOT has to manually find the information, creating more work.

Marty McKee – Be sure the task force is not focusing on too many line items. Can we “cluster”?

**Action:** Refer to the Road and Bridge subcommittees to determine how to track the necessary items/issues if there is no CPM. Then if we need to go further we will establish another committee or task force at that time.

Danny shared current information on project schedules. Out of 283 active projects, 35 are behind. Nine have passed the completion date, fifteen are due July 31, and the other eleven are 25% behind. Letters are coming!

There are 96 projects with no “Notice to Proceed. Forty-nine of those have November 30 complete dates and work need to start.

John Walsh added that the Notice to Proceed needs to be done so these jobs can start. Secretary Limehouse is asking about these and the status of the projects. We need to speed up the work as a lot more is coming.

Stimulus projects are under a microscope.

### Modified Cement Recycle Base

Mark Ashmore discussed traffic issues with this. More definition is needed on road widening and interpretations are different. Shoulder with high dirt create a pile of material when graded. Residents are different on stone and building the crown. Blending and recycle process blows into the shoulder material.

Does the contractor excavate and haul off? Put base in before mixing? This is not written in bid item to know for sure how to proceed.

On a high volume road, traffic should be stopped during mixing process before compaction. This needs to be cleaned and cleared before traffic passes. It can get on the cars.

Charles Eleazer – Pay per station to haul? Add stone to mix in?

Mark – DOT needs to determine and spec needs to say exactly how DOT wants the contractor to handled the shoulders.

**Action:** Danny asked Charles to work with the District for ideas and bring to the Road Subcommittee.

## Engineering Estimates posted with bids

Danny replied these will not be posted until after the projects are awarded. He will see if this can be posted on the DOT web site with the bid tabs.

## Subcommittee Reports

### Road

No report

### Bridge

No report. Charles Matthews did note that unbalanced bidding is still an issue.

### Project Development

No report.

### Utility

Greg Cook reported this committee is working with John Walsh on a letter to go out to all utilities to prepare for stimulus money. This should go out in the next few weeks.

### Other Business

Is there a written product (minutes, etc.) from the DC meeting?

Danny noted there is not, but if decisions are made committees are made aware.

Danny noted that the first project for the DBE Mentoring Program will be a sidewalk project in September. Sidewalk jobs are federal money and have a 30 – 50% DBE goal. It is a good project for mentoring.

With the mentoring project if a contractor decides to do this, a proposal is sent to DOT. The protégé only counts 50% toward the goal. This will be in the proposal.

Sammy Hendrix will e-mail more information about this project to the committee.

The next meeting is September 24, 2009.