

*ACEC/Division of Engineering Services
Structures Liaison Committee*

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 24, 2009
TIME: 10:00 am – 12:15 pm
LOCATION: Caltrans Division of Engineering Services
1801 30th Street, Room 212
Sacramento CA, 95816

MINUTES:

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Self Introductions
- B. No changes to agenda

II. REPORTS ON TECHNICAL TOPICS

A. New Seismic Hazard Maps (Mark Willian)

Mark Willian of Caltrans said there would be a kick-off meeting next Thursday with eight consulting firms to investigate the new map. Caltrans picked out a dozen sites and broke them out to different consultants. It is expected that each consultant will spend approximately 40 hours on this effort. Caltrans is hoping to roll the map out for use by the end of June 2009.

Action item: Consultants to investigate new hazard maps.

B. Expansive Soil Exclusion Zone (Mark Willian)

Mark said the lab is working on new guidelines. Current LEM design guideline is no longer applicable. He said consultants should use their judgment on when and how to specify the expansive soil exclusion zone and not just use Caltrans LEM zone for every job.

Action item: Caltrans to complete new guidelines.

C. Seismic Design of Utility Openings in Bridges

Document was posted to the web site.

Action item: Remove this item from the agenda.

D. CTBridge Updates: (Jay Holombo, Mike Keever)

The forum is not getting used much (only four threads). There were discussions of trying to make more people aware of the forum to increase usage. Consultants are using the latest version of CTBridge (February 2009). Mike Keever said there would be a

subscription fee for automatic updates. Jay said on the issue of CTBridge reporting an increase in the required steel for skewed bridges that there is a new “Blue Sheet” Amendment addressing this (5.8.3.5). Sudhakar will check if CTBridge is taking the new amendment into account.

Action item: Sudhakar to check if CTBridge is taking the Blue Sheet Amendment into account.

E. Type R Approach Slab Pay Items (Walt LaFranchi)

There was a change in the pay item units from cubic yard to cubic feet.

Action item: Remove this item from the agenda.

Action item: Add Specifications/Blue Sheet Amendments as an item

F. Pile Shafts (Rob Stott, Mike Keever)

There will be a change in the Seismic Design Criteria regarding pile shafts. The length of tails will be reduced in large diameter CIDH piles. The specifications for tying steel for large diameter CIDH piles are going to be revised to improve safety. It was recommended to show inspection tube locations on the plans.

G. Caltrans Standard Specification Chapter 90 (Concrete) is being completely rewritten. It will be placed in the amendments. 2010 Standards Sections 1 thru 9 are out for review.

Action item: Add 2010 Standard Specifications as an item

III. UPDATES

A. ACEC Updates:

1. Updating Charter (Wei Koo)

Wei handed out charter and went over changes. He proposed changes to items II and item IV.

Action item: Work on revising charter

2. Invoicing on Caltrans Contracts (Mark Ashley)

After investigating, Mark does not think a lot can be done to improve situation.

3. Technical Workshops

Having Consultants attend Caltrans winter training was discussed. Next year the topic is trenching and shoring. Having consultant designers, geotechnical engineers and construction managers attend was discussed. For Caltrans staff it is typically conducted over three days (afternoon the first day, all the second day and the afternoon of the third day). To reduce time and costs it was suggested to conduct over two days for consultants.

Action item: Po Chen and Jim Frost to set up consultant training for Northern and Southern California respectively.

Action item: Mark A., Syad, Jim D., Tom O. and Mark R. will work together to set up CIDH Pile Construction training.

Hazard Map Webinar

Action item: Mark R. will investigate webinar for the new hazard map.

4. Specification Forum (Walt LaFranchi, John Stayton)

It was beneficial and there will be two meetings a year scheduled.

Action item: Sudhakar will post meeting minutes.

B. Project Development Oversight/Update (Lam Nguyen):

1. Caltrans will be more flexible in scheduling Type Selection Meetings.
2. Caltrans is working to get more consistent reviews of consultant submittals.

C. DES Update (Kevin Thompson, Bob Stott):

1. Bob Pieplow wants to attend the next ACEC/Caltrans meeting.
2. The amount of structure design work is going down
3. Caltrans is investigating how they can be more efficient in working with the Districts.
4. Looking to revamp job rotation program for workload leveling.
5. Jon Hamaguchi was assigned as single points of contact from DES for 405 design/build contract in Dist-7.

D. Contracting Opportunities (Jim Davis, Darrel Beddard)

1. Caltrans is investigating new Roadway Design software.
2. Darrell handed out evaluation forms to be used for RFQ and interviews. He wanted comments within a week.

E. ACEC Statewide Meeting Report (Thomas Post)

1. Caltrans will be more involved in jobs with federal funding.
2. For projects with federal funding after June 2 the DBE goals are:
 - 6.75% race conscious
 - 6.75% race neutral

IV. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting July 31st (Sacramento)

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