

Engineering Division Board of Directors Meeting

May 13, 2010
Monterey, CA

Highlights

The Joint Engineering Division Meeting was held on May 13, 2010. Division Chair John Douglas, Granite Construction, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the approval of the January 2010 meeting minutes.

California Transportation Commission (CTC) funding outlook for transportation projects:

Andre Boutros, Chief Deputy Director, CTC, gave an overview of the Commission and its outlook for transportation projects. He noted that there is a definite gap for the state transportation need versus current funding available.

Mr. Boutros noted that the CTC consists of 11 members who serve four-year terms. The CTC advises and assists the Administration and the Legislature in formulating and evaluating state policies and plans for California's transportation programs, and has the ultimate responsibility for adopting statewide transportation policy. Its primary responsibilities include the programming and allocation of billions of dollars of transportation funding in partnership with regional transportation agencies and the California Department of Transportation for the construction of highway, intercity passenger rail, and transit improvements throughout California. In fiscal year 2008/09, over \$7.6 billion in state and federal transportation funding was allocated by the CTC. Also in 2009, the CTC completed the programming of approximately \$10.7 billion of the Proposition 1B funds and has allocated \$2.6 billion of ARRA funds.

Unions Unfunded Liability: Tom Holsman and Sean O'Donoghue of AGC of California provided a briefing of possible concerns involving defined benefit plans based on current economic shortfalls. Holsman and O'Donoghue explained how contractors trigger withdrawal liability and when contractors have to pay for it.

Caltrans (UDBE/DVBE) Goals, Commercially Useful Function (CUF) and Listing: John Douglas opened the discussion on the UDBE/DVBE issues, and stated that at the January meeting in Napa, the committee members asked that this item be revisited. Motion was raised to have all bidders provide a listing of their UDBE/DVBE subcontractors at time of bid and eliminate the four-day period of coming up with the listing. Motion did not pass.

Cost of Safety: Corey Ward, Clark Construction, gave a brief presentation on the cost of safety and what may cause costs to fluctuate.

The meeting was adjourned by John Douglas.

Joint Engineering and Building Divisions Meeting

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Updates on Water Regulation and CARB:

Dan McGrew stated that the general water permit will go into effect with the next rainy season. There will be Training for Trainers classes in the near future. He stated there is a huge funding void at this time.

John Hakel provided a brief update on CARB, stating that meetings have been held over the past few months, and AGC of America was helpful in providing data to show CARB staff and its board that the regulation CARB promulgated in 2007 was not attainable.

California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) BUP Program Requirements:

Leonard R. Dean, President, Dean Bennett Insurance & Financial Services, Inc., made a presentation of proposed changes to the DVBE Participation Goal Program, which would enable contractors to meet DVBE goals as a company versus a project specific. He stated that a Business Utilization Plan (BUP) for an organization can be an option for contractors without the stress of finding a qualified DVBE at time of bid.

Legislative Update: Jamie Khan provided an update on the revenue projections, which is three billion dollars less than originally expected. She stated that the Legislature is moving forward to come up with a plan of action on how to deal with the growing deficit problem.

Education Program: Ryan Famularo discussed the education programs offered through the AGC of California. A training catalog, which offers classes from June through December 2010, is available.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on November 4, 2010 at the Hyatt Grand Champions Resort in Indian Wells.

Any questions relative to the Joint Engineering Division should be directed to Sam Hassoun.

The meeting was adjourned by Sam Hassoun.

Respectfully submitted by:
Sam Hassoun, P.E.
Director, Engineering Division