



ACEC Oregon

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON

MEETING SUMMARY ODOT/ACEC Liaison Committee

Location: HR Training Center
2775 - 19th ST SE,
Salem, Conference A

Meeting Date: January 14, 2011

Time: 9:00 AM –
12:00 PM

Next Meeting Date: *March 11, 2011*

Minutes by: Allison Collins, Kittelson & Associates, Inc.

Posted to: http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/MPB/acec_odotpartnership.shtml

Attendees:

NAME	ORGANIZATION	E-MAIL
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MEETING SUMMARY

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1.0 Welcome/Introductions – Marc Butorac / Tom Lauer

The meeting opened with a welcome from Marc Butorac and Tom Lauer; who then invited attendees to introduce themselves. There were 45 attendees in total.

2.0 ACEC Steering Committee Update – Kay Van Sickle

Kay announced that the steering committee is taking on contracting issues related to construction, as well how Conflict of Interest criteria will be defined for upcoming environment process and impact statements. With legislative issues coming up, Kay announced that the Steering Committee will go through a debrief on ACEC issues and the recent meeting with Region 3 staff.

3.0 Procurement & Contracts Standing Committee – Tom Lauer / Dan Oven / Naveen

3.a) Chaye Bookey (ODOT): Billrates and escalation rates are currently being updated with consultants through 2013—ODOT is asking for new salary rates and any overhead information that needs to be updated from consultants over the next few months. Chaye brought a list of talking points from the Billing Rate Action Team. (Attached at end of

minutes.)The current rate setting system was started in 2007. ODOT will ensure that the escalation is set at 4.5%. Date of approval of new rates will be the effective date.

Q: [James (MLG)] Will firms info be updated/taken off list if inactive?

A: Yes.

Q: Will there be any exceptions that will apply in the rate change?

A: Only for really old contracts.

Philosophy for rates moving forward: Rates are what they are.

Paul DePalma (ODOT): For questions regarding rates you can contact him directly.

Q: [Sam Smith (name not on sign-in sheet or mailing list)] Mileage change from 0.50 cents to 0.51 cents for state contracts?

A: Yes. Notice sent out internally at ODOT.

IN OTHER NEWS:

3.b) There will be an effort to try to use ODOT's list serve to send invites to workshops and other events—the downside of this is that consultants will get all invites for every event throughout the state.

3.c) Naveen: There will be a bidding exercise workshop on 1/24 at Region 1. Invite Only

3.d) Dan Oven: RFP developments:

- Non-Destructive Hazardous Materials RFP is in the Intent to Award stage and should be in place by the end of February.
- Surveying RFP is moving into the Intent to Award stage and should be in place by the end of February.
- Statewide Bridge Inspection—Going to DAS for review. Looking at posting in first part of February
- Trenchless Technologies and Hydraulics RFP will be released later this year
- Sunrise JTA RFP has been released and due on February 2nd

4.0 Project Delivery/Management Systems Standing Committee Update – Paul DePalma/Jim Evans

No activities to report

5.0 Training Standing Committee –Tim Shell

Tim: Meeting every two weeks to prepare for ODOT/ACEC conference.

Karen Tatman (Quincy): Update of Region 4 brown bag: Kathy Nelson was supposed to travel over to Bend, but it was determined that invites only went to ODOT and other agencies. No consultants were invited. Therefore the brown bag is going to be rescheduled for

6.0 Environmental & Planning Standing Committee Update – Bob Carson

Committee hasn't met since October. Will meet in February.

Debrief on ODOT Environmental Conference (4/6 – 4/8): Historically, this has been an internal conference—no consultants invited. This year, for the first time, consultants will be invited to attend.

There was a call for papers. Approximately 65 presenters have been considered for 40 slots.

There are still opportunities to be a sponsor. Bob had flyers on hand. (Attached at end of minutes.) For more information about sponsoring, please complete the

sponsorship form online at:

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/CONSTRUCTION/docs/env_conf_sponsor.pdf

More details about the conference can be found at:

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/CONSTRUCTION/environmental_conference.shtml

Marc Butorac: Updates on transportation planning side: Eric Havig has replaced Jerri Bohart on the committee. TEPE contracts are due to expire in March of 2012. Dan Oven is talking internally with ODOT users about replacement strategies for those. News on RFP development should be forthcoming. Look for it to be released in Summer or early Fall (projected).

