January 9, 2012

Notice To: Jay Bennett, Jonathan Bivens, Stuart Bourne, Ken Cates, Joe Coleman, Judith Corley-Lay, Ron Hancock, Berry Jenkins, BJ Lanier, Don Lee, David Moyer, Gerhard Pilcher, Ian Scott, Mason Sexton, Lamar Sylvester, Michael Taylor, Kevin Thomas, Brian Webb, and Dennis Wofford

From: R.A. Garris, PE

Subject: AGC/Roadway Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

The subject committee met on December 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the Riverwood Conference Room at the Century Center with the following in attendance:

Jay Bennett
Jonathan Bivens
Randy Garris
Berry Jenkins
Phillip Johnson

BJ Lanier
Don Lee
Tim Marsh
Natalie Roskam

Mason Sexton
Dewayne Sykes
Lamar Sylvester
Michael Taylor

1. **WHITE LINING FOR UTILITIES**

Mr. Sykes provided a draft provision (Attachment #1) requiring either an adequate description or whitelining/flanking of a dig location so utility locations can be marked. Mr. Jenkins noted that the AGC is working towards legislation for accountability in locating utility lines similar to the laws in South Carolina. The discussion centered on sign placement for resurfacing projects and locates on utility-relocated excavations. Use of this provision is expected to begin with the March letting.

2. **PROSECUTION OF WORK**

Mr. Taylor noted concern with the terms “uninterrupted and suspended” in the provision entitled “Prosecution of Work.” The intent of the provision is to charge liquidated damages if there is a long disruption in the work. The idea is that a narrow interpretation could cause issues. Mr. Taylor has not had an issue with the interpretation of the provision yet. Mr. Garris suggested that interpretation concerns could be addressed on a case-by-case basis with the appropriate staff.
3. **Sealing Joints in Curb and Gutter**

Mr. Taylor noted potential specification conflicts for sealing joints where the curb meets the gutter. Mr. Garris distributed the standard drawing (Attachment #2) which shows the sealing going to the top of the joint. The *Standard Specifications* requires sealing of the joint at the gutter prior to backfilling. The interpretation of whether to seal the joint to the gutter line or to the top of the gutter varies, and the seal is not placed prior to backfilling because the broom tractor may pull the seal out. Mr. Sylvester will review the issue and communicate a standard approach to the Divisions and this subcommittee.

4. **Davis-Bacon Wage Rate Determinations**

Mr. Jenkins reported the latest efforts to implement the new highway labor wage rate determinations. The new wage rate determinations will be used in projects let in January 2012.

NCDOT will conduct a new Highway Prevailing Wage Survey. The data from this survey will be evaluated by SAS Institute, Inc. A report of the data will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL).

In the past, there were two highway wage rate determinations covering two distinct geographic regions, rural and urban. Currently, there are thirteen highway wage rate determinations which are further subdivided by county within specific wage categories. The NCDOT survey will have six geographic regions representing rural and urban areas in eastern, central, and western North Carolina.

Mr. Bivens noted that the USDOL survey would have required 400 pages to supply the requested information. The upcoming NCDOT survey will be web based and driven by labor categories therefore streamlining the input of information.

S. T. Wooten Corporation conducted a study of the new labor rates by inserting the rates into four completed, representative projects: a resurfacing project, a bridge replacement project, a design-build project, and a four-lane highway widening project. They found that the increase in labor costs was between 12 to 19%, and the increase in overall project costs was around 3%.

Mr. Garris will issue a notice in the advertisement for the January let indicating which projects include the new wage rate determinations. Mr. Jenkins announced plans to offer a webinar about the new wage rate determinations in 2012.
5. **DIVISION LETTING SCHEDULE**

Mr. Garris announced the standardized letting dates for division lettings (Attachment #3 and #4). Divisions may have other letting dates as required. The standard let dates are as follows:

- Divisions 1, 6, 10 and 13: 1\(^{st}\) and 3\(^{rd}\) Wednesday
- Divisions 2, 5, and 9: 2\(^{nd}\) and 4\(^{th}\) Wednesday
- Divisions 3, 7, and 11: 1\(^{st}\) and 3\(^{rd}\) Thursday
- Divisions 4, 8, 12 and 14: 2\(^{nd}\) and 4\(^{th}\) Tuesday

Central let will continue to be the third Tuesday. Structures Management will use the fourth Thursday.

