

February 17, 2021 – via Video Conference
MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting Agenda
Joint Meeting – 2:00 pm

Participants:

MDT: Joe Green, Geno Liva, Christopher Trautman, Leslie Lang, Jeremy Wilde, Kathleen Terrio, Jeff Jackson, John MacMillan, Matt Strizich, Dwane Kailey, Jim Wingerter, Darin Reynolds, Patrick Lane, Dean Jones, Oak Metcalf.

MCA: Pat Bomgardner, Brad Meyer, Jodie Tooley, Cale Fisher, Mitch Callas, Aaron Grey, Guy Slaybaugh, Soloman Redfern, Kurt Kaufman, Craig Debuff, Kerry Grey, Steven Heberly, Brad Newcomb, David Anderson, Jerry Grey, Mike Meredith, Anthony Butcher, David Smith, Nicole Hanni, Russ Guab.

1. Traffic Control Rate Schedule

Jeremy Wilde: Traffic Speed Signs are now an allowable item.

SPECIFICATION CHANGES

1. 105.08.1 Department Furnished Survey and Layout

Joe Green: Reason outlined. No additional comments.

2. 105.03.4 Contractor Submittals

Joe Green: Some project managers will still receive documents in paper format.

Pat Bomgardner: Is signature required a feature of the program? Or will any PDF work? Can we use the pen in Adobe?

Joe Green: Yes, that would work.

Pat Bomgardner: What about Blue Beam? Is that compatible with Adobe?

Joe Green: I will follow up and see if Blue Beam will work.

Pat Bomgardner: Does free version of adobe have signature?

Joe Green: Yes. You can also sign, scan, and send. I will follow up with the group on this.

3. 107.11.5 Noxious Weed Management

Joe Green: Spec lining up with the law.

4. 108.01.1 Subcontracting

Joe Green: This spec change was held from October meeting. Kathy Terrio will provide information to group.

Kathy Terrio: Main additions are Concrete Pump w/ Operator and Equipment Rentals with Operator. Information added to spec outlining what data is needed to add another contractor's employee to their payroll. Other option would be to add to own GC's payroll.

Pat Bomgardner: Concerns it will be hard to get a rental company on board for less than 1 day. Rental company will not want to go through subcontract process. Sometimes the need for a rental company and operator is last minute and concern is that this will drive up prices because of extra work.

Terrio: This comes down to whether or not there is an operator. For all site work, there should always be a subcontract, or you can add them to your own payroll.

*More information on Electronic Subcontracts located under MDT New Business.

5. 108.03.1 General

Joe Green: This spec change was as a result from MCA feedback.

Pat Bomgardner: We like this one a lot.

6. 109.07 Stockpiled Materials

Joe Green: Same as 108.03.1

7. 203.03.6 Topsoil- Salvaging and Placing

Joe Green: To align the spec better with the detail drawing.

8. 104.03.21 Compaction, Compaction Control Testing, and Density Acceptance Testing

Joe Green: Clarification that mechanical tampers may be needed to ensure compaction of full width of pavement.

9. 551.03.02 Composition of Concrete

Joe Green: Changed No. 30 to decrease percent passing from 40-15.

10. 606.04.7 Cable Guardrail

Joe Green: Removed low tension guardrail from detailed drawings.

11. 606.04.8 Cable Guardrail Terminal Sections

Joe Green: Same as 606.04.7

12. 713.06 WEED CONTROL MAT

Joe Green: Allowed for more products to be available.

13. 713.10 MULCH

Joe Green: To make it easier to find in the Spec Book.

14. 713.12 ROLLED EROSION CONTROL PRODUCTS

Joe Green: To make it easier to find in the Spec Book.

15. 713.13 COMPOST

Joe Green: Updated spec to attest the material is noxious weed free.

MCA New Business

1. Pat Bomgardner: Mike Meredith made aware of project with different format for Design Build Project.

Mike Meredith: Informed this am, engineer said designing project at 65%. MDT will tweak design as needed. One time deal or new process? Scobey/Glasgow/Poplar: 15 bridges

Darin Reynolds: Phase 1 analysis on bundled bridge project to provide info for environmental document. Prelim design. RFP slated for November. Fiscal year 2022 project. Consultant hired to provide Phase 1 analysis.

Mike Meredith: Similar to getting permits done in advance?

Darin Reynolds: This will help provide a clean picture for RFP. Phase 1 analyses will be done for others also... to develop side boards for project.

