

Pennsylvania Precast Association

Virtual Meeting
November 4, 2020

Attendance via virtual Teams

Joe Bracken, PennDOT
Randy Lazouras, PennDOT
Matt McSweeney, PennDOT
Mike Buchan, AC Miller Concrete
Bill Heath, EJ
Ed Wagman, Monarch Products
Tom Jacobs, Atlantic Concrete
David Plummer, TRC
Mark Baum, EJ
Sandra Palone, Sandra Palone Associates
Tom Wahl, SEFA Group
Phil Lapp, Faddis Concrete Products
Tim Mason, Pennoni Associates
James Clark, CONAC
Rick Amlin, DELTA Engineers
Nadine Brennan, Faddis
Nelson Martin, Terre Hill Concrete
Todd Karycki, TRC
Tim Cooney, Valbruna Stainless
Todd Monahan, Airmatic
Monica Schultes, PPA

Items for Discussion

QUALITY CONTROL

- Introductions were made by those who attended the virtual meeting. Apologies for any technical difficulties you had with the Microsoft Teams format.
- MS read the standard Anti-Trust Statement that still applies to our virtual or in-person meetings.
- Joe Bracken from PennDOT started our discussion with reminders about cold weather concrete as per usual this time of year.

- The Pub 145 update has been sent to FHWA for review. The comment stage should be completed by the end of November.
- Inventory lists have been updated monthly depending on how much precast product is stored in yard of precaster. Reminder that precasters should be depleting the older products first and make sure inventories are correctly documented. Stock items list has been cleaned up and if there are any discrepancies you should be working with inspector to remove items off report. Transfer requests should be sent to PennDOT. Stock transfer requests should also go to the inspector so they can verify product. Make sure you validate and verify with them before submitting paperwork.
- Architectural treatments and staining: the Pub 408 updated 1045 – aesthetic painting and protection. All of these changes should be out on Strike Off Letter. You should be aware of the updates if you are doing any type of staining. The important thing with any treatment of the concrete is to have a prefabrication meeting to make sure things are coordinated to avoid rejecting product based on appearance.
- Randy added that the QC plans are also an important part of the process whether there is an architectural treatment or protective coating.
- Matt added that there has been an uptick of staining with products that are not on Bulletin 15. There is frequently not enough lead time to get samples approved for a project.
- Joe Bracken informed us that they have reached the end of long term inspection contract. There will be a change starting Dec 18 and PennDOT will notify those plants that are affected. TRC will be joined by KTA. All those plants that had Pennoni in their shops will be changing so you should be aware that with your Covid bubble there will be a new person in contact with labor force. PennDOT appreciates your cooperation in this effort.
- MASH precast barriers will be sent out on 3rd of December regarding the updated shapes. There will be additional testing of barriers done in December. The structure mounted and the transition sections will be part of the crash test. Whatever changes happen there will affect the specs and that should be resolved in 2021.
- BC 719 changes have been delayed. The status quo is still in effect.
- Markings must indicate that it is MASH barrier and which year it is compliant. Make sure you are putting permanent markings on precast barrier sections as per MASH compliance which is found in the documentation.
- As far as PennDOT project lettings for 2021, there is not enough info to share. PennDOT is not sure about the impact from this year, but work in the field continues.
- Due to some fatalities, PennDOT held a stop day to be aware of Safety Complacency. There was a conference call with PPA members last month and a presentation on the topic and all were welcome to attend. If you missed the Zoom call regarding Safety Complacency, no matter that employees have been there for days or decades, it is always worthwhile to discuss the topic of complacency. If you did not receive we can re-send it for your use in tool box talks, etc.
- Over the last several months there were some queries about PPA fabricators submitting claims due to schedule delays. This was in direct follow up to due to shut

downs in early spring when potential Covid 19 delays. Not sure if claims were denied or approved, but if anyone has an issue Penn DOT can follow up and find more info.

- Regarding Covid Safety Plans – all PPA Members had submitted their strategies and Randy and Matt said that only new plants coming on board or re-starting would be required to submit those plans for Covid and safety.
- There was some discussion about Spotted Lantern Fly restrictions and that the permits on shipping are still in effect.
- Matt reminded everyone to make sure their plant and people were getting recertified by ACI/PCI/NPCA. Due to the pandemic some classes were cancelled. But personnel need to get certified because FHWA has that requirement. Some plants are requesting in-person audits, but virtual audits may be the only option. You don't want to lose certification and have to go through the process again nor lose your standing on Bulletin 15.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- MS welcomed Morgan's Welding as our newest PPA member.
- Welcome to CONAC who was visiting and thinking of joining as associate member.
- MS said that any comments on the Clearance Transmittal on precast endwalls are due back to MS by 11/11.
- MS gave some administrative updates
- If any PPA member has a project they would like to promote – please send the details to MS to create a case study for the newsletter and web site.
- The NPCA /PCI Precast Show has been postponed until May 2021 (originally scheduled for late February) still will be held in New Orleans.
- NPCA Convention still scheduled for October 28-30 in Colorado Springs.
- There was some discussion as to whether to meet virtually or in person in January. PennDOT personnel will not be traveling due to Covid restrictions for the foreseeable future. Many PPA members suggested that we meet virtually until that time when PennDOT crew can attend in person at our usual venue in New Cumberland PA. We can revisit this in the new year as things are rapidly changing with the pandemic.
- Tentatively a virtual PPA meeting would be held on Wednesday morning January 6, 2021 at 9am. If there are any pressing items in the interim please let me know and we can have ad hoc conference calls.