MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT: ACEC Indiana Vertical Committee

DATE / TIME: October 9, 2019 – 3:00 – 4:30 pm

LOCATION: 9025 River Road, Indianapolis, IN – College Conference Room (2nd Floor)

ATTENDEES: Tom Bane, SME     Attended: _x_  Absent: ___
Colleen Merkel, ACEC Indiana     Attended: _x_  Absent: ___
JD Taylor, CE Solutions (Board Liaison)     Attended: _x_  Absent: ___
Steve Bruns, WJE     Attended: ___  Absent: _x_
Don Corson, American Structurepoint     Attended: _x_  Absent: ___
Luke Leising, Guidon Design     Attended: ___  Absent: _x_
Karen Loftus, Loftus Engineering     Attended: _x_  Absent: ___
Steve Osborn, CE Solutions     Attended: _x_  Absent: ___
Ralph Power, Applied Engineering     Attended: _x_  Absent: ___
Greg Silcox, CHA     Attended: _x_  Absent: ___

1. Old Business / On-Going Initiatives
   a. IBC Chapter 17

   Our next step will be to meet with Craig Burgess. We’ll refresh our focus with Craig and be sure that he’s still aligned with us. We’d like his support as we take our thoughts to the Commissioners. We also plan to share our letter (to the Governor) with Craig. After talking with Craig, we plan to sit down with each of (10) Commissioners (from the Fire Prevention & Building Commission) one-on-one. We’ll be gauging their stance on our proposals.

   After talking with Commissioners, we’ll have the same conversations with the Director of Homeland Security. Our focus will be on Chapter 17, with our code-updates issue “in the background”. Tom is pursuing input from I.C.C on all states.

   There was discussion around the main question that Don got at his meeting; “Who is qualified to do these inspections?” Discussion ensued – probably a certification for techs, similar to current inspections on transportation projects. We decided that we should have a clear answer for this question, if asked by others.

   b. Model Building Code Update

   Our letter to the Governor was reviewed and edited. Ralph will update it and share it for any further edits. The group proposed to support AIA in taking the lead to get the code updated so ACEC’s message to include IBC Chapter 17 remains the focus of this committee.
c. Indiana 811
Indiana 811 – Greg summarized the actions at the One Call Stakeholders Meeting. More detailed notes are attached to these minutes.

d. ACEC Outreach
Target companies (for recruiting ACEC membership) were reviewed and several of us chose which companies to call. Ralph will call on ARSEE, FRP, and Shive-Hattery; Karen will call on IMEG; Steve will call on JPS, LHB, TLF, V3/ Williams Creek, and Jacobs

2. New Business-Design Assist
Karen contacted ICR. They’re considering this topic for their educational committee. Ohio seems to use Design Assist. Design Assist seems to be used in many different forms by different teams. However, the common theme throughout the different forms, for a successful project, seems to be a well written execution plan.
ACEC Vertical Committee
Sub Committee on Indiana 811
Notes from October 2019 One Call Stakeholders Meeting

This is meant to serve as a summary of discussions and ideas based on ACEC/ISPLS attendance at the One Call Stakeholders meeting. Attendants included Greg Silcox, of CHA, Vince Barr of VS Engineering and Jacob Hoffmann of NorthPointe Engineering. This meeting involved approximately 40 other attendants.

1. The attendants heard from us, as representatives from both ACEC & ISPLS: Land Surveyors are important users – we define obstacles for the Engineers that design the projects. When utilities are not marked, designs suffer; and clients suffer (usually our tax dollars are then wasted).
2. Our collective experience has been that high-pressure lines are usually marked well, and quickly. On the opposite side of the scale, communication lines are nearly always not-marked.
3. According to Indiana 811, their new system of Design Tickets (implemented, in part, to alleviate the Land Surveyor issues) is not being utilized at the rate they expected. Other updates from Indiana 811:
   a. Construction activity continues to peak. They’ve had a 25% increase in call volume over last year. They plan to staff up/right-size in 2020.
   b. Indiana 811 is trying to implement a new, web-based, technology system. Unfortunately, there is a legal issue with the system and a pending case in the courts. This new system will allow a web-based “call” entry. They noted that web tickets are up 22% over last year, but comments from users in the room called the web tickets atrocious.
4. “Large Project Ticket” was discussed; it was decided that the 811 Board needs to be convinced that it’s a good thing to do. “It would be a great tool” was the consensus in the room. One hurdle noted was the definition of Large Project; and how it can be implemented with the Indiana 811’s new software system. We mentioned to NOT eliminate ACEC, ISPLS by the limiting users to “mechanized excavation”. We were invited to propose new verbiage for the definition:
   a. Large Project tickets produce more communication; Georgia 811 has had much fewer damages.
   b. Rick Smith is proposing the project ticket to the 811 Board
   c. ACEC/ISPLS subsequently proposed some new verbiage to Rick Smith
5. Here are some ideas for potential follow up for this sub-committee:
   a. poll the land surveyors and ask if they’re using the Design Ticket (Design Tickets have a 10-day window vs. a 2-day window). Also, ask what their experience has been.
   b. Can we track data and present data to Indiana 811?
   c. Legislation – Apparently there was a bill that passed a part of Indiana legislature, and then got killed by AT&T lobbyists. (we need to learn more about this bill)
   d. How can ACEC or ISPLS get on 811 Board of Directors?
   e. Can ACEC, ISPLS influence AIM municipalities to come to One Call Stakeholder meetings and understand how municipalities can save money with better understanding and ordinances? Subsurface utility engineering can save money with better understanding and ordinances. Subsurface utility engineering can save municipality’s funds.
   f. What level of S.U.E. is a project designed to?
   g. Can we get a grant to fund a data-collection study? A database could convince municipalities, utilities, and legislatures to help.
h. Reach out to: Lisa Robbins of HWC Engineering (certified utility locator), ISPLS Advocacy, AIM Advocacy, an 811 educator to visit ISPLS, Mrs. Mendoza with DPW.

i. Align ourselves with Kurt Youngs (an excavator), Aaron Holeman, Rick Smith of NIPSCO

j. Could INDOT have some influence?

k. A web-based system should definitely allow users to upload a map of the area needing marks.

l. Engineer/survey/design members should state “Map available upon request” on ticket and give a good contact name, mobile number and email for the locator to reach out and request a map with survey limits.

m. You can tell locators you do NOT want them to reschedule the locate service. This cannot be done simply by not replying to the email notification. You must call or email back that you do not want to reschedule.

n. One of the municipalities has an app wherein Owners are notified by locators if a ticket is getting rescheduled/pushed out.

6. Other items mentioned prior to this One Call Stakeholder meeting:
   a. HEA 1487 pass in 2019 repeals the current law concerning excavation contractor fillings and pre-contracting documentation of compliance with underground facility damage law.
   b. Colleen to reach out to Chris Gale, Dan Cuts, and David Mohler to propose adding 811 discussion to the upcoming Citizens Energy Group Higher Level Meeting. John Scott, Council Chair and Citizen District Supervisors, call 811, recommended a joint discussion also to include Rich Miller, Citizens Construction Planner.
   c. Questions for this group to answer:
      i. Do we have any written response or notes from meetings ISPLS has conducted on this topic at IURC (Jacob, I believe you stated you have attended this) or with 811’s Chuck Muller?
      ii. Any case law or testimonials for the consequences of 811 not marking utilities.

7. Current Sub-committee members are: Jeff Douglass of StructurePoint, Vince Barr of VS Engineering, Jacob Hoffman of NorthPointe Engineering, Ben Hinshaw of First Group, Todd Bauer of ForeSight Consulting