

ACEC/MO – MoDOT Liaison Committee Meeting Southeast District



MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 2021
via Zoom



ATTENDANCE: In addition to the committee members listed below, 38 other ACEC/MO members attended this virtual meeting.

MoDOT

Mark Croarkin
Andrew Meyer
Michael Brandon
Andrew Meyer
Benji Philpot
Tim Pickett
Kevin Plott
Chris Rutledge
Pete Barry

ACEC/MO

Billy Cobb, S.H. Smith & Company, Inc.
Jason Dohrmann, HR Green, Inc., Cmte. Chair
Bruce Schopp, Oates Associates, Inc.
Bob Summers, Horner & Shifrin, Inc.
Ryan Thomas, Wood
Frank Weatherford, TranSystems
Don Wichern, Bartlett & West, Inc.
Morgan Mundell, President & CEO
Dawn Hill, ACEC/MO Staff

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Introductions

- Jason opened the meeting thanking the SE District for continuing to meet with the ACEC/MO liaison committee. Jason requested non-committee members to mute and turn off video and proceeded with introductions by referencing the attendees list for committee members and providing an opportunity for them to introduce themselves along with an Icebreaker regarding their favorite flavor of Jellybeans.

MoDOT SE District Updates

- Mark mentioned he expects the SE District funding to go up an additional \$20-\$25M per year from SB 262.
- He said staffing continues to be an issue and expects Dave Wyman and Kevin Platt to help manage Consultant Contracts in the future due to this issue. Hiring engineers has been incredibly tough due to MoDOT's starting salaries compared to the surrounding states in his region. Because of this issue the district will be looking for more "Cradle to Grave" projects for consultants along with more construction services contracts and bridge bundles. They also added a position in HR to help recruit new employees.
- The Highway Commission recently held a workshop to discuss MoDOT's salaries and how they might address the issue. A one dollar raise to all employees results in a \$10M Budget increase.
- Unfunded Needs List continues to be collaborated with their planning partners, specifically Tier 3 projects that can be added with additional revenue and will be handled with the STIP process.
- The handling of the Presidential Vaccine Mandate will not affect state employees.
- Benji updated the group on his recent projects and mentioned there will be a meeting with all the PMs to determine what projects will go out for RFQs next year. Also, mentioned he's working

ACEC/MO – MoDOT Liaison Committee Meeting Southeast District

with the owner's rep. on the Chester Bridge and should have an RFP ready by the end of the next federal fiscal year for this project.

- Tim mentioned he has a couple of intersection jobs that will go out for RFQs in the November time frame along with a bundle of bridges in the same time frame. He then updated the group on his projects on Route 67.
- Pete mentioned he did not have any work coming out for solicitation until after the meeting with the other PMs.

ACEC Missouri Updates

- No new updates at this meeting today because Morgan was unable to attend.

Missouri Legislative Agenda for this Session

- No new updates to report here either.

Consultant Deliverables

- Mark mentioned the concern with the additional workload coming up and how it is very important to keep the communication level as good as possible along with staying on time and on budget. He said those were his main concerns moving forward. Said they had made a concerted effort to look over the STP and develop their needs from the consulting industry last year and it has worked well for them, and they believe they are ahead of the effort. Andy confirmed this but emphasized that we need to continue to meet the milestones in the projects.
- There was no mention of "areas that need improvement" at today's meeting.

Other Topics

- A couple of questions regarding training for inspection were brought up and Linn Technical School will be where to go to get the necessary training for Inspection, including Superpave in the near future. Reciprocity was also brought up and Kevin Platt mentioned there are some areas where it fits, but that overall, the question needs to be addressed by the HQ Construction & Materials Division in Jefferson City.

Next Meeting Date & Location

- The next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2022.