

District Construction Engineer's Meeting Notes
March 25, 2013 2:00 PM

Attendees:

*CO – David Sadler, Rudy Powell, Alan Autry, Art Berger, Jason Watts
D1 – Jon Sands, Terry Muse, Brian Penny
D2 – Carrie Stanbridge
D3 – Steve Potter, Renae Sanders, Jimmy Miler, Ray Hodges
D4 – Carolyn Gish, Pat McCann
D5 – John Tyler, Jennifer Taylor, Mike Ruland
D6 – Mark Croft, Mario Cabrera
D7 – Brian McKishnie, Brian Pickard
TP – Matt Price, Karen Akers*

New Business – DCE Meeting:

- 1) Introductions
Introductions were made recognizing those present.
- 2) Consistent/Predictable/Repeatable – (David Sadler)
No specific CRP issues have been identified lately by Industry. Raised awareness of the CPR webpage on SCO website. Districts reminded to send CPR issues to SCO as they arise.
- 3) Engineers Field Office (proposed changes and implementation) – (Rudy Powell)
*Reviewed and discussed the **attached revisions** to the Engineers Field Office Special Provision along with implementation practices being used by the districts. SCO (Alan Autry) will finalize the proposed changes and submit to State Specifications Office for further processing. Districts encouraged to review and comment when the changes are published for on-line review.*
- 4) Results of QC Plan query (refer to SCE email of 2/25/2013) – (Rudy Powell)
*Reviewed the **attached email** sent to the DCE group on 02/25/2013 and discussed feedback received from districts to date. Polled remaining districts to determine frequency and reasons behind those instances when contractors QC plans had been suspended. D1 and TP will provide additional, detailed information to Rudy following the meeting.*
- 5) Construction Residency and Operations Center presentation at the District Secretaries and Directors of Operations May Workshop – (David Sadler)
 - a. Have DCEs develop a “Model” Construction Residency and Operations Center for presentation to the District Secretaries and Directors of Operations at May workshop. Idea is that as we strive for CPR, what the model Resident Office or Operations Center would be staffed like. Theory is process by which construction projects are delivered and administered should be the same even though the numbers of staff would be different based on work program and geography.
David presented the above referenced proposal to the group and solicited feedback. DCE's in those districts utilizing the Ops Center structure will coordinate (John Tyler will lead this effort) and DCE's in those districts using the

RE structure will coordinate (Mark Croft will lead this effort) for the purpose of developing a model for each organizational structure. Once completed, this will be submitted to David for review and presentation to the executive committee during the May workshop. David will provide the deadlines for presentations to Mark and John following the meeting.

6) Thermoplastic in Construction Contracts – (Jon Sands)

- a) Discuss adding thermoplastic back into Construction Projects that are longer than one year in duration. The question is “Has the thermoplastic shortage and price increases for the material subsided enough to add thermoplastic back into Construction Projects?” This direction was to be revisited every six months.

Reviewed and discussed the above referenced information. SCO will follow-up with Chief Engineer Tom Byron and Assistant Secretary (E&O) Brian Blanchard to evaluate the of thermoplastic availability and pricing stability so as to inquire if this item can be added back into construction projects with an original duration of a year and longer. Following the meeting, the [attached email](#) was sent to the DCE group. David also raised the awareness of construction staff verifying thickness of thermoplastic striping per the specification requirements (refer to notes from February 2013 meeting).

7) Increased occurrences of end of load segregation – (David Sadler)

David discussed instances observed by SCO staff of “end of load segregation” occurring as part of paving operations. Reviewed and discussed the [attached memorandum](#) that has been developed to address this situation. Following the meeting, the memorandum was issued and is posted on the SCO website. Discussed specification requirements related to materials testing in areas of segregation. Construction personnel are reminded to focus inspections on paving practices which lead to segregation in an effort to eliminate future occurrences.

Walk-On Items – DCE Meeting:

1) Continued use of DEV611 and DEV645 (Value Added Signalization) – (Rudy Powell)

Reviewed the [attached email](#) sent to the DCE group on 03/15/2013 and discussed feedback received from districts to date. Rudy solicited feedback on the proposal to discontinue the use of this specification from those remaining districts with the expectation that responses will be provided by Friday 03/29/2013. Based on feedback from the group, SCO plans to coordinate with the State Specifications Office to have this specification removed from the Design-Build pick list effective July 2013. .

2) Drop-off Criteria between asphalt lifts – (David Sadler)

David raised awareness of specification requirements addressing drop-off criteria between asphalt lift. Construction personnel are reminded to focus inspections on project conditions and enforcement of specification requirements.

3) D6 transition from Profile to Project Suite and/or CIM – (Mark Croft)

Mark indicated that the D6 Production Offices are transitioning to Project Suite effective December 2013 with Operations/Construction transitioning soon thereafter. As part of the planned transition the Construction Office has identified gaps between the functionality of Project Suite and existing systems (CIM and Profile). D6 will make a

presentation to the DCE group at an upcoming meeting to demonstrate capabilities of existing systems and the functional gaps between CIM/Profile and Project Suite.

- 4) Project Oversight I & II / PA I, II, & III Position Descriptions – (Jon Sands)
Reviewed and discussed the proposed PD's referenced above. The group expressed concerns related to the supervisory requirements of certain positions and the lack of project management requirements in others. DCE's are to review the existing PD's and submit comments/suggested changes to David Sadler by March 27, 2013.
- 5) Status of Construction Business Plan – (David Sadler)
Several districts had inquired as to the status of the Construction Business Plan. David indicated that the final draft of the plan had been submitted to the Chief Engineer in December 2012 and approval is pending at this time. It was noted that the DCE's had been provided a copy of the version submitted but David will provide an additional copy as a follow-up to the meeting. Once the plan is approved, David will present it to the executive committee at an upcoming workshop. Once the plan is approved, it will be posted to the SCO website.
- 6) Surplus Inspection Equipment – (John Tyler)
John indicated that D5 had identified surplus inspection equipment and is coordinating with SMO on the appropriate means of liquidating the equipment. SMO has developed a plan to sell the surplus equipment at auction. John will take the lead on coordinating this effort for those other districts interested in participating.
- 7) Buy America – (Jason Watts)
Jason provided the group with an update on the latest coordination efforts with FHWA related to the applicability of Buy America provisions as they relate to utility work. The [attached flowchart](#) was reviewed and discussed. Central Office will continue to coordinate with FHWA to finalize the decisions/discussions related to this issue and will issue additional guidance to the districts.

NEXT DCE MEETING – April 22, 2013 (Video Conference)

Submit agenda items to Alan Autry by April 12, 2013