ACECMO/KCMO Liaison Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, December 12th at 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Hosted by: Lamp Rynearson
Address: 9001 State Line Road, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO, 64114
Present: Bruce Wylie, President & CEO, ACEC-MO
Steve Hileman, HW Lochner, Committee Chairman
Matt Bond, Engineering Officer, KC Water
Sherri McIntyre, Dir of Public Works
Ralph Davis, Deputy Director of Public Works
Chad Thompson, Asst. City Engineer
David Miller, City Engineer
Steve Stuempfig, Capital Projects Delivery Mgr., Smart Sewer
Joe Johnson, Burns & McDonnell
Bridget Harper for Bill Barker, Tetra Tech
Steve Schultz, Bartlett & West
Jessica Veach, CDM Smith
Chris Burns, CDM Smith
Tony O’Malley, Lamp Rynearson
Laura Gray, Lamp Rynearson

1) Introductions

2) Approval of minutes from August Meeting
   a) Minutes were approved by voice vote with no exceptions.

3) Organizational Changes/New Hires from KCMO and Consultants
   a) KCMO
      i) Matt Bond: - KC Water
         (1) Mark Griffin, Manager of Distribution and Collection Engineering resigned last month. Travis
           Kiefer is the Interim Manager over the Water Distribution portion and Karine Papikian is
           overseeing the Collection System portion of this role while the position is open.

         (2) Several Smart Sewer Openings, from Division Head to graduate engineers.

         (3) Carla Haskins has retired from the Permitting Section. Travis is reorganizing the Permitting
             Section and changing over to engineering technicians for this department with Carla’s former
             position moving to a principal engineering technician position.

         (4) CIP Rollout – The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) will again host the event
             with the CIP rollout expanded to include other organizations in addition to KCMO, such as
             Unified Gov’t. of Wyandotte County. The timing of the rollout should be the same and KCMO
             is working on their CIP list.

      ii) Sherri McIntyre: - Public Works

        (1) Opening for Utility Engineer position, which will be subcontracted out until filled.

        (2) Vacancies in Permit Renewal under Nick.

        (3) National search for the new City Manager has been approved by the Acting City Manager,
            Ernest Rouse.

      iii) Consultants: Tony O’Malley reported that Lamp Rynearson added Land Surveying in KC.
4) Old Business

a) Consultant Performance Focus Group Updates

i) Capital Projects - Focus Group Update – Steve Schultz

1) Last meeting was a few months back and meeting minutes and materials were sent to the City. One of the goals of the focus group was to create a Consultant Rating Sheet. Matt Bond stated that this would become an E-Builder form as the City continues to move away from paper forms. Dan Ott is heading up DP Evaluations for KC Water.

2) Also under development, is a submittal checklist for expected items that are included at milestone submittals. Tony mentioned that the WMR program requires a completed checklist form to accompany 60%, 90% and final construction drawing submittals.

3) Steve asked if the draft Consultant Evaluation form has been shared with consultants for input and to make sure they are aware that this will become part of the City’s process.

4) Sherri: good to share with consultants a checklist to refer to. Bad reviews can happen because the consultant may not be aware of what the City’s expectations are for the various milestone submittals. As a client, the City should be consistent on the requirements for the 30%, 60%, and 90% submittals. Discussion about what is similar and different between the different departments for QC requirements.

5) Chad said the City wants greater information included in the concept submittal with preliminary design information. He also would like to see a consistent KCMO comment log with dates and how/when each item was resolved.

6) Steve asked about the use of Bluebeam to track comments. Development side is currently using Bluebeam. Matt said KC Water is buying 25 licenses and that the street car coordination is being completed in Bluebeam.

7) Current committee should meet and see how the checklist works and compare.

8) Decision to put this Focus Group on hold with the quarterly meeting on the calendar, but the next meeting may be canceled.

ii) Planning and Development Focus Group – Jessica Veach

1) Start to get this going forward.

2) Chad recommended Stacey Lowe to be involved (KC Planning land development) and Matt said Travis Kiefer for KC Water.

3) Steve said that what has been completed for the Capital Projects Focus Group can be guide for this group.

