

# Water/Sewer Working Group Meeting

Meeting Notes

March 15, 2016

## Opening:

A meeting of the Specifications and Details Water/Sewer Working Group was called to order by chair Jim Badowich on March, 2016, at 1:32 p.m. in the MAG Chaparral Room.

## 1. Introductions/Attendance

Jim Badowich (Avondale), Tom Brennan (Utility West), Chris Corsidine (Oldcastle), Ravi Devalapura (Oldcastle), Bob Herz (Maricopa County), Rick Hurula (Hilgart Wilson), Troy McGahey (New Horizon Sales), Paul Nebeker (Pipe Right Now), Craig Sharp (Buckeye), Brian Sitarz (Oldcastle), Raffi Soghomonlan (Armorcast), Matt Stoltenborg (Oldcastle), Gordon Tyus (MAG), Arvid Veidmark (SSC Boring), and Kenny Watkins (Oldcastle).

## 2. Case 16-01: Misc. Corrections

Jim Badowich asked if anyone had any related blooper cases to discuss. None were announced.

## 3. Case 15-05: Reclaimed Valve Boxes

Mr. Badowich said the case is scheduled for a vote at the next committee meeting. Bob Herz said he would like to review the final revisions prior to the meeting.

## 4. Meter Boxes

Ravi Devalapura of Oldcastle presented an overview of the national and regional specifications for testing enclosures such as MAG meter boxes entitled: *Industry Standards and Load Ratings of Enclosures*. One of the reasons for the presentation was to help determine loading requirements and testing for meter boxes including those that are “traffic rated.” Specifications available include: SCTE 77, WUC GUIDE, ASTM C857, AASHTO, Telcordia, and specific manufacturers. The presentation is posted on the MAG web site here: <http://www.azmag.gov/Events/Event.asp?CMSID=9507>

After the presentation Jim Badowich said MAG is looking to update the meter boxes to include new materials such as polymer concrete and PVC, but want the dimensions of the boxes to remain the same for maintenance reasons. For example, he wants the lids to be interchangeable so crews can quickly replace them. He said they may also want to add boxes for traffic controls and ITS in the future.

There was discussion about what loading standard was required for the MAG meter boxes. Pedestrian loading is all that is needed typically on sidewalks and landscape areas, but traffic rated boxes would be needed in driveways and along roads without curbs. Higher rated boxes may be needed in streets that receive deliberate vs. intermittent traffic. Raffi Soghomonlan said Armorcast has engineered a traffic-rated box and lid that would work. Representatives from Oldcastle said they could also design them, but would need to know what standard load rating MAG wants “traffic-rated” boxes to meet. Mr. Badowich said he thinks they should work in a worst case scenario where a semi drives on it.

Arvid Veidmark suggested industry representatives get together and work on a re-write of Section 630 to modernize it and include the committee requests of standards sizes, alternate materials and proper load ratings for traffic rated boxes. Mr. Tyus said they could review details 310-320 as well. Mr. Badowich asked for industry assistance and said he would help find a case sponsor on the committee.

## **5. Spec Section 611: Water, Sewer and Storm Drain Testing**

Paul Nebeker said he review the disinfection/chlorination specs provided by Tony Ayala at the previous meeting, and found that agency supplements are out of date with the current MAG specs, referring to early versions of the MAG spec. He said they have different testing durations (24 hr, 48 hr, and 72 hr.) with different methodologies and criteria. Jim Badowich said he would like to tackle flushing first that included orifice size, flow rates and velocity needed. Paul Nebeker suggested including a chart. He also said agencies have different levels of disinfection, for example Phoenix does plate testing after 72 hrs. Mr. Badowich said MAG should come up with a minimum standard and also check with the current AWWA standards. Mr. Nebeker said he would like to know that the current changes are, but doesn't have access to the current AWWA specs. Craig Sharp said Rob Godwin of Goodyear would like to participate in the working group, and he will talk to him about Goodyear's methods. Mr. Nebeker said he would review the flushing specs and have comments at the next meeting. Jim Badowich brought up the issue of shorter installations such as an 80' connection. How do you test it? When should it be swabbed of flushed? Currently the decisions are somewhat arbitrary. He noted that after what happened in Flint, MI it has become a political issue to ensure water safety.

## **6. Extra Protection Requirements for Reclaimed Water, Section 616 and Details 404-2, 404-2.**

Rick Hurula of Hilgart Wilson brought to the group's attention an issue regarding extra protection requirements in MAG that currently exceed those required by Maricopa County for separation of reclaimed water lines between sewer and water lines. He gave an example of a 1" sprinkler line that had to be encased according to the MAG specs. Members discussed possibly replacing the current text in Section 616.3 with language similar to that provided by MCEQD. Jim Badowich said that agencies also want separation for maintenance work. He said Avondale has had problems with coated ductile iron sewer pipe failing and a replacing it with PVC; however, it requires that you stay 10' away for any lines at pipe joints. Mr. Badowich agreed that the reclaimed water specs should be reviewed. Mr. Hurula thanked the group for their time and consideration of this issue.

## **7. House Bill 2549 Regarding Pipe Materials Purchasing**

Mr. Badowich said this issue currently was being worked out between the PVC industry and the City of Phoenix. Mr. Tyus did not have any new updates since the committee meeting.

## **8. Asbestos Testing in Manholes**

Mr. Badowich said when rehabbing existing manholes by sandblasting, county health officials question whether asbestos dust was present. The group did not think any existing manholes in the region have asbestos in them. Raffi Soghomonlan of Armorcast said they have a method of repairing vaults using panels inside them. This method has been used in California.

## **9. Valve Stem Extension Sleeve (Detail 391-2)**

Brian Sitarz of Oldcastle brought samples of a valve box key extension using a sleeve to allow faster connection of differing lengths. This method would allow for faster manufacturing of the extensions without having to keep an inventory of many different lengths. Craig Sharp agreed to sponsor this change to Detail 391-2.

## **10. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be at 1:30 on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the MAG offices.

## **11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.