

**Missouri Department of Transportation SE District and
American Council of Engineering Companies of Missouri
Liaison Committee**

**Meeting Minutes
10:00 AM February 22, 2019**

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Opening Comments

A listing of ACEC committee members and minutes from our last meeting were distributed.

Each person present introduced themselves and identified their corporate affiliation and role.

Review of 09/14/18 Meeting Minutes

A copy of the previous meeting's minutes were distributed electronically after the meeting to all attendees in draft form. Since no corrections were received, it is now considered final.

MoDOT SE District Staffing Changes

Benji Philpot promoted to Project Manager (took Jason Williams spot).

Jason Williams moved to construction materials engineer.

Tami Hefner is District Maintenance engineer.

Elquin Auala is Area Engineer.

Chris Rutledge is Assistant District Engineer.

The role of the Area Engineer in this district is to work with legislatives and locals involved with projects. Build relationships with civil organizations.

Squad Leader Position is open.

One designer left to Kentucky consultant another Construction inspector also resigned and joined another organization. Having a tough time keeping people.

The district hires approximately 20 interns every summer.

There was a recent reorganization at MoDOT executive leadership. Discussed the changes.

Beefing up maintenance leadership in District. Driven by retirements and project delivery.

Design Policy Updates

Modernizing in-house training for engineers. District has not been doing a lot of regular training/updates in the past.

Emery Sapp, contractor, has used 3D on a construction project. The District has not been doing a lot of 3D modeling for standard bridge projects (although using 3D modeling for the Jefferson interchange updates). 3D modeling has been used for ROW plans which has allowed them to better calculate cut and fill quantities. The District sees the advantages of using 3D modeling for roundabouts, projects with aggressive grade changes, and modeling utilities which will allow them to identify impacts/conflicts. All designers, as well as some construction personnel, are receiving or have received training for 3D modeling.

There may be new changes in developing cost estimates with respect to internal QC/QA documentation. There will be a focus on process to improve quality relative to the process. There have not been any major problems with performance or the final estimates.

Missouri Legislative Agenda Update

I-57 corridor signing ceremony today. No funding as of yet, but hopeful.

The New administration has gotten more involved with transportation than the last one. Even though Prop D failed, they are pushing to find ways to get more transportation funding.

MoDOT did a presentation on funding. There is more a focus on asset management. Major bridges will be pulled out of district funding. MoDOT developing a STIP showing projects that will be delayed if federal funds drop in 2021.

Governor is proposing a \$350M bonding program to be paid out of general funds. 250 bridges will be moved up a year on bonding. The money would be distributed to the districts by the current formula. Will meet with planning MPOs to figure out how to maximize/best utilize funds.

Currently have 15 bridges in STIP for 2023 which will be moved up a year if bonding is passed.

SE District does 20-30 per bridges a year with given funding.

MoDOT starting to put together a STIP that shows projects that would have to be delayed or pushed if funding is not addressed.

Discussed MoDOT document – “Focus on Bridges” (see website for details). Missouri Infrastructure investment.

Consultant Deliverables

Importance of communication. The district had an issue with a bridge constructed over a railroad. Unfortunately, railroad did not get the opportunity to review the plans and then refused to accept the design due to the geometry. Not necessarily in the consultant’s scope. Need to identify who is responsible for railroad coordination early in the design process.

Railroads have been asking for pick plans for projects over their tracks from the design engineer (pick plans are typically developed during construction, not final design, and usually by the contractor). Must be signed/sealed by engineer and submitted to railroad for review and approval.

LPA Program

TAP Funds have been distributed for communities. (Sidewalks, Lighting, Non-motorized transportation). BRO Funds should be moving forward and counties will need to propose projects. \$2M funds distributed last November. Funding is approximately \$2 million every 2 years.

Upcoming Projects

Thin Overlays, Small Bridge Replacements, and traffic studies are the continued focus.

Scoping for on I-55 Exit 93 interchange – bridge needs to be repaired. Will require a traffic study.

There are a couple on-calls coming up (Traffic and Hydraulic studies). Otherwise not using on-call consultants very much because project exceeds minimum budget, must be advertised.

Other Topics

None.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on September 20th, 10am in Sikeston SE District Office.