

Water/Sewer Working Group Meeting

Meeting Notes
March 19, 2013

Opening:

A meeting of the Specifications and Details Water/Sewer Working Group was called to order by chair Jim Badowich on March 19, 2013, at 1:35 p.m. in the MAG Cholla Room.

1. Introductions/Attendance

Jim Badowich (Avondale), Arturo Chavarria (Hanson), Scott Dahne (Infra-Tect), Jami Erickson (Phoenix), Rob Godwin (Goodyear), Mike Hook (ACPA), John Kanzlema (Contech), Kelly Kokesh (ADS), Slade Ottney (NUCA), Mike Neill (Infra-Tect), Craig Sharp (Buckeye), Gordon Tyus (MAG), Arvid Veidmark (SSC Boring), Steven K Wolff (Infra-Tect).

2. Precast Manhole Specifications

Jim Badowich said there haven't been any updates since the last meeting.

3. Manhole Revisions/Update

Craig Sharp handed out draft revisions to Section 625 Manhole Construction. His update included removing references to the use of bricks. He also updated Section 755 Brick and Concrete Masonry Units to remove references to "manhole" bricks. Mr. Tyus said that references to steps can also be removed from Section 625, since they are no longer used. Jim Badowich said the revised sentence "Bricks for manholes shall not be used" be changed to make it "manhole construction" since bricks may still be used for adjustments. Jami Erickson said the city of Phoenix has a supplement on it. The group also decided to remove the brick manhole detail from Detail 422 and use it just for adjustments.

4. Pipe Bevel Demonstration.

Three representatives from Infra-Tect gave a demonstration of a new product called Bevel-Sert. This beveled-ring is manufactured from HDPE and is designed to make connections between ends of ductile iron pipe easier and corrosion resistant. Mike Neil described the products use and advantages and also demonstrated how it worked with sample pipe ends. Jami Erickson and Jim Badowich discussed with them how they could work with agencies to test the product in the field. Mr. Tyus told them to review Section 600 to see where it may fit into the water line constructions specifications.

5. Pipe Materials and Installation Specifications

Jim Badowich asked John Kanzlema to provide an update on the steel-reinforced polyethylene (SRPE) pipe case. (Proposed Section 739) He passed out a revision based on comments provided during the last committee meeting. This included referencing Sections 615 and 618 for installation requirements for irrigation and sanitary sewers. It also changed the test pressure from 15 psi to 10.8 to match the minimum standards of ASTM.

Kelly Kokesh passed out the latest version of Section 740 for Polypropylene pipe. She said it followed a similar layout as the propose Section 739. She hoped the material specifications would be approved separate changes to Sections 603 and other installation specs.

Next the draft Sections 601 and 603 for rigid and flexible pipe (respectively) were discussed. Section 603 simplified the description of flexible pipe types. Mike Hook asked about testing requirements and new tests such as laser testing. Jim Badowich agreed that this could be added as an option in Section 615.11 Testing.

Arturo Chavarria handed out the lasted draft revision to Section 601 for rigid pipe. He said the trench width table had been updated, but also said there were four different types of construction methods in ASTM including one that used only natural fill without compaction which would change trench requirements. Mr. Badowich didn't think the fourth type would be used in MAG. Mr. Tyus suggested referencing the appropriate ASTM standards, excluding the type four method.

Finally the group discussed submitting the changes to 601, 603, 610, 615 and 618 as a case. There was general agreement that the changes should be submitted as a package. Kelly Kokesh said she would talk to Warren White of Chandler as a possible sponsor.

6. Encasement of Water or Sewer Pipe by Jacking or Tunneling Operation

Arvid Veidmark of SSC Boring proposed changes to Section 602.3 Jacking Operation. He suggested removing the fourth sentence "Once the jacking operation has started, it shall be continued around the clock until the specified limits have been reached." He said this requirement is out-of-date based on today's technology and creates problems submitting bids that consider around the clock work. The work time requirements are job specific. He also took exception to the requirement to grout casings under Section 602.6 Carrier Pipe Placement. Mr. Veidmark provided examples using casing spacers as an option along with a bulkhead seal. Filling the void with pea gravel was also an option. This would allow future changes such as replacing the pipe with a large diameter version in the future if required. Mr. Badowich suggested Mr. Veidmark forwarded him suggested changes for a potential case to update Section 602.

7. Water Testing/Flushing

Rob Godwin of Goodyear suggested making revisions to the testing and flushing specifications. MAG standards currently are not consistent with AWWA requirements in Section 610.15. He said Section 611 Disinfecting Water Mains also needs to be updated to be more specific. Some changes he suggested were having enough volume for flushing requirements. He also said Goodyear tests HPC's. He noted that the leakage tests according to the AWWA test uses .77 gallon/hour whereas the MAG test uses 1.26 gallon/hour. Mr. Godwin also said he has had problems with contractors not keeping a stead pressure during the tests. Mr. Badowich suggested Mr. Godwin work with Troy Tobiasson at Goodyear and bring suggested revisions to the next meeting.

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Water/Sewer working group is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 23rd at 1:30 p.m. at the MAG office.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.