7.0 Local Agency – Alan Lively

Alan Lively was double-booked and couldn't make it today. No report available at this time.

8.0 ODOT Updates– Tom Lauer

Tom Lauer: ODOT PERSONNEL UPDATES

Jane Lee has moved from Region 2 Manager to Personnel

Jennifer of the Office of project-letting will be the interim Region 2 manager

Paul Mather was appointed as the Roadway Deputy Director Mark Gusilman—will serve as the interim Region 3 Manager

No word yet on Matthew Garret's position

Region 4: Bob Bryant is in Salem on special assignment of SB 1024

Gary Farnsworth (Interim Region 4 Manager)

New governor and legislature are bringing key changes in personnel.

Naveen: Looking at STIP—looking at how regions are managing their projects in the outyears.

9.0 Not on Agenda (NOA's) – All

- Emily Lawton (Federal Highway Administration)
 - “Everyday Counts” summit held 11/30 and 12/1—good session that showed that Oregon is well-positioned (from FHWA standpoint OR is on top of new IS initiatives.)
 - Decision was made that leadership already in place will move this forward.
 - Q: [Troy Bowers (MSA)]: Are there new programmatic agreements planned?
 - A: Yes. We can look for things past the first round, i.e.: R.O.W.
 - Q: [Kay Van Sickel (Mead & Hunt)]: Has there been any interest from other states?
 - A: Emily overheard mentions of it, but was not privy to any detailed discussion.

- Troy Bowers (MSA):
 - Region 3 manager search: ACEC has been selected to review applicants. Gayle Harley of OBEC will represent ACEC on the committee.
- Tom Lauer (ODOT)
 - **Replacement of High Powered Radio throughout the state** (It has been 35 years since system was updated. Deferring maintenance for this long has resulted in the need to replace the entire infrastructure.)
 - Will replace ODOT and police radio systems—both are not currently compliant. Fire Dept. and Dept. of Corrections radio systems are not currently being replaced but are scheduled to come next.
 - TEAM:
 - Harris Radio; Radios will be supplied by Harris Corporation. General Dynamics is the CM/GC in charge of site prep and towers; AECOM and Federal Engineering are the projects radio engineer and Black & Veatch is responsible for site designs.
 - Still working on finding a firm to serve as the “microwave backbone” of the system. Could go out to bid on that.
 - Team is now prepared to build 150 towers this summer, plus access roads to the tower facilities
 - 150 million is in place, but requires substantial additional funds. ODOT is currently at a major challenge point to deal with the current gap in budget.
 - Must become compliant with FCC regulations for narrow banding by January 1, 2013
 - This project is widely supported and will be very useful once in place.
 - Public Safety Spectrum—ODOT has also picked up broadband spectrum, similar to what you see in cell phone spectrum. This will allow for a dedicated public safety channel, (i.e.: natural disasters, Amber Alerts, etc...) *A public-private partnership is proposed for this component.*
 - Additional capabilities: high-powered—range will be over 30 miles (cell phones have a range of 6 miles.)
 - **Q:** [Troy Bowers (MSA)]: How many new sites will there be?
 - **A:** Will go from 140 to 285 sites (New frequencies require many more towers.)
 - **Q:** [Steve Bryant (Professional Services Industries, Inc)]: Any alleviation on the due date?
 - **A:** Possible, however FCC date has been moved before. The ultimate challenge here is that though states will struggle to generate funds to implement the new changes, there may be reluctance on the FCC’s part to postpone again.)

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- Tom: ODOT is still committed to giving work to DBEs for this project.
 - Overall glad to be moving away from “fish” and on to mountain tops..
 - Marc Butorac: ACEC Awards went well with a turnout of over 400 guests.
 - Marc Butorac: Due to travel restrictions to the Annual Transportation Research Board (TRB) conference in Washington DC OTREC is reaching out to consultant and agency participants to provide a debrief workshop in Portland in February.
 - Naveen: acknowledged and thanked Mike Jenkins for getting Sunrise JTA out.
 - Naveen: announced that if there are any full service contracts coming out, he will announce it in these meetings. (Cautioned that if you hear of releases from other sources they may just be rumors.)
 - [Ed Chamberlain (WH Pacific)]: February 16th is “Future Engineers Day” in Salem. This event will target over 200 students this year (50 more than last year.) They are still low on number of engineers. He encourages firms to come sit at tables and sponsor. \$200/table—lunchtime at the Kroc Corps Community Center in Salem.
 - Announcement to please send new items and requests to Marc and Tom for next agenda. “It is key that you let ODOT know what you need to know!”