Mr. Garris reported that divisions may use a provision to allow submission of electronic bid information on a compact disk. He, also, noted that he is working with bridge management to transition the bridge lettings to the contract office over the next six months.

6. **SAF FORM**

Mr. Bivens reported that recording accurate trucking information on the SAF form is difficult because he is not allowed to change the units. He cited the new pipe specification with bedding material incidental to the pipe as an issue. The unit for the pipe is linear foot. Mr. Bivens reports truck loads in tons. The reporting system will not let him change the units from linear feet to tons. Mr. Garris explained that the software can not allow contractors access to modify the unit of measure without causing a data integrity risk.

Mr. Taylor noted that the HiCams vendor numbers and the DBE/MBE/WBE vendor numbers are different for the same organization. He and Mr. Bivens have been leaving the vendor number off the SAF form because of this confusion.

7. **PERMANENT VEGETATION ESTABLISHMENT**

Mr. Sylvester reported that the provision entitled “Permanent Vegetation Establishment” will be used in projects beginning with the February letting. The area roadway and bridge engineers will decide when the permanent vegetation has reached 80%. The provision allows payment for watering as extra work.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2012, at 9:30 am in the Riverwood Conference Room at the Century Center, Building B.

CC: Victor Barbour, PE
    Andy Gay, PE
LOCATING EXISTING UNDERGROUND UTILITIES:
(TBD 10-17-11) SP15 R02

Comply with North Carolina’s Underground Damage Prevention Act wherein “a person planning to excavate shall notify each utility owner having underground utilities located in the proposed area to be excavated.” Identify the excavation locations by means of pre-marking with white paint, flags, or stakes or provide a specific written description of the location of the proposed excavation in the locate request to the North Carolina One-Call Center.
GENERAL NOTES:
- Place contraction joints at 10' intervals, except that a 15' spacing may be used when a machine is used or when satisfactory support for the face form can be obtained without the use of templates at 10' intervals.
- Joint spacing may be altered if required by the engineer.
- Contraction joints may be installed with the use of templates or formed by other approved methods.
- Construct non-template formed joints a min. of 1/2" deep.
- Fill all construction joints, except in 8"x6" median curb, with joint filler and sealer.
- Space expansion joints at 90' intervals and adjacent to all rigid objects.

SECTION VIEW OF CURBS OR CURBS AND GUTTERS

FILL 3/4" x 1" DEEP GROOVED OR SAWN JOINT WITH JOINT SEALER

SECTION VIEW OF JOINTS
MEMORANDUM TO: Jon Nance, PE  
Division Engineers

FROM: Terry Gibson, PE

SUBJECT: Division Let Dates

Modifying the Division let dates to a set schedule was discussed at the Operations Staff meeting. Your staff, in coordination with the Central Contract Office, have provided feedback on the letting schedules, and the let days have been set as: Divisions 1, 6, 10 & 13: 1st Wednesday and 3rd Wednesday; Divisions 2, 5 & 9: 2nd Wednesday and 4th Wednesday; Divisions 3, 7 & 11: 1st Thursday and 3rd Thursday; and Divisions 4, 8, 12 & 14: 2nd Tuesday and 4th Tuesday. Central Contract Office Lettings will continue to be on the 3rd Tuesday and Structures Management will continue to use the 4th Thursday.

This is an attempt to minimize overlap in neighboring divisions, provide consistency for the contracting industry, and coordinate efforts with central lettings as well. As we discussed, the agreed upon dates will not preclude you from having special lettings for exceptional projects that arise.

These let dates will be effective beginning in January 2012.

cc: Randy Garris, PE  
Greg Perfetti, PE