2. DBE Discussion: PB: What happens if we don't meet goal. Last year barely met. Maybe a refresher at next meeting from Patty Schwinden. Add to next agenda a refresher from MDT on DBE issues.

MDT New Business

1. 2021 Leg Update: Dwane Kailey: No Jake, in mediation right now.

DK: HB 2 - Passed everything that we asked for. Never seen before.

Contractor payments thru roof over years due to redistribution. MDT successful with redistribution, set records at \$60MM. Successful in securing other funds, HIP funding directed towards bridges. Asked for 75 \$MM increase in FY22, \$68 MM increase in FY23. Total \$397 MM for '22, \$390MM for 2023. Asked for more FTE in construction program. All received. Very needed. MDT appreciates MCA pushing on behalf of MDT.

\$10MM increase in Consult design payments. Consult and Design program has grown dramatically.

Received notification getting \$102MM in Cares Act funding. Not much guidance. Two amendments \$50M shifted to maintenance to be contracted out for pavement preservation activities. HB4 \$52MM earmarked for Granite Creek bridge (located by Virginia city). Earmarking funds is not desirable. Want to keep politics out, and equal across districts. Circumvents processes.

Three years to obligate the funding. Not spend, obligate. Want to meter it out over time and not overload contractors.

Last 2 weeks of session picked up. Staggering. Nothing too drastic towards MDT.

Motorcycle Bill: Allows motorcycles to pass other vehicles while they are in queue.

SB 249: Electrician Licensing Bill: Use electrician when setting up traffic signals. MDT already contracted with 3 cities. MCA will oppose.

MDT doesn't get as much credit for testimony like others might. MDT being guided to go in informationally, unless catastrophic.

HB 130: Alt contracting. Design Build program was amended out. Not catastrophic. MDT watching.

HB 358: Public right to know on settlements. As written, claims would be posted. Claims process and any settlements would have to be posted. Bill will require that they are posted quarterly, amount and issue.

LC120: Certain % of MT workers on MT public projects. Maintenance will be impacted. No bill number yet. Federal law does not allow this to happen.

MDT is tracking 160 bills right now. Legislature takes up all time. Most budgets are going through as requested. Allow to keep paying and moving.

David Smith: Tried to get a safety bill prohibiting cell phones in work zones. Tabled in committee.
Electric Vehicle Fees: Got out of committee with increased prices. Headed to house. House Joint Resolution to do an interim study on electric vehicles.

3. Cares Act Funding: Info above.

4. Posting Average Bid Process: Darin Reynolds.

Asked why MDT ceased to post average bid prices. Reasoning is not supported by software platform. New software being developed. More time. Data Analytics. Got with staff in ISD and CCS and working on report that would provide those average bid prices. Posted on website. Draft form. Not sure how last prices were calculated. Pure average will be used for actual quantities. Weighted average. More info soon. Some people use for prelim numbers for bonding.

Pat Bomgardner: Timeline for when 2019/2020 averages will be out?

DR: 2020 posted in draft form. Next week or 2 should be finalized. Will work on 2019 info also. If anything looks fishy with numbers, let DR know. Don't have staff to go through and QC all data.

5. Electronic Subcontracts: Kathy Terrio

Kathy Terrio: Starting in June through DocuSign. Drastically shorten the approval for subcontract. In testing phase. Hope to take just a day, or even a few hours. Update on implementation at next MCA meeting.

Old Business

1. Federal Highway Wage Decision Update

Kathy Terrio: No new update on new wage decision for MT for Federal wage rates. Now that things are transition to new administration, hoping for a response based on how the rules have/will change.

2. Table 108.1: discussed under supplemental specs

3. MDT Claims Process:

Dwane Kailey: Small committee with MCA and MDT, information sharing. Hope to meet again after transmittal.

3. Partnering:

Dwane Kailey: Somewhat slow last year. Spec updated to have partnering.

Darin Reynolds: Already in all bid lettings. Partnering Level 2 in all projects. MCA and MDT staff: If spec is not in there, do a change order to get in. Level 2 in all projects. Work with MCA to determine which ones require level 1. Dates for next training set. Class sizes set to 30 people. DK working with Sidney for internal training to explain to design staff. Help understand escalation process to get info to field staff to timely resolve issues.

6. MCA-MDT Environmental Task Force:

John McMillan: Met with DEQ. Not a lot on task force meeting. Close to finalizing 2 specials for bull trout revisions. Department will hire aquatic resources manager. New bid item in upcoming projects that deal with bull trout and endangered species. Look out for additional bid item.