10.0 Meeting Adjourned

ACEC Liaison Meeting, 1-14-10 Rate Update Talking Points

Billing Rate Action Team (BRAT) Contact:

Chaye Bookey

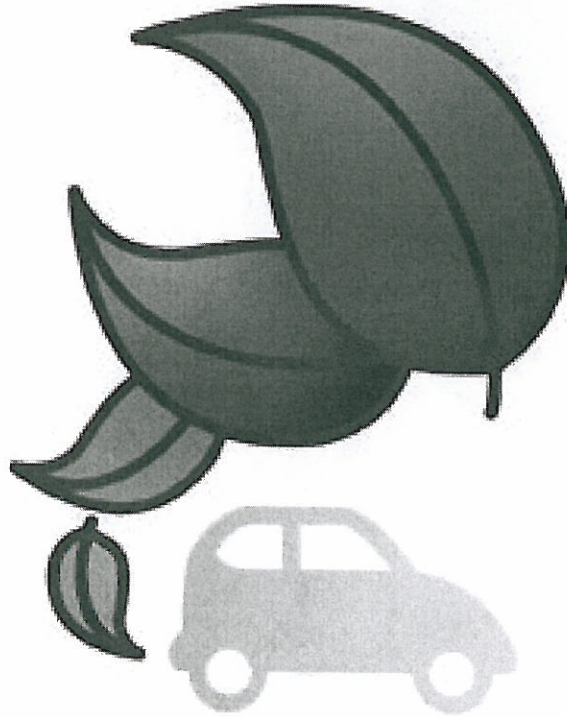
503-986-2833

Cheryl.bookey@odot.state.or.us

ODOTBillingRateUpdates@odot.state.or.us

- ◆ Current rate setting of Direct Salary Rate (DSR) / Escalated Salary Rate (ESR) system was started in July-August, 2007 time frame.
- ◆ Early work done by the Billing Rate Action Team (BRAT) set a reasonable escalation of 4.5% which includes cost of living and merit increases.
- ◆ Current situation is that many of the ESRs are using that same 2007 base data for the escalations.
- ◆ The need to update this information is two-fold:
 1. Per Federal Highway review, they want to see the information kept more current.
 2. Review the validity of the 4.5% escalation
- ◆ BRAT is currently in the process of sending out email requests to all firms using this system of rates requesting updated DSRs. For any firm whose overhead information is not current, a CDQ and overhead statement are also being requested.
- ◆ BRAT will be analyzing the new DSR/ ESR information to assure that the classification escalations have stayed within the 4.5% annual allotted amount. State budget limitations and priorities may result in further cost controls to both state and consultant considerations.
- ◆ If there are escalations that go beyond the 4.5%, BRAT will be contacting the firm to request a justification as to why a larger amount was required. The justification must make a solid business case and be in the best interest of the Agency. Justifications may include items such as billing rate surveys or other specific economic data, new hire starting wages, rising cost of keeping an employee that has special talents required on ODOT projects, etc. BRAT will also work with you to find other solutions such as dividing a classification that has a very large minimum to maximum ratio or creating a new classification for a specialized employee.
- ◆ Questions/Comments

I will email link
to you.
— Bob Carson



ODOT Environmental Conference

April 6-8, 2011

at The Riverhouse in Bend

THEME

Transportation and the Environment: Inspiring Excellence

This conference targets ODOT staff across the agency, local agencies, liaison staff from regulatory and resource agencies and ACEC firms doing business with ODOT.

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Donations will be used to help defray travel costs and fees for special presenters and to offset the costs of refreshments provided during breaks.

ODOT will acknowledge its appreciation of all sponsors with signs and announcements throughout the conference.

To complete the sponsorship form, visit

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/CONSTRUCTION/docs/env_conf_sponsor.pdf

For details about the ODOT Environmental Conference, visit

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/CONSTRUCTION/environmental_conference.shtml