

**St. Louis District Corps of Engineers /  
American Council of Engineering Companies of Missouri /  
American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois Liaison Committee  
- MINUTES -  
Wednesday, October 26, 2022  
10:00 AM – Civil Design, Inc.**

**ATTENDEES:**

**St. Louis District COE:**

Kevin Deiters  
Susan Wilson

**ACEC Missouri:**

Craig Brauer  
Mark Bross  
Mike Harizal  
Pam Hobbs, Cmte. Chair  
Laura Mwirigi Rightler  
Wayne Weber

**ACEC Illinois:**

Kipkoech Chepkoiit  
Lori Daiber  
Scott Harding

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**1. USACE District Staffing**

John Peukert has returned to his roll at Deputy of Programs and Project Management. Susan Wilson is the Deputy for Engineering and Construction. COL Golinghorst will remain at the District until July 2022. LT COL Sears will be at the District for a few more years. MAJ John Miller is Deputy Commander. A new Chief of Contracting is soon to be in place. There have been many changes in the Contracting Office in the St. Louis District as well as throughout USACE in general. Susan will send us the names of the new folks when she has them. Staffing with IIA (they now refer to IIA as BIL, Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill) has increased and they are looking to continue to hire for the anticipated increase in work, mainly entry- to mid-level engineers.

**2. Small Business Goals**

They did fairly well with achieving their small business goals in 2022. Their overall goal was 53%, which they exceeded, coming in at 63%. They exceeded individual category goals except for Woman Owned and HUB Zone, of which they were very close. They are anticipating similar goals in 2023, but those have not yet been finalized.

**3. Contracts**

- Rivers Project Office Tree Planting IDIQ – no update.
- Upper MVD A-E IDIQ -New MATOC includes BIL money. The contract will be managed by Rock Island but will be led by the St. Paul contracting office. The solicitation is now expected out by the end of November, capacity \$249 million with 3-6 contracts awarded, 1-3 large business and 1-3 small business.
- Environmental / Laboratory IDIQ – none planned, although their Environmental Restoration and Design is growing as they now have EPA Regions 5 and 7 residential site remediation work, making it a possibility that they will need additional help there.

No new professional or services contracts anticipated, they have the contracts with Tetrtech and Stantec through 2025.

Under current contracts, the St. Louis District assists hurricane relief efforts in Florida and continues to assist Puerto Rico, Sacramento and New Orleans.

**4. Contracting**

TORNs will still be required as they've not received new guidance to the contrary from Headquarters. It will take an effort on the National level to change the use of TORNs, there has been a lot of discussion, but no change. When dealing with the TORN process, it is suggested to reach out to the Contracting Officer and/or the A/E Coordinator to find out their expectation on the level of effort they are looking for with each task order submittal. Response on qualifications could be as simple as a request to review of the existing SF330 already on file.

**5. Budgets**

No new budget, they are expecting to work under a Continuing Resolution. With BIL, funding is healthy. Lock & Dam 25 is fully funded and Lagrange was funded for design. They're continuing with CSO work. They are paying close attention to the rising costs, as is everyone. There have not been ill effects in the St. Louis District to date, they continue to work with estimators and work within their rules to move projects forward.

**6. WOTUS**

[epa.gov/WOTUS](https://www.epa.gov/WOTUS) is the best way to stay updated on this topic. They are looking for a final ruling in Spring 2023. Reach out to the Regulatory Branch with specific questions.

**7. NESP opportunities for A/E firms**

USACE is doing the design for Lock & Dam in-house with the assistance of existing A/E contracts. The extent of the assistance they will need going forward with the additional lock & dam work will depend greatly on when and how the future projects are released. No specific plan at this time. The St. Louis District is planning an Industry Day (looking at January 2023) and there will be another Industry Day specific to Lock & Dam 25 that may provide more information on this topic.

**8. Other Discussion Items**

River levels – low water continues to be a concern, USACE is working regionally on dredging operations to maintain the river channel.

Testing for radiation at Jana Elementary in the Hazelwood School District is happening under the District's FUSRAP contract, any further questions should be addressed to the USACE St. Louis Public Affairs Office.

General discussion on the state of hiring engineers in the current climate and work-from-home (WFH) policies. USACE St. Louis District is generally WFH Mondays and Fridays, with everyone in the office Tuesdays thru Thursdays.

**9. Next Meeting Date and Agenda**

Looking at March 1 with USACE hosting, depending on availability of the site. Discussion that content of former meetings included presentations by the hosting firm and/or USACE and to consider including those in future meetings. Would like to see a presentation on WOTUS once the final rule is in place and the St. Louis District has received their guidance.