

MCA – MDT Highway Tech Meeting
Dec 13, 2023

JOINT MCA-MDT MEETING – 2:00 PM

Participants

MDT:

Frederick Beal
Paul Bushnell
Kris Christensen
Dan Clary
Mike Dodge
Josh Heck
Michael Jagoda
Bob James
Dean Jones
Geno Liva
John MacMillan
Clarissa Martin
Doug McBroom
Stephen McEvoy
Anson Moffet
Darin Reynolds
Ricky Sandoval
Matt Tackitt
Darrell Williams
Duane Kailey
Dustin Rouse
John Schmick
Luke Francis
Shane Pegram
Bob Vosen
Jeremy Wilde
Clarissa Martin
Oak Metcalf
Matt Needham
Jake Geottle
Joe Green
Matney Juntunen

MCA:

David Smith-MCA
Nicole Hanni-MCA
Jodie Tooley-MT Lines
Russ Gaub- Riverside Contracting
Kerry Grey- Highway Specialties
Mike Sharp-Prince
John Strach- CHS
Clinton Habe-Riverside Contracting
Dennis Devous- Riverside Contracting
Cale Fisher- Riverside Contracting
Mike Newton- Fisher S&G
Brent Tezak- Riverside Contracting
George Chick- Riverside Contracting
Tm Schulke- Missouri River Contractors
Nick Miller- Missouri River Contractors
Soloman Redfern- Helena S&G
Zachary Zupan- Sletten
Ian McIntosh- Sletten
Pat Bomgardner- MT Lines
Roy Siegel- FHWA
Matt Strizich- FHWA

None

MDT New Business

1. Rotomilling concrete bridge decks
 - Fred Beal discussed the intent to move away from using the rotomilling on bridge decks unless specifically needed. Concerns with general fractures of concrete. This was meant to be an early heads up. Zack with Sletten requested that the department make this clear in documents and make sure it is in specials.
2. RCB facilities added to QPL
 - Mr Bushnell discussed how MDT can assist. In special provision from Oak. Three suppliers in Montana. MDT is looking at procuring and storing. Also looking at consistent sizes of box culverts.

Old Business

1. DBE updates/SBE incentives
 - SBE and DBE program are looking for different ways to improve and incentivize people to participate by creating a focus group. Next scheduled pre-bid networking conferences are February 13 in Missoula, and March 26 in Great Falls. If you attend a pre-bid it could add days onto bid. There will be a pre-bid networking opportunity at the MCA Convention on January 25.

Ad-Hoc

1. Review of Extra work – draft copy – The Department put together an overhaul of 109.04. MacMillen will send this out following the meeting. This will give MCA time to review and we can discuss at the February meeting and then I can gather comments and changes to be sent out for the April Spec review. Fred Beal discussed 107.04. Draft will be sent to MCA after meeting to share. Proposal to discuss at Feb meeting, comment in April, and included in June spec changes. Process gets hung up with change orders on these items. This will create uniformity across the board for everyone.
2. Industry meetings in conjunction with MDT Construction Conference. Plant mix and concrete meetings will be Feb. 29. MCA has a SWPPP training, but that should not be a significant conflict.
3. Bidding acknowledgement for January Letting. Darin will touch on this subject as an FYI. Darin discussed bidding acknowledgments check box in bid file. Most languages are the same as previous.
4. Hamburg Tests
 - Pat Bomgardner discussed seeing more failures on testing. Penalties are excessively punitive. Mike Sharp discussed failures that larger contractors are seeing. Looking for an alternative test that would be acceptable. Need a quicker test. Group discussed third-party certification. Aggregates in SW Montana don't pass. There are some options on the table. Add to next meeting agenda to discuss further.
5. Lump Sum Traffic Control/Erosion Control

- Pat Bomgardner discussed lump sum only on projects for traffic control. MCA feels Lump Sum Traffic Control should only be used for very simple projects, maintenance projects was just a typical example of such projects. Our position is that if there is any complexity to the job, it should be units. Kailey suggested a subcommittee to work on compromise. Add to next meeting agenda to discuss further.
- Erosion control: there seems to be confusion (among both contractors and MDT) as to what the unit bid item was for. MCA is okay with lump sum EC as long as it is intended to pay for the project's needs with no consideration of major rain events. If the units item can be used for re-work associated with major rain events, or other events out of the contractor's control, then I think we are happy. I think we decided to revisit this at the next meeting as well.

The following note was sent by John MacMillen after the meeting.

The Department has finalized the proposed specifications for the 2020 V5.0 Specifications to be included with the January 11, 2024 Letting. The link to the posted revisions is:

https://www.mdt.mt.gov/other/webdata/external/const/spec_revision/2024/JAN-2024-FINAL-SPEC-REVISIONS.pdf

The 2020 V5.0 Spec Book will be active with the advertising for the Jan 11 Letting which is on December 7, 2023. The link to the 2020 V5.0 spec book is:

<https://www.mdt.mt.gov/other/webdata/external/const/specifications/2020/SPEC-BOOK/2020-SPEC-BOOK-V5-0.pdf>

One comment(s) received from contractors regarding 618.04 for increasing the response from 24 to 48 hours was rejected by the Department. It was decided that the 24-hour time period was appropriate and will not be increased to 48 hours.