

Pennsylvania Precast Association Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2009
Hotel Carlisle

Call to Order: 9:05 a.m.

Anti Trust Agreement and Self Introductions

Hank circulated the anti trust agreement for all attendees to sign. All attending members gave a self introduction.

Financial Condition

Hank outlined our current account situation. Estimated reserves as of the end of September, 2009, are estimated to be \$75,550. The next billing cycle begins December 1st. It was also noted that the NECSA contributions have been significantly reduced.

Listing of Current Officers

President – Jay Behney
Vice President – Pat Holleran
Secretary – Weldon Mitchell
Treasurer – Mike Grapsy

Listing of Committee Members

Hank presented a list of the PPA's standing committees and their respective members.

- ❖ Inlet committee
It was noted that the due to the ongoing external review process of the RC 45 & 46, the committee is still active, but its work is basically done.
- ❖ The Manhole Committee
Possible LFRD requirements.
The lack of any standard design above 48" I.D.
- ❖ Quality Assurance & Specification Issues.
Will continue with any future revisions of RC 45 & 46.
- ❖ Membership and Marketing
The chairman position is still open.
- ❖ Septic Tank
No current activity

Action Items from the September Meeting

- ❖ Hank presented a list of nominations for officers to serve the next term, starting in January 2010.

- President: Pat Holleran
 - Vice President: Phil Webber
 - Secretary: Rusty Fox
 - Treasurer: Shawn Ranck
- ❖ A motion was made by Mike Grapsy to elect the slate of officers as presented, seconded by Bruce Hottle and was adopted by a unanimous vote.
- ❖ The group addressed the topic concerning fall protection for precast box culverts during installation. Member Nelson Martin informed the group that he was in discussion with a vendor on this topic and that vendor may want to come before the group at the next meeting with a possible solution.
- ❖ The membership then heard from PennDOT's consulting engineer Travis Arentz that a Clearance Transmittal would be out soon on the changes made to RC 45 &46. An internal review is ongoing.
- ❖ The group also discussed the following with PennDOT representatives:
- Uncertain how the contractor bid rehab items with the change to the new standards.
 - 2' risers minimum still applies.
 - Hold one tenth difference in invert elevations "whenever possible."
 - Weep holes in base sections; PennDOT to look into.
 - Grade rings; number of pieces allowed unclear.
 - Eliminate rebar stubs at holes? Unclear.
 - Minimum tolerances on keyways. +/- on wall and joint should be addressed.
 - Rebar details around openings have changed. You may note your comments on the Clearance Transmittals.
 - Suggest PennDOT hold training sessions for consultants. Especially for newer firms doing design-build projects.
- ❖ Hank went on to suggest that the PPA cosponsor a seminar with PennDOT on the new standards for engineers and field inspectors. The group expressed their concern, that especially for smaller projects, the bid items don't always match the drawings and it creates a lot of costly delays and problems. PennDOT's representative acknowledged the problem and committed to investigate and report back to the membership.
- ❖ Membership and Marketing; hank reported that the NPCA has offered an additional 100 copies of the newsletter free or the option to get some reduction in cost for the 650 copies we currently send out. Hank will examine the current mailing list and make the call on whether to increase the distribution or take the refund.

Associate Spotlight

A presentation was given by Carmeuse Lime and Stone Company by David Berg and Doug Yearick. See www.carmeusena.com

PennDOT Topics

The floor was given to PennDOT Representatives. Topics discussed were:

- ❖ RC 39 only provides a standard design for 48" I.D. MH structures. Anything larger requires a special design be submitted, reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis. The group requests the Department to develop standard designs for larger MH structures in 1 foot increments. i.e. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, (not 11), and 12' internal diameter MH's.
- ❖ Need to consider MH structure depths in design. Current standards allow for 60' in depth.
- ❖ Suggest wall thicknesses be shown as a "minimum" dimension and extra thickness not be cause for rejection.
- ❖ It was noted that the original intent of RC 39 was to generally be in line with ASTM C478 for storm water structures.
- ❖ There may be negative impact to municipal owners of sanitary sewers if LRFD criteria are to be imposed on structures within the right-of-way.
- ❖ The group also suggested the Department to consider standard designs for "doghouse" type MH's.
- ❖ Extended base MH criteria should also be looked at.
- ❖ Consider 2nd pour methods in the field for very large structures.
- ❖ It was noted that the group does not desire the Department to take on design standards for sanitary sewer structures.

Executive Director Report

Hank encouraged members to consider volunteering for the manhole committee in light of the previous discussion.

Hank mentioned that the NPCA is making an effort to recognize associate members, individually, not just their companies. Any members that wish to put forth a recommendation should post a bio with Hank by November 30th.

The website continues to get a fair amount of hits, particularly following the newsletter mailings. Please keep your listing up to date.

Hank challenged the membership to think about what training tools we could provide as an association to your employees.

Hank talked about his efforts to lobby state and local political candidates to encourage them to actively back transportation spending in their campaigns for political office. He went on to describe a much lower forecast for PennDOT work after the federal stimulus funds are spent in the current fiscal period.

Hank asked the members to actively seek out your political representatives and speak to them about transportation spending needs.

PPA Future Dates:

2010: Jan 6th to be at the Hotel Carlisle.
Feb 18-20, the Precast show in Phoenix, AR.
March 3rd at the Hotel Carlisle
May 5th at the Hotel Carlisle
Sept 1st at the Hotel Carlisle
Nov 3rd at the Hotel Carlisle

Adjournment: 11:57 a.m.

Submitted by: Weldon Mitchell, PPA Secretary