

MCA - MDT Highway Technical Meeting  
April 17, 2024 – via in Person and Video Conference

**JOINT MEETING – 2:00 PM**

Participants:

**MDT:**

Dave Gates  
Oak Metcalf  
Joe Green  
Megan Handl  
Fred Beal  
Kathy Terrio  
Maghan Strachan  
Paul Bushnell  
Clarissa Martin  
John MacMillan  
Jay Fleming  
Josh Heck  
Dean Jones  
Jeremy Wilde  
Stephen McEvoy  
Rich Hibel  
Regina Beiber  
Chris Trautmann  
Paul Cogley  
Jayden Manuel  
Clay Blackwell  
Kathy James  
Patrick Lane  
Darin Reynolds  
Dustin Rouse  
Jeffrey Harrison  
Mike Dodge  
Matt Strizich (FHWA)  
Jim Davies  
Bill Felton  
Matt Collingwood  
Geno Liva  
Darrell Williams

**MCA:**

Cale Fisher – Riverside Contracting  
Guy Slaybaugh – Century Companies  
Dennis Dirks- Contech  
Brad Meyers – Highmark Traffic  
Mike Newton- M&P Permitting  
Ross Fulton- Fisher Sand & Gravel  
David Smith – MCA  
Nicole Hanni - MCA  
Mike Meredith- Rinker  
Colton Dean – Century Companies  
Jim Powell – RDO  
Jason Kreth – Helena S&G  
Shane Nelson – Century Companies  
Russ Gaub – Riverside Contracting  
Clinton Habel – Riverside Contracting  
Chris Conners – Mountain West Co  
Kerry Gray – Highway Specialties  
Brad Newcomb – Calumet  
Solomon Redfern – Helena S&G

## SPECIFICATION CHANGES

### **101.02 Acronyms and Abbreviations**

No comments.

### **105.03.2 Items Designated for Acceptance on a Lot Basis (Quality Assurance)**

McMillan discussed clarification and error. Redfern questioned why set this way and it being limited at 95. Metcalf discussed limit at 95 and being open to increasing. Might be left over from super pay where levels of compaction are at this level and could create some instability and how higher compaction is not a bad thing. Metcalf will review to see if range can be increased to 96/97. Issues with striping go away when you have higher compaction levels.

### **106.02.3 Contractor-Furnished Sources**

Information copied from materials spec book. More of dispute a resolution. Newton discussed the change of failed pits that would not pass. One solution would be to bring in materials from another location and then the pit would pass. The state stepped in and stopped source approvals in this way. Stockpile approvals were how this has dealt with in the past. MT 201 will be revamped considering dwindling aggregate sources and expanded sources of these sources.

### **204.03.1 Blasting Professional**

Redfern questioned the reasoning. Green discussed the need for this to be someone outside for safety concerns. Newton discussed Arizona blasting group owned by Fisher and issue they had using someone outside of the company. Redfern discussed the small number of blasters and how it is already hard to find them. Green will discuss and circle back with group.

*Follow up to question on 204.03.1 proposed spec. The intent is simply to ensure that the Blasting Professional (i.e. Blasting Consultant) is an individual who has no business connection to the entity or entities that are performing the work on the Contract and is qualified to review the plans and the site before each blast and make suggestions as needed for potential modifications to improve blast performance, ensure safety, and to document (through pre- and post-blast surveys) any issues where an outside entity (utilities, landowners, etc.) may attempt to gain undue compensation for damages. This person is required so that the interests of the Contractor and MDT are protected from such attempts.*

### **208.05 Environmental Protection-Basis of Payment**

McMillan discussed this request from MCA contractors. Slaybaugh discussed the issue on project when SWPPP permit is being transferred. During walkthrough process, the request will be made for more BMPs and how the contractor will get paid. Green discussed it would be case by case and information in BMP guide will be used to determine outcome of payment.

### **208.05.1 Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control- Lump Sum**

MacMillan discussed this will speed up process when no permit exists.

### **401 Plant Mix**

Redfern discussed concerns on page 9 regarding .5 “or shorter” and what that looks like. Metcalf discussed this change and how the department was accepting grinding instead of

removal and replace. Most of the time PM will allow grinding and it will be acceptable. Intent is to not assess a penalty and then let contractor rehab into incentive. Redfern believes it is not clear and up to interpretation and implemented differently. Metcalf discussed page 10 change to 10 business days. Dodge discussed that they are trying to make a more reasonable timeline to correct anything. MDT wasn't meeting the 3-day window.

#### **409.03.12 Underseal**

No comments.

#### **610.05 Seeding and Condition Seed Bed**

Slaybaugh expressed some concerns on how subcontractors should bid it and expects to see pricing on unit pricing to go high. McMillan shared that 2 bid items will come in, as MDT doesn't know. Goal is to prevent duplicate payments.

#### **618.03.14 Flagging Operations**

No comments.

#### **709.12 Type II Aluminized Corrugated Steel Pipe**

No comments.

#### **Detailed Drawings**

No comments.

Ad-HOC: Sidewalk changes are coming.

### **MCA New Business**

#### **1. SBE Goals**

- a. Redfern questioning SBE goals and it being a requirement. General issues getting DBEs and SBEs hired onto our projects. Selection Criteria: Larger projects will be assigned these criteria. All DBEs automatically qualify for the SBE program. Goal is small at 0.1%. SBEs can be used to meet DBE goal this year. Last disparity study showed white women are used more than they should be. Slaybaugh questioned how we get to the key decision makers involved in this conversation. List is extremely short that can provide services to a construction company. Contractors can solicit people to join as a SBE or DBE and they don't want to deal with the process. Other incentives are out there, including using a DBE that hasn't done MDT work in 3 years and the potential for incentives. Good faith efforts are not acceptable as they become too subjectable. New rules coming out May 1 which will decertify some companies who don't do business or haven't in a while. Personal net worth increased from \$1.32m to \$2m and excludes retirement.

## **2. AASHTOWare Program**

- a. Terrio discussed that some of these items are outside of our control. Working on cleaning up long lists displayed at contractor level. Subcontractor help occurs every day and have lots of resources online.

## **3. Seal and Cover – Pilot Cars and Striping**

- a. Redfern discussed concerns over if you need to have a pilot car when the road is not striped. Different ways from different EPMs.

### **MDT New Business**

#### **1. Extra Work – Subsection 109.04**

- a. Beal discussed handout and some of the main things to discuss. Redfern will help facilitate the concerns occurring between MCA and MDT and will reach out to MDT at that point. Virtual/in person meeting.

### **Old Business**

#### **1. DBE – Updates**

- a. No comments

### **Ad-Hoc**

#### **1. Subcommittees- Hamburg and Traffic Control**

- a. Martin shared Hamburg summary. No comments received regarding Lump Sum Traffic Control guidelines. Wilde discussed commitment to use traffic control bid items by day and using lump sum inside urban areas for some of those more complex projects occurring.
- b. Metcalf discussed Hamburg subcommittee. More frequent meetings in the front of the year and the back. Redfern mentioned creating an Asphalt Committee that meets a few times a year. MT is behind in comparison to other states. Feb 2025 training on the way.
- c. Meredith: Precast Prestressed Industry meeting earlier today went well. Meredith suggested a cut away from Concrete Division and how there are only a few MCA members that fall into this category.

#### **2. Materials – PMS and Concrete incentive updates**

- a. Metcalf discussed incentive information from last year after comments from industry meeting. Still ongoing and waiting for concrete incentive information.

Meeting adjourned at 3:43 pm. Next meeting is June 12, 2024.