

Water/Sewer Working Group Meeting

Meeting Notes
May 21, 2015

Opening:

A meeting of the Specifications and Details Water/Sewer Working Group was called to order by Jim Badowich on May 21, 2015, at 1:35 p.m. in the MAG Cottonwood Room.

1. Introductions/Attendance

Jim Badowich (Avondale), Jami Erickson (Phoenix), Will Fielder (SW Gas), Bob Herz (Maricopa County), Matt Ligouri (SW Gas), Craig Sharp (Buckeye), Gordon Tyus (MAG), Arvid Veidmark (SSC Boring), Dan Weakland (Team Fishel).

2. Polymer Manhole System

Jim Badowich said he spoke to Mike Malina of Old Castle about methods of polymer and concrete manhole. He was glad that manufacturers are looking at ways to improve their product to reduce degradation due to cases. Bob said he was looking at information on Jensen precast systems. Craig Sharp said they were a good system, but still had to seal the joints. Mr. Badowich said agencies are testing polymer manhole systems and if they work well, specifications for them could be added to MAG later.

3. Horizontal Drilling Directional Drilling (New Section 608)

Arvid Veidmark summarized the comments he received from utility companies including Century Link, Cox, and SRP. Representatives from Southwest Gas and Team Fischel, a contractor for Century Link were present to provide comments on the proposed specification. Mr. Veidmark said one of the main concerns of the dry utility companies were the extra requirements for medium and large projects. He suggested that changing the range of the small classification up to 6000 in-ft would be more realistic for the types of HDD projects now typically done. He also thought it may make sense to differentiate between dry and wet utilities for some of the requirements. He said the typical drilling rigs used today can core 750' of rod and can pull a 6" sleeve. Jim Badowich said Avondale had a problem with heaving with a 4x4", 500 foot bore. Mr. Veidmark calculated the example and determined that it would be considered a medium sized bore subject to additional requirements. Members also had issues with the wording of the "site plan" section and the project plans. Jami Ericson recommended adding a section on project plans and clarifying the site plan section. Mr. Badowich also thought the schedule should be provided to the agency, he also wanted to make sure they stayed within the project plan limits. Southwest Gas representatives were worried that they would be required to provide this information before getting a permit, which they would not be able to do since many items are determined by the contractor prior to construction. There was discussion on how to clarify who was responsible for the pre-construction, construction and post construction phases.

Members also discussed the pros and cons of before and after surveys. Jim Badowich wanted to know how a contractor could prove that a problem existed prior to construction without a survey. Mr. Weakland of Fishel said they take video of the site beforehand, and if there is a problem they will correct it. He thought that a survey would greatly add the costs and for the types of jobs they typically do, and they have not had problems in current practice. This is one of the reasons the utility companies wanted to raise the small bore size classification up to 6000

in-ft. Some other recommendations for modifying the draft spec included combining Equipment and Site Plan as well as the As-Built and Driller's log. There was also agreement to use the term "hydro fractures" rather than "frac-outs." Arvid Veidmark said he would take all the comments, revise the draft and send it out to everyone for comments. He hoped to have it ready to present as a case at the next committee meeting.

4. Case 15-03 Trench Compaction Requirements

Bob Herz provided an update to the case that removed references to specific equipment and made the maximum allowable lifts 12" unless the contractor could demonstrate their equipment could get compaction with larger lifts. He said he intended to discuss the revisions at the next asphalt working group meeting as well.

5. Polymer Concrete Boxes

Jim Badowich discussed the need to include polymer concrete boxes, and update Detail 230. Jami Erickson said Phoenix is using the polymer concrete lids with the regular MAG boxes. Mr. Badowich said Armorock is now making plastic boxes as well. Mr. Veidmark asked how they handle sun exposure. Mr. Badowich would like to look at this issue at future meetings.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.