

**Attendees:**

ODOT: Naveen Chandra, Michael Cobb, Steve Cooley, Wynnette Gentemann, Jeff Gower, Tom Lauer, Mike Lippsmeyer, Eryca McCartin, Cathy Nelson, Bob Pappé, Angela Ramos, Ron Reisdorf, Greg Stellmach and Marie Wright

OBDP: Bill Barnhart

Industry: Brian Gray, Tim Hendrix, Ric Miller, Dave Mingo, John Rakowitz, Maurice Rahming, Karl Thatcher, John Weisner and Scott Williams

**Electronic Plans, Eryca McCartin**

Eryca McCartin reviewed the ODOT Electronic Plan Proposal lead by the Office of Project Letting and ODOT Procurement Office. The agency currently provides hard copy bidding sets to potential bidders and subs for a fee of \$20. In an effort to reduce printing costs and paper, the agency proposes offering free electronic downloads of both the bidding and contract sets via ODOT's web site. The current system for hard copies would remain with the option to download electronic copies. Eryca requested feedback from Industry on two proposals being considered below.

1. ODOT Web site: Electronically available as a simple web site in near term (within 6 months), free to contractors/consultants (some cost to agency – staffing), password access required. Due to IS shortages, it will take 3 to 6 years for a more comprehensive and user friendly system to be developed.
2. BidExpress Web site: Electronically available immediately, but clumsy, expensive for contractors, data not in the same place for PMs and Contractors and unintended consequence of naturally restricting who feasibly can access the electronic data.

**Industry Recommendations:**

- Primes would like to have a plan holders list included, with voluntary opt in /opt out for primes and subcontractors.
- Primes are ok with the requirement to continue to purchase a bid set from ODOT if that is required.
- Industry recommended Eryca look at the Builders Exchange electronic plan system that could be used as a model
  - WASHDOT and City of Bend currently posts plans on the Builders Exchange.
  - Builders Exchange charges \$1700 a year for membership fees to access their site for plans.
- Industry communicated CALTRANS has a good system in place and offers an opt in screen for subcontractors for free downloads. Primes must purchase all plans.
- Clark County also has a good system and addresses addenda issues.
- Primes would like access to sub contractor list.

- Bid Plan Identification stamp # that uniquely identifies a Prime when submitting a fax bid update will need to be resolved for downloads if a hard copy set is not required.

- Eryca to confirm BidExpress fee – see below:

<http://www.bidx.com/main/info/agreement/fees.html> states

On-line Plan Sheets Service: This is an optional service for which there is an additional charge of ninety-five dollars (USD \$95.00) per month. This service includes unlimited viewing and downloading of construction design plan sets for all state and local agencies participating in the plan sheets service. You cannot sign up for the on-line plan sheets service until you sign up for the BidExpress Basic Service.

### **Addenda Communication, Marie Wright**

Marie Wright reviewed a proposal to email postponement addenda issued during a bid week. Currently postponements issued prior to the bid week are posted to the Web and to BidX. Postponements occurring during the same week are communicated through the Web, BidX and faxed to bidders with the request for them to send an acknowledgement fax confirming receipt. Per the Addenda Proposal, contractors will no longer need to return an acknowledgement fax or email confirming receipt of the addenda. The ODOT fax transmittal will stand as the confirmation of receipt.

The question was raised if Industry would prefer to receive an email rather than a fax.

Issues with Emailing:

- The email address on file may not be the actual contact person for the bid
- Contractor may be out in the field and away from email – a back-up person can track a fax on behalf of contractor
- Spam filters can also get in the way of receiving email

Industry Recommendation

- Continue to list on Web and BidX
- Fax is preferred, Email Secondary

### **DBE NAICS Code Status, Jeff Gower**

Jeff Gower reported a subcommittee has been formed to create a plan for addressing the FHWA DEB policy change for minority firms certified in one area working outside their area of expertise. The goal is to implement the plan in the next couple of months to help contractors and sub contractors identify if they meet policy requirements. The detail will be summarized at the February 5<sup>th</sup> ODOT / AGC Annual meeting. Industry brought to Agency's attention a current WASHDOT violation due to the FHWA DBE regulation. The Federal government is under close scrutiny to enforce the policy as ARRA funds are used on state projects. Maurice Rahming communicated a DBE certification takes up to 90 days to be processed and an audit completed to confirm qualification. In most cases the certification approval process is too late in regards to bidding for a specific job.

### **Fuel Factors Study Report SPR 668, Jeff Gower**

Jeff communicated the Research Department funded a study on fuel escalation costs in Bridge Construction. A task force has reviewed the draft report and found the concept used in the study was outdated and in need of being revised. The Research Department will perform an Economic Analysis based on feedback from Bridge Building Contractors and update its findings.

### **ODOT / AGC Industry Annual Meeting - February 5, 2010**

The ODOT/AGC Industry Annual Meeting will take place on Friday, February 5, 2010 from 9:00am to 3:30pm at the Salem Conference Center. Currently 137 are registered. John Rakowitz will check the AGC online registration system to see if there is a way to correct the confirmation email which lists 8am as the start time for the meeting. John will also forward Industry questions for Mark Dostal to address in his Prevailing Wage presentation. Online registration is available on the AGC web site at: [Registration](#)

### **NOA**

#### **DEQ Asphalt Grindings - Solid Waste Proposal:**

Jeff gave an update on the DEQ proposal to declare asphalt grindings a solid waste. Currently ODOT allows Contractors to dispose of the asphalt themselves. The new rule would make ODOT responsible for disposal, storage and tracking of grindings.

Jeff reported Doug Tindall has submitted ODOT's position paper to DEQ for consideration. Currently all comments are now posted on the DEQ web site. DEQ is working to respond to comments. ODOT is waiting for a response and hopeful DEQ will not proceed with its proposal.

#### **Conformed Plans Clarification:**

Marie Wright communicated Conformed Plans will now be referred to as Contract Plans. All plan sets will state either Bidding Plans or Contract Plans and will show at the header of every page.

**NEXT Meeting March 12, 2010**

## 2010 ODOT Industry Leadership Meeting Schedule

All meetings take place the fourth Friday of the month. Meetings conflicting with a holiday or special event are rescheduled through the below proposed dates noted with an \*.

January 22

February 5 (Annual Meeting at the Salem Conference Center)

March 12 \* (Proposed date due to Spring Break)

April 30 \* (Proposed date due to April 23 AGC Board Meeting)

May 28

June 25

July 23

August 27

September 24

October 22

December 3 \* (November combined with December due to holidays)

All meetings take place from 9:00 to 11:00am in the ODOT Materials Lab Large Conference Room, 800 Airport Rd SE, Salem, 503-986-3000.