

Mid-Atlantic CJE Meeting, