

**CAWV / DOH
JOINT COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE**

July 25, 2006

WVDOH Headquarters ~ Capitol Complex

MINUTES

INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES: Bill Hilborn, *Co-Chairman*
Lee Cooperrider Phil Harrison Nate Orders
Joe Deneault Mike Harvey Ed Phares
Mike DeViese Jim Mattingly Tony Stanchina
Sumith Hapuarachy Bill Medcalf Clarke Wilson

DOH REPRESENTATIVES: Paul Mattox, *Co-Chairman*
Darrell Allen Marvin Murphy
Greg Bailey Jim Sothen
Richard Genthner John Walker

FHWA REPRESENTATIVES: Tom Smith
Joe Werning

STAFF: Mike Clowser, *CAWV*
Pat Parsons, *APAWV/CAWV*

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. and no corrections were made to minutes of the May 2, 2006, meeting. The following items were discussed:

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. CONSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes from a July 18, 2006, meeting were provided.

Industry indicated they would like to continue discussions related to designated waste/borrow sites and avenues for expediting their approval. Contractors also noted the need for more accuracy in quantities for erosion and sediment control items.

Industry suggested that the DOH continue to look at means of archiving critical project data, noting that a move to electronic plans, bidding and documents may help.

Contractors indicated that information necessary for procurement of railroad insurance is still not being provided in the bidding documents.

The Department could not explain why some current projects and proposed specification changes to 211.7 reduce the truck load volume for calculation of rock borrow from the current 80 percent to 70 or 75 percent. The DOH reported they are looking into the issue.

CONSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE (Continued)

The committee discussed proposed changes to 704.6 that would eliminate blending of crusher-run materials. Industry expressed concern over the need for the change and its potential financial impact to the DOH. The change will be discussed further at the July 27 Specification Committee meeting.

Industry indicated interest in discussing their proposed changes to Section 108 with the Specification Committee.

Contractors pointed out that the clearing specification being placed in projects differs from the version presented to the Specification Committee for consideration. The DOH indicated the latest version has been forwarded to the specification engineer.

Industry discussed the need to restore the 300-yard exemption for waste areas or, as an alternative, creation of a one-half acre exemption similar to provisions in the disposal regulations.

Contractors discussed the risks associated with fluctuations in the costs of blasting agents as the need for development of a price adjustment index for unclassified excavation.

The subcommittee is reportedly discussing the DOH taking responsibility for the installation of phone and DSL/Internet services.

The subcommittee also reported on the need for city and corporate limits to be shown in bidding documents so bidders can calculate applicable B&O taxes. It was noted that an existing Design Directive may provide designers the necessary guidance.

2. ASPHALT SUBCOMMITTEE

It was reported that this subcommittee had not met but that the Superpave Task Force had met recently.

3. AGGREGATE SUBCOMMITTEE

The committee was provided minutes from a July 13, 2006, meeting. No items were advanced.

4. PCC SUBCOMMITTEE

No Report.

5. SPECIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Industry noted that they will have comments for the DOH on several items at the July 27 meeting.

6. PUBLICATION SUBCOMMITTEE

The subcommittee met on July 19 and is working on numerous updates and revisions to DD's, Standard Details, Supplementals and other documents.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SUBCOMMITTEE

This newly formed committee met on July 20, 2006, and minutes of their meeting were provided. The committee reported that they will be meeting with the Corps of Engineers at their next meeting to discuss a recent Supreme Court decision and its impact on 404 permits. The committee will, reportedly, work together on ways to cost-effectively protect the state's streams and waterways.

TASK FORCES

1. ELECTRONIC PLANS / BIDDING

Industry indicated their strong desire to help expedite the use of electronic plans and bidding. Jim Sothen indicated he would schedule a meeting of the task force in August.

2. DBE

The DOH stated that Drema Smith is working on establishment of the new goal. Industry recommended the DBE Task Force meet in the near future. Marvin Murphy said he would schedule the meeting.

