

Water/Sewer Working Group Meeting

Meeting Notes
January 19, 2016

Opening:

A meeting of the Specifications and Details Water/Sewer Working Group was called to order by chair Jim Badowich on January 19, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. in the MAG Cottonwood Room.

1. Introductions/Attendance

Tony Ayala (Avondale), Jim Badowich (Avondale), Jami Erickson (Phoenix), Bob Herz (Maricopa County), Craig Sharp (Buckeye) Gordon Tyus (MAG), Arvid Veidmark (SSC Boring).

2. Case 15-12: Horizontal Drilling Directional Drilling (New Section 608)

Mr. Badowich said the case passed last year. Arvid Veidmark said he hosted a symposium with AZUCA that had 38 attendees and was well received. He walked industry reps through the new spec, and is interested to see how agencies apply it. Jim Badowich said agencies are using HDD for IT work, and mentioned a project the county did on MC-85. Mr. Veidmark said the industry wants a level playing field with out-of-state contractors, and that this new section will help. He said they also appreciated the figure to help illustrate the process.

3. Case 14-12: Detail 200

This case was passed at the last committee meeting. Mr. Badowich said he was glad that the offset joints detail was added since they use it often in Avondale. He expects there will be additional revisions in the future, possibly adding a new detail sheet.

4. Case 15-05: Reclaimed Valve Boxes

Case sponsor Warren White was not in attendance, but he did provide an updated detail at the January committee meeting. Mr. Badowich felt that this case should wrap up this year, and also mentioned the different kinds of non-potable water sources. Bob Herz said the state statutes reference reclaimed water. Arvid Veidmark said he notices agencies are using more of the colored PVC.

5. Case 16-01: Misc. Corrections

Jim Badowich asked if anyone had any related blooper cases to discuss. Craig Sharp said he'll bring one up at the next meeting, but that he didn't have it prepared now. Mr. Badowich asked about possible cases to update ASTM references. Bob Herz said he plans to delete the reference to the friction testing of detectable warnings because it was not found in any of the ADA requirements.

6. Spec Section 611: Water, Sewer and Storm Drain Testing

Mr. Badowich then discussed possible new cases. One area he would like to focus on is the testing procedures in Section 611. He said the air test does match the ASTM method. Tony Ayala said he had to explain to people that the testing sections were reorganized but not really updated. He brought up the problems of using household bleach for chlorination. Jami Erickson said Phoenix is working on a supplement to not allow scented bleach, but said that the current

specs do allow household bleach. Craig Sharp discussed problems with contractors that line the bottom of the pipe with powered bleach, and how it all gets pushed to the end of the pipe.

Jim Badowich discussed the possibility of adding new testing procedures to be more inclusive than exclusive. He gave the example of tests done in Goodyear. Mr. Ayala said he would check with contacts in Goodyear and Peoria for more information.

Mr. Badowich also brought up the issue of flushing, and specifying a minimum orifice size based on the pipe size (with diameters up to 16"). For pipe larger, special requirements would be needed. Bob Herz said they typically flush out of hydrants with 4" outlets, and also commented that the flushing water needed to go where it wouldn't cause erosion problems. Mr. Badowich discussed calculating the velocity needed. Jami Erickson said they typically use hydrants with 4" connections and backflow preventers, and since they have large mains, it typically has enough velocity for flushing. Mr. Badowich discussed the problems of using water trucks for flushing if they previously had used non-potable water.

Pressure testing was also discussed. Mr. Badowich didn't think there was a need for an absorption factor, or make-up water. Ms. Erickson said Phoenix typically does the chlorination and leakage tests at the same time. Mr. Badowich wants to look at the current AWWA requirements for chlorination, and update MAG's specs to meet a performance test- one that allows different options, but does not dictate the method. Mr. Ayala said he would look at flushing requirements, and see what minimum velocity may be needed.

The group briefly discussed the color of fire hydrants. Ms. Erickson said Phoenix uses yellow hydrants, with black caps for Phoenix owned and white caps for private. Jim Badowich commented on how the fire departments use the NFP24 requirements, which states that leaks are checked before the pipe being backfilled, but that this procedure is antiquated, and typically the trench is backfilled before testing. Arvid Veidmark said you can't leave an open trench for more than ¼ mile according to MAG specs, and contractors don't want to leave it open for liability issues. Ms. Erickson said Phoenix typically allows even less for traffic control reasons.

7. MAG Detail 320: Meter Boxes

Tony Ayala said he was approached by a representative from Armorcast who wants to present more info about the concrete/polymer boxes. Craig Sharp said he would send Mr. Ayala the details for the boxes Buckeye has used. Ms. Erickson said Phoenix plans to continue using the concrete boxes, but with polymer lids. Mr. Badowich said MAG may need to allow a range in order for manufacturers with slightly different designs to be allowed. Several members commented that they want the sizes to match with a tolerance of perhaps 1/8" so that covers will fit on existing boxes. The group also would like information on traffic and non-traffic rated boxes. The non-traffic boxes could be made of HDPE. On a related note Mr. Ayala said David Shelter of Mueller wants to update the details for the valve itself, which he says is outdated. Mr. Ayala said he would get more information from him.

8. Other Issues

Jami Erickson said she wants to move some Phoenix supplements into MAG, but she still has work to do on determining what to bring forwards as cases. She said Phoenix currently has

adopted the 2015 MAG specs, along with the 2015 Phoenix supplements that they released last year. She said they do not automatically adopt the MAG revisions every year.

Mr. Ayala discussed problems with rocks interrupting the functioning of valves. He believes the flushing standards should address not only making sure the water is safe to drink, but also that it removes debris that causes maintenance problems.

9. Next Meeting

Jim Badowich said the group would be back on the meeting schedule of the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be February 16th. Bob Herz requested that some draft specifications be ready for review at the next meeting.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.