

MCA - MDT Highway Technical Meeting  
February 18, 2026 – in Person and Video Conference

**JOINT MEETING – 2:00 PM**

Participants:

**MDT:**

David Gates  
Dustin Rouse  
Matt Needham  
Randy Boysen  
Aubrey Yerger  
Jim Davies  
Jason Allen  
Kathy Terrio  
Dustin Rouse  
John McMillan  
Michelle Wheat  
Dean Jones  
Matthew Collingwood  
Jay Fleming  
James Sullivan  
Shane Pegram  
Erika Wimmer  
Jeremy Wilde  
Christopher Trautmann  
Carissa Yedica (FHWA)  
Tyrel Murfitt  
Jesse Sheffler  
Mike Dodge  
Bill Felton  
Stephen McEvoy  
Jayden Manuel  
Matthew Strizich (FHWA)

**MCA:**

Nicole Hanni – MCA  
Solomon Redfern – MT Materials & Const  
Kerry Gray – Highway Specialties  
Russ Gaub – Riverside Contracting  
Andrew Malmend – Fossum Materials  
Jason Kreth – MT Materials  
Keith Johnston – MWHC  
Chad Stroop – United Materials  
Cassie Crosby – Riverside Contracting  
Sam Weyers – LHC  
Ian McIntosh – Sletten Companies  
David Smith – MCA  
David Anderson – United Materials

## **Specifications**

Update on table 551-2.

McMillan provided update on issue with posting the pdf version of the January spec book and issue with table disappearing. Issue resolved and spec book was rewritten to eliminate formatting issues.

## **MCA New Business**

1. US DOL updates from MDT
  - a. Terrio discussed that the 2023 wages were finally published, which was frustrating as MDT was waiting to see if 3% would work but they moved forward with publishing them anyhow. The 3% base should be used, but determining next steps is difficult as we are now several years behind. Suggestion to do another wage increase this summer (6-7%) to catch up, and then do another towards the end of this year to get closer to where things should be. The joint heavy highway representatives said they would kick off the process of getting this cleaned up. Johnston questioned where things were as of today and if we were sitting 3% higher than in the past few years. Terrio thinks that a 6% in June/July is justified as playing catch up followed up with another increase towards the end of 2026. Joint Heavy Highway agrees with this plan to catch up on rates. Redfern asked Terrio to send proposed clean up to David for additional feedback before moving forward.

## **MDT New Business**

1. Alternative Contracting Update
  - a. Yerger shared that MDT has been working on design build specs and division 100 specs just for this process. This will cover all deviations noted over the past to ensure this process is more manageable. Upcoming project page is up to date. Two projects recommended to commission and will be discussed at next week's transportation meeting.
2. MDT Qualifications Based Selections
  - a. Gates shared that MDT is planning a training for later this year for contractors and consultants to learn what this looks like at MDT.
3. Welding Qualifications
  - a. Gates wanted to discuss how to make this more efficient, specifically spec 624 on welding and how resubmittals will work. MDT wants it submitted as complete as possible, when they are resubmitted, please define what changes have been made and if documents have been added.

## **Old Business**

1. Follow up and discussion on Test reporting
  - a. Gates discussed that table was created. MDT cannot allow reduction in payment as a function of QA testing results due to federal aid being eligible. State funded is also not in their interest. Gates says this issue is project specific and based on resource availability to get items tested. Redfern stated that delayed reporting allows for additional days due to the delay, not a fine to help alleviate the concerns with financial penalties. Gates states that documents state that the contractor provides adequate quality control to track the results of the projects. Baseline commitment from MDT states that they will do better with communicating with the timelines associated with QA testing and make those available. Needham discussed online test results being accessible with flow charts to give to EPMS to help with consistency. Gates shared that all materials have their own timelines and processes and there are always areas for improvement. If QA tests are found at the right time where corrective action can be made before disincentives. MDT commits that they recognize they can do better with communication and improve where results live, but there is more room to discuss. Rouse will discuss internally as on the QA side they are doing this as it needs to be improved as he doesn't think this is a delayed lab issue.

#### **Ad-Hoc**

1. Partnering Summit: Asphalt and Concrete Meetings
  - a. Wheat discussed low numbers from MCA members and high numbers from MDT.

#### **2026 MEETINGS:**

**February 18**

**April 15**

**June 10**

**October 14**

**December 9**

Meeting adjourned at 2:56 pm. Next meeting is 4/15/2026.