

- MINUTES -

Liaison Committee of the
Kansas City District, Corps of Engineers,
American Council of Engineering Companies of Missouri,
& American Council of Engineering Companies of Kansas

April 7, 2005

The meeting was convened at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of Brungardt Honomichl & Company in Overland Park, Kansas. In attendance:

K.C. Corps:

Steve Iverson
Larry Myers
Mike Whitacre
Bill Zaner

ACEC/Missouri:

Tapan Banerjee
Alan Fandrey
Clarence Munsch
Larry Nespica
Jim Waller
Wayne Whitehead
Bruce Wylie, President

ACEC/Kansas:

John Denlinger
Randy Gorton
Jack Poole

1. Statistics on the Use of Design/Build Delivery and Effectiveness vs. Design/Bid/Build: Costs for USACE to Administration (slightly higher) Design/Build versus Traditional. Out of nearly 150 projects: Time Growth – A/E design is 33%, Design/Build is 11%, and In-House Design is 17%; Cost Growth – A/E Design is 17%, Design/Build is 1%, and In-House Design is 23%. There is a big push from the Army to move projects to Design/Build for the Transformation Program. The Base Realignment Closure (BRAC) will be announced on May 16. Currently Fort Riley is going through some of this immediate need due to closures in Korea and reassigning of troops (2,400 – 2,500) in June, 2005. Chance on April 19 to give an opinion on how the USACE can proceed with improvements for the Army.

Design/Build at 30% construction documents. Army is going to have to do a balancing act on how much the local client (user) gets to play in final product. Unfortunately, there are only a certain amount of construction options available.

Questions need to be answered about standardization. Barracks in Florida are different then in Kansas.

On corps projects, “Buy American Act” is in effect and could be a cost driver.

Are the base modification projects going to be one contract with one contractor or is there going to be multiple with multiple contractors? Bill Zaner felt that the corps would look at options that would allow the corps flexibility, i.e., all mechanical equipment for improvements from one vender for all buildings.

Costs in private enterprise vs. governmental can be cheaper because of undocumented labor working in private enterprise (security issues).

USACE will meet the day after industry meets with the Army to work at implementing any positive experiences coming out of meetings and to see if they can be easily copied.

Shop drawing review – why not let contractor be responsible for it themselves versus engineer or corps from a time savings perspective? This comes back to project control – who is responsible for the end product?

Is there an option for “Turn Key?” Will talk about on April 19.

What are techniques to move the project to a faster / cheaper project? Anticipate there are going to be several methods selected.

Three Pronged Approach – Tiger Team: Acquisition, Criteria – standardizing facilities for each, Installation (Barracks – construction materials, footprint, interior layouts).

The 2004 version of Barracks will look like the 2003 version with decisions for some of the amenities (laundry, etc.)

Announcements will be hitting the streets for A/E's in anticipation of BRAC. (Corps is not staffing up to handle the additional work, they may add one or two to help administratively.)

Did ACEC national participate on April 6 in D.C.? (Need input from Bruce)

Corps Technical Conference is August 1-4 in St. Louis. NDIA on Corps website (probably will have 1,000-1,500 corps folks there).

2. Report by ACEC on Any Contacts Made with National on ACASS Streamlining Issues: No new information from ACEC.
3. Coming Solicitations and Recent Contract Awards: Regionalization – showing work with other districts. Making sure to look at resources within all districts and their workload.

Military Operations – Small Business Set Aside: Type of delivery has been established. This list will change in July. The Corps contracting site should be checked for updates.

4. Corps Budget and Procedure Changes: Overall budget looks to be similar to years past (\$4.6 billion nationwide with most monies being shifted to new large projects). Earned value will be requirement for projects FY '07. Money spent versus projected plus progress % complete versus money spent needs to be close to 1 or better.

Quality Control / Quality Assurance: Project yesterday – Bill Zaner is looking for documentation by consultant that they executed the QC/QA process. Bill encourages everyone to review your process and verify them and that documentation is performed.

5. Military Construction Transformation: CADD Standardization by the Corps – each district? USACE is supposedly moving toward a uniform package. Guide Specs – the new version out that is creating challenges. There may be a cultural change with new MILCON projects to reference industry specs and not use a spec book.
6. Quality Control From New Perspective: The QA program from A/E needs to be documented and be traceable. Need documentation in project file how QC/QA program was accomplished.
7. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for **July 13, 2005**, at the offices of HDR from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.