



# Operations Center Engineer's Meeting

November 16, 2009

1:00 – 3:00 PM

## Minutes

### Introductions & Announcements:

Bill Jones was promoted to Bartow Operations Center Engineer effective Nov. 13, 2009. Crystal Gorman will be covering Interstate 75 projects and iROX with the assistance of Dave Richey. There are several position vacancies in District Construction. Terry Muse, Larry Zagardo and Shailesh Patel are assisting with work previously handled by the Construction Services Manager (vacant position) and the Quality Assessment Coordinator (vacant position). Danny Hendrickson joined Sarasota Operations as a PE Trainee.

### Celebration for Meeting the Monthly Performance Measures: (Handout 1)

The Production Management Office released Performance Reports for October 2009 detailing construction time and cost - tracking time from Final Acceptance to Final Payment. District One met the Construction Performance Goals for the third straight month. District Construction has four jobs on the list that need to be resolved.

### District Materials Update:

FHWA report (from the August review) has not been received. David Long's report has been received and will be forwarded to the Operations Centers. Jon will forward the last report he received. There is a new form for Straight Edge Deficiencies 700-12-59 that is now in use.

### District Utilities Update:

Reminder was given to contact Deborah Barnhill if problems or issues arise with utilities on a project.

### DCE Memorandums:

No new DCE Memos have been implemented since the last OCE Meeting.

### DOT Letterhead: (Handout 2)

Any correspondence utilizing FDOT letterhead can only be signed by an FDOT employee. This does not preclude consultants from preparing correspondence on FDOT letterhead but the appropriate FDOT personnel must sign. Please add this topic to your December meetings with Consultants.

### DBE Participation:

The new DBE Goal for the Federal fiscal year 09/10 is 8.18%. Emphasis should be placed on DBE Participation at preconstruction meetings. This soft goal has increased over time from 7.9% to 8.18%. This percentage is based on availability of DBEs across the state for the types of work we do.

Secretary Kopelousos set a goal of 10% DBE participation on all ARRA (stimulus) projects. We must promote this goal at Preconstruction Meetings. An example was given regarding the SR 739 project in Ft. Myers where an Anticipated DBE Participation Report of 2% was received at the Preconstruction Meeting. This information was received by Jon Sands and Eddy Gonzalez who called the Contractor and informed them 2% was not acceptable. The DBE participation for this ARRA project is now at 10.02%.

Jackie Brown and Chuck Wood study project types and locations to determine DBE availability throughout District One. A DBE goal in excess of 8.18% in a RFP must be accompanied by a DBE study.

Even though RCSs are dealing with Anticipated DBE Participation Reports at Preconstruction Meetings, you need to get involved. Emphasize our 8.18% goal when DBE availability exists.

**FHP Hireback Services for Motorist Awareness Systems (MAS):**

We have released PH 58 funds on several projects for FHP Hireback Services during the last two Work Program Roll Forward reviews. There have been occasions where we have given up the money because we have not encumbered the money before the job is done or we have encumbered the money but not used it. Bartow, Sebring, and the Interstate are using FHP services.

Bartow is using the funds more frequently than in the past. They had to educate the PAs and the FHP on the process. Paulette is working with FHP and the process is getting better. Bartow is now receiving weekly updates from FHP including schedules and locations. The FHP Hireback process has not been simple; FHP makes staffing changes and in one case requested a three month look ahead prior to starting.

Troop F has been very helpful on the iROX project. Troop F recently got a new Captain and we receive more FHP assistance under the new Captain.

Sarasota reports they have had trouble getting FHP assistance. The problem seems to be that Troop F serves the iROX project as well as Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

**Final Acceptance of Traffic Signal Installations:** (Handout #3)

Form #700-010-22 should be completed on all traffic signal work. This is not currently in the Specs, but Stephanie Maxwell is working on that. This form is used to update the RCI.

**Interstate and Arterial Lane Closure Policy:** (Handout 4)

Please review the Draft Lane Closure Policy and send comments and/or feedback to Jon Sands by 12 pm Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Sharon Harris sent the draft policy to Maintenance Staff and Jon Sands sent it to Construction Staff. This policy will be included in the plans and used as guidance material for maintenance contracts, utility permits, in-house contracts, etc. Upon policy approval, make sure this material gets into everyone's hands. We can be more restrictive than the policy dictates but never less restrictive. A suggestion was made to review/discuss and submit a revision regarding the implementation process and appeal process of the Lane Closure Policy.

**Federal Stimulus (ARRA) Update:** (Handout 5)

Jobs reporting: Contractors and Consultants must report by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the previous month. PA's and CPM's must approve the reporting by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for the previous month. Reporting begins at Notice to Proceed. New ARRA Projects are shown on Page 4 of the attachment. Monies left over from low bids are funding new jobs. Eight stimulus projects (three contracts) have been completed. Every county in our district is now considered a "distressed" county so it is possible that we could receive additional State flexible funds for another large project. Jon will ask Chuck Wood to copy the OCE's and Interstate staff when new projects are added to his spreadsheet.

**MRP on Construction Projects – Results for Fiscal Year 08/09: (Handout 6)**

A PowerPoint presentation was shown about 2 months ago that outlines the MRP evaluation process. Handout 6 is a copy of that PowerPoint presentation. The fourth page of the handout shows improvement in all categories over the past 8 years. The group discussed the District One Traffic Services MRP Element; the guardrail score is low on this report due to the height of older guardrail. Guardrail is being re-set as projects are worked.

The group discussed problems with raised markers. The new RPMs do not stick very well. The temperature of the thermo has to be perfect. The RPMs go through a mechanical shoot and are supposed to sink in and melt into the pavement, but they are not staying because the thermo may not be exactly 400 degrees when the RPMs hit the pavement.

**Questions, Comments, Feedback:**

Please respond to the Monthly Accomplishments email regarding customer service, mobility and safety. Jon would like for you to send in your accomplishments.

**Success Stories:**

~ **Sarasota Operations:**

Eight Stimulus projects (three contracts) have been completed. Lance thanked Barry and Amir and is proud of how well the team works together.

Marlena Gore completed the I-75 resurfacing project. Ed Ponce recognized Marlena for her work on this project. She works well with PIO and receives a lot of recognition.

Scott completed a bonded friction course and the SR 70 (Better Roads) project was completed and incentive bonuses were paid. They delivered the project is very good time.

~ **Sebring Operations:**

Our last 2 projects finished early.

~ **Fort Myers Operations:**

The RTMC project and has been accepted.

~ **Interstate Construction:**

There has been a lot of attention with warm mix friction course. Quality has been very good. 180 miles of warm mix friction course were applied on the iROX project. We are expecting approval to open the northbound lanes by Friday.

~ **District Construction:**

Terry expressed thanks to Jan Thompson for the work she has done with CEI and LAP stimulus projects.

/gg