5) Current Legislative Issues (State and National)

i) Steve:

1) Federal Government is operating on a continuing resolution until Dec. 20. It is unsure if the budget bills will be passed and signed before then or in another continuing resolution will be needed. The current continuing resolution that was signed into law for this extension did eliminate the $7B transportation funding rescission that was to go into effect. Locally this means MoDOT will get $350M more federal dollars.

2) Discussion about Waters of the US (WOTUS) definition and the return to the previous definition. There are lawsuits which could result in return to the more recent definition. For engineers, in this current time, question is if you should go ahead and permit those sites.

3) Bruce Wylie:

(a) Mentioned WOTUS at DNR meeting. While the national definition is still pending, permittees must meet Missouri Clean Water Laws.
(b) ACEC MoDNR Liaison Committee just met. DNR had a $5M deficit, so fees to communities must go up.

(c) ALEC (America Legislation Exchange Council) is pushing legislation that is not in ACEC member firm’s best interest in areas such as occupational licensing.

(i) Plastic PVC pipe is one of these items where they are advocating for laws to force the use of plastic pipe for waterlines.

(ii) Advocation of spy-meter software requirement for firms with government contracts that would require companies to record all keystrokes and intermittent screen captures. This would require each firm to purchase this proprietary software and have provisions to store the massive amount of data created. Lobbyists in each state are paid for progress on each phase on a bills progress in the legislature.

(d) National push against current licensure requirements. Don’t want this to ever pass.

(i) Protect licensure for engineers & land survey. NSPE will take the lead on this at the state and national levels.

(ii) Reciprocity of licensure requirements

(e) Defeat of Prop D means that the Missouri Legislature must find alternate revenue for needed transportation projects. May phase multi-year gas tax increases (2 cents/yr) to try to stay under the Hancock Amendment requirements.

(f) ACEC tracks legislation. Bruce will testify at committee hearings for any bill that affects the engineering/infrastructure industries. And he will request engineering members to be available to testify.

6) Department Updates:

   a) Public Works (Sherri McIntyre, David Miller, Chad Thompson)

      i) GO Bond Projects

         (1) Sherri presented to the Council in November

         (2) Chad: there will be about 5 RFQ/Ps between now and spring

             (a) Bridging document RFQ/P is issued.

             (b) Grand Blvd – complete street improvements. 2nd & River Market to Berkley Riverfront Park including pedestrian improvements and existing bridge at Grand.

             (c) Benton bridge over Brush Creek which will include coordination with parks. Superstructure problems. Need to evaluate substructure

             (d) Raytown Road over Lumpkins Creek replacement

             (e) Last phase in series of 22nd and 23rd Street projects, Benton to I-70.

         (3) Traffic signal work will be done in-house.

         (4) PIAC suggestions are due by early January and these will result in a few more projects recommended by the end of January.

      ii) Reconstruction Design Build Projects.

         (1) NW 68th Street, west of US 169.

             (a) Complete pavement joint failure on a street constructed new in late 1990s. PW instituted an interim fix with removal of bad material and addition of a 1-inch overlay Band-Aid which may last 2 years. If this is a bad winter, we could have the same problem. This is not on the 5-year plan but has been moved up due to condition.
Sherri: Plan a two-phase approach for DB street reconstruction. RFQ/P will short list to 2-3 teams. Then a stipend, $40K to $60K per team to develop proposal with a guaranteed maximum price.

(c) Where budget is limited, PW may have to reconstruct only half of a divided street at a time. Project would need $12-$15M to do the whole street.

(2) Third year planning will include a list of top ten projects:
   (a) Wornall & Gregory to 75th Street
   (b) 63rd street west of Bruce Watkins toward Woodland
   (c) Stopped short due to the improvements under the Smart Sewer TFC Plan Paseo/63rd/Meyer

(3) PSP Grant: evaluating what to do on 63rd Street west of Paseo

(4) From 5-year plan, North Oak - 43rd to Vivion Road (I-29 and N. Oak needs MoDOT to redo)

   iii) PW is taking a hard look their program dealing with arterial streets and will be putting together a street plan in-house focusing on arterials.

   iv) Sherri commented that a company that does municipal engineering and private development are viewed by the City as one company. If there is a development issue, let PW know if a client is pushing your firm as development engineer to offer a cheap approach to infrastructure. Firms are encouraged to balance municipal and development side dealing with PW and to pick our clients wisely. Matt agreed with this. We need to consider our standing with the City when taking on future projects. He suggested to lead with good engineering, facts and data. Tony commented that these situations offer an opportunity to coach our development clients up front on what the infrastructure is needed for a proper solution.

v) New PW Maintenance facility RFQ/P will initially involve the conceptual solution and sizing only. The actual project development will be done under Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR). Better plan by next December.

