

Bridge Subcommittee Meeting

February 21, 2008

Minutes

Attendees:

Don White, Saddlebrook Construction, Inc.
Mark Foster, Lee Construction
Chad Curran, E. S. Wagner
Richard Nickel, Carolina Bridge
Walter Deierlein, Republic Contracting
Charles Matthews, SCDOT
Bill Mattison SCDOT
Barry Bowers, SCDOT
Darryl Kennerly SCDOT
David Glenn, SCDOT

The meeting was called to order by Charles Matthews with introductions.

Old Business

Rip Rap alternatives for consideration

This discussion was prompted at previous meetings due to the small size of rip rap and companies sending product that did not meet the spec. The Resident now goes to the quarry to inspect the stone before it is delivered.

Grout filled bags have been proposed as an alternate. DOT would need specs and need hydraulic engineers to review. Don White used the bags on a project in Florida 8 or 9 years ago and they worked well. (Doug McClure later provided Charles Matthews with information about some "bags" used as an alternate on project 42.143B, SC 215 highway.)

Charles Matthews will get input from those familiar with hydraulic and see about getting a spec. Don White will check into getting Florida DOT specs and from other states who allow the bags. Also, Chad Curran has provided a portion of a brochure for "articulating concrete block" by ARMORTEC for review.

New Business

New Pipe Specs in relation to bridge work, drains, slopes, etc.

This is an issue that is recommended to be handled by the Road Subcommittee and not seen as a bridge issue. A handout of Memorandum Number 24 dated January 16, 2008 was provided. The subject of this is Selection of Drainage Pipe for Use in South Carolina.

Crane Operator Certification

NCCER or CCO certification will be required as of January, 2009.

Bridge work for remainder of year and beyond

It was reported there are possibly 18 bridge projects this year. There may be one in the July letting. Also, one Design/Build project for District 4 will be advertised on February 21. It is \$15M fixed amount. Contractors bid the number of bridges they can do for \$15M.

Sammy Hendrix commented on several items below:

Are the 18 bridges on the priority list for this funding cycle all ready or are some being engineered?

The new bridges were not phased into the list and DOT had to start on the design process for those added.

There was a reference to the future Highway 601 project over Congaree River where all four bridges should be done as one project. It will be better than having a shut down for one and then come back and shut down again for the others.

Comments from Secretary Limehouse – he is delivering the Governor's message on what is being saved by DOT under the restructuring. He hopes showing DOT is saving money and spending wisely will get the Legislators to give more money to DOT.

Control joints in barrier rail to control cracking.

Charles Matthews agreed we would like to improve this.

North Carolina requires a tooled joint every 15 feet and you don't see the random cracking.

Charles stated that they have tried this and cracking did not go away. NC's design has continuous reinforcing through the joints. We will agree to place the tooled joint requirement in our future contracts to see what happens.

Other Business

Charles Matthews cited the recent tunnel incident in Boston where concrete panels fell due to adhesive anchors failing. SC does not have this same application but we need to test the anchors no matter what the application is. We have specs from several states that we are reviewing. One State requires an independent firm to handle the testing. It was suggested that testing by the contractor with the RCE present be allowed. Contractors would like to see "independent" taken out of the spec. The cost of the testing should be incidental.

The AGC will be notified when this spec will be implemented.

Completion Dates

The three drawings listed below will be incorporated into the SCDOT Standard Drawings.

- Completion Date Markings for Bridges
- Conduit Installation in Bridge Barrier Parapets and Railing Walls
- Reinforcing Bending Details for Bridges

We will delete (after the new edition of the Standard Drawing is released) the "Completion Date" drawing from the Bridge Drawings and Details and revise the "Completion Dates" note on the General Notes drawing.

We will continue to maintain the "Conduit Installation" and "Reinforcing Bending Details" drawings on the Bridge Drawings and Details. These details will continue to be included in each set to bridge plans.

CPM Schedule on small jobs

Contractors sometimes finish the smaller jobs before the schedule is finished.

Don White – CPM schedule is a cost in money and time. Originally just for larger jobs but was changed to include smaller jobs too.

David Fletcher added that Danny Shealy has said at the Joint Committee meeting he wants it for all projects. We will bring it up again and see what the feeling is about excluding smaller jobs.

Richard Nickel noted that if the job is completed first, then payment is held.

Charles added it is a finance management tool for DOT.

Approach Slabs

Charles passed around a proposal which has been e-mailed to the committee for review.

The next meeting will be April 17, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.