3. SMOOTHNESS

The DOH said the task force has met and is working toward implementation of a new Smoothness Specification. They reported that contractors and DOH personnel are collecting data which will be analyzed and used in refinements to the specification.

The DOH questioned whether small firms would invest in profile equipment. Industry indicated there are firms looking at offering the service and that some contractors may offer the service to other firms. It was noted that partial credit could be given for a DBE firm providing smoothness testing. The DOH suggested that additional profiler certification training may need to be offered. Industry noted that some initial testing has indicated that overlay thicknesses are inadequate for existing pavement conditions. They also mentioned problems obtaining accurate readings at required testing speed in many curves.

4. LRFD

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. OUTSOURCING

The DOH had no updates. Industry noted their interest in the concept.

2. TRAFFIC CONTROL

Industry asked the DOH to consider use of portable traffic signals in lieu of flaggers for some operations, adding that a pay item would be needed. The DOH stated they have allowed this arrangement to be made on select projects at the contractor's request.

3. WVBT

Joe Deneault discussed activities and goals of the newly formed educational coalition, West Virginians for Better Transportation.

NEW BUSINESS

1. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

WVDOT Secretary Mattox provided the committee an update on construction activity as of July 24, 2006.

West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways		
2006 CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM		
(\$ Millions)		
As of 07/24/06		
<u>Federal-aid</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Advertised/Auth to-date</u>
APD Exp & Impr	91.0	118.9
APD Renovation	9.0	7.2
Interstate Impr	60.0	2.1
Interstate Renovation	40.0	24.7
3R	40.0	40.2
Other Bridge	60.0	32.2
Other	<u>150.0</u>	<u>78.4</u>
FA Total	450.0	303.7
<u>Non Federal-aid</u>		
Contract Paving & SRM	50.0	39.8
Bridge (Cat. 6)	25.0	6.8
Other Bridge	5.0	2.0
Renovation	25.0	10.5
Improvement	20.0	5.7
Other	<u>3.0</u>	<u>0.6</u>
Non FA Total	128.0	65.4
TOTAL	578.0	369.1
EXCEL/YRCONST/2006CONS		

2. GARVEE BONDS

Secretary Mattox described the agency's plans to sell \$200 million in Garvee Bonds to fund four or more projects on Route 35. The bonds would have a term of nine years with an annual payment of approximately \$27 million, according to the Secretary.

He added that the first three projects on Route 35 will be advertised for construction soon, utilizing conventional bidding and construction methods. The fourth project funded by the bond sale will be the DOH's first Design-Build project.

3. DESIGN-BUILD

The DOH stated they would use the South Carolina DOT two-step system for their project. They explained that bid submission using a two-envelope system will allow the DOH to review the technical proposal and then see the bid amount, if the technical portion is accepted.

The DOH stated that they would provide bidders design plans that are 30% complete with R/W acquired; pavement design information; major drainage design; geotechnical information based on core borings; stormwater location plans and assistance with the NPDES permit. They indicated the biggest design challenges for the design- build team would be cut slopes and two twin structures.

The FHWA commended the WVDOH for working with their agency and industry and addressing allocation of risk and rules of engagement.

The DOH indicated they plan to make their selection by the end of the year and award in January, 2007.

Industry had many questions regarding the process, expressing some concern over the selection of a \$100 million project for the first local design-build effort.

4. FEDERAL AID RESCISSIONS

Joe Werning, FHWA, explained that during the past twelve months, West Virginia has lost over \$35 million due to Federal legislation (Appropriation Acts) in FY 2006 that rescinded funding from the highway program. He added that these actions have applied nationally, with every state taking a prorata share of reduction. The three pieces of legislation rescinding the funds included Transportation Appropriations, Defense Appropriations and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations.

Werning noted that DOH programs will not likely be impacted by the loss of funds, as the state's appropriations balance still exceeds their obligational authority.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.