

MINUTES OF AGC-DOT JOINT BRIDGE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

(Approved: December 9, 2020)

The AGC-DOT Joint Bridge Subcommittee met remotely via Microsoft Teams on October 14th, 2020. Those in attendance were:

Brian Hanks	State Structures Engineer (Co-Chairman)
Victor Barbour	Carolinas AGC – Highway Division Director (Co-Chairman)
Todd Whittington	State Materials Engineer
Wiley Jones	Assistant State Construction Engineer
Gichuru Muchane	Assistant State Structures Engineer
Chris Britton	Buckeye Bridge, LLC
Kerry Kennedy	Conti Enterprises, Inc.
Justin Mosley	Crowder Construction Company
Chas Hummel	Flatiron Construction Corporation
David Yates	Fred Smith Company
Tom Meador	Lane Construction Company
Erick Frazier	S. T. Wooten Corporation
Chris Brown	Sanford Contractors, Inc.
Brian Weathersby	Sloan Construction Company
Jorge Gambini	Thalle Construction Company
Cameron Cochran	Construction Unit – Regional Bridge Construction Engineer
Aaron Earwood	Construction Unit – Regional Bridge Construction Engineer
Scott Hidden	Geotechnical Unit – Support Services Supervisor
Tom Santee	Geotechnical Unit – Eastern Regional Operations Engineer
Cabell Garbee	Materials & Tests Unit – Manufactured Products Engineer
James Bolden	Structures Management Unit – Project Engineer
Trey Carroll	Structures Management Unit – Project Engineer
Nicholas Pierce	Structures Management Unit – Team Leader

During the review of the June 10th, 2020 meeting minutes, the following items were discussed:

1. Railroad Flagging

Mr. Earwood shared that the Construction Unit is scheduling a meeting with CSX railroad and AGC to discuss flagging requirements.

2. Prestressed Concrete Piles

Mr. Earwood noted that the Construction and Geotechnical Units are revising the prestressed concrete piles specifications and once completed will share the proposed changes with the Subcommittee.

The minutes of the June 10th, 2020 meeting were approved.

The following items of new business were discussed:

1. MSE Wall Construction Sequence using Pile Sleeves

Mr. Earwood discussed differing understandings of the appropriate MSE wall construction sequence among the group. He noted previous discussions concluded with the suggestion to include construction sequence notes on the bridge plans.

A general discussion followed about the purpose of using pile sleeves and pile jackets. Mr. Hidden noted that pile sleeves mitigate the fill material downdrag effect on the piles, and the intended construction sequence is to install pile sleeves, construct wall, and lastly drive piles. He noted that use of pile jackets is largely seen on Consultant designs to address other issues, but their effectiveness varies and is currently being studied/researched.

Action Item:

Geotechnical, Construction, and Structures Management Units will internally discuss MSE wall construction.

2. Use of Concrete Millings for Temporary Staging Areas

Mr. Weathersby noted inconsistencies with the Department allowing the use of concrete millings for staging areas. Mr. Earwood referenced the May 2019 memo, “*NC DOT Guidelines on the Management and Disposal of Concrete Grindings Residuals*” and shared that generally if the millings are clean, dry, and inert they will be allowed. The use of millings can be dependent upon where they are placed and how they are contained. He noted that due to environmental concerns, millings used in a staging area should not contain a lot of powder that can create a slurry.

Action Item:

None

3. End Bent Concrete Collars

Mr. Barbour shared a Contractor’s question regarding the purpose of concrete collars around end bent steel piles. Mr. Hanks explained that the concrete collar protects the steel pile from corrosion if erosion at the end bent occurs. Prior to the use of concrete collars, the Department observed significant corrosion of steel piles at end bents.

Action Item:

None

4. M&T Staffing Updates

Mr. Garbee shared that Mr. Matt Hilderbran is the new State Field Operations Manager and that Mr. Jason Poppe, Concrete Products Engineer, retired June 30th. He noted that Mr. Poppe’s position has not yet been filled.

Action Item:

None

5. Prestressed Girder Lengths

Mr. Garbee discussed challenges with transporting longer prestressed members and shared recent project examples where shipping logistics are a concern. He requested that Contractors with Design-Build projects consider transportation routes, especially the last few miles to a project site when selecting member lengths.

Action Item:

None

6. Temporary Bridge Update

Mr. Garbee reminded the group that in April 2020 Sunbelt Rental (formerly Mabey) was removed from the list of eligible temporary bridge suppliers. He noted that in-service Sunbelt Rental temporary bridges can remain, but the Department will not approve new installations.

Action Item:

None

7. Strip Seal Policy

Mr. Hanks discussed the recent policy update incorporating strip seal expansion joints as a standard joint type. He noted that strip seal expansion joints will be used on most US Routes and high-volume NC Routes, in lieu of expansion joint seals.

Action Item:

None

8. Design Manual Updates

Mr. Carroll shared a recent Design Manual update to show the maximum theoretical buildup at mid-span for prestressed concrete girders when metal stay-in-place forms are detailed to assist Contractors with ordering SIP form support angles.

Action Item:

None

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for December 9th, 2020.