   1) $25M grant with City half participation
   2) Info Grant
   3) Project will go D/B.

vi) Buck O’Neil Bridge

   1) $200-300M project (Wes Minder is City PM but overall PM is Mary Miller of MoDOT).
   2) Agreements not finalized. Agreement to Council in January and has been reviewed by MoDOT.
   3) Discussion to save old bridge and keep as a pedestrian bridge. Sherri stated the challenge is that maintenance is not much less for a pedestrian bridge than for vehicle travel. Expensive bridge to keep up.
   4) EA will be complete in March and the project is expected to become a design build project that will be out in May

b) Water Services (Matt Bond)

   i) Wrapping up cycled Water Main Replacement (WMR) contracts and going through debriefs.
   ii) Today training is being held on InfoAsset Planner software which is a GIS linked asset management software.
   iii) Next round for FY21 WMR selection of DP RFQ/P’s will occur by the end of the second quarter.
   iv) DB Plaza Water Main Replacement. Previous projects only did partial replacements and they do not want to do this again. Communication skills are critically important for this project in order to coordinate with organizations that run events at the Plaza. RFQ/P in February.
v) Birmingham Barscreen Replacement RFQ/P is out for SLBE companies.

   (1) Council is very interested in Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI). They adopted the GSI manual, prepared by SS. It is not design standards but design guidelines. Contains adaptive planning guidelines to identify area where there are GSI opportunities for water usage, large tracts of land, etc. Example areas with potential might be 75th & Wornall and low points along the Street Car Phase II route. SS contract will be driving GSI implementation. Burns & McDonnell has the green infrastructure contract with the City. Current concept is to have a steering committee with the City Departments to drive communication and coordination needed to start to implement GSI city-wide. Major project to do it but these solutions may be cheaper in the long run to keep SW out of the combined sewers. Work with other departments to see how they can meet these goals. Will have outreach to DPs and developers with committee findings.

c) Water Services, Smart Sewer Program, Steve Stuempfig:

   i) Sewer Separation Outfall 54 – 35 acres

   ii) Additional OC Creek gates. This planned project is on hold subject to more modeling.

   iii) TFC 63rd project: Sherrie spoke to this earlier. Program is looking for a more feasible option for 63rd Street in Town Fork Creek that includes more GSI.

   iv) SS Program is construction heavy for FY21.

d) Parks and Recreation – no representative present.

e) Aviation – new terminal - no representative present.

f) KCATA just opened Prospect MAX. There are strategic conversations about regional funding for transit and coordination for more MAX routes. New plan with better services. Just finished a study of strategic initiatives. Rebranding/Redoing Smart City board to the “Emerging Technology Board”.

g) KC Streetcar Authority. Sherri noted this was discussed earlier.

7) Other Topics

a) Jessica Veach/CDM Smith: Steering committee. Is there any way for minutes or put out the info? Matt said there will be an outreach. Sherrie said some will be changing standards and require outreach to DPs.

b) Sherri McIntyre: MoDOT Simmons who runs D/B program has brought together engineers with experience in D/B industry. Some big firms are backing away because risk is not being shared equally, and firms are very busy. MoDOT has plans to release phased D/B projects for I-70: east of Kingdom City, I-70 Bridge over the Missouri River at Rocheport. MoDOT starting to involve consultants in discussions but they insist on short listing up to 5 D/B proposals. Lots of D/B coming out. Capacity is a concern, along with sharing of risk, and expensive proposal preparation costs.

8) Action Items

9) Next Meeting: March 5, 2020 at 11am
   Location/Host TBD
   Steve will send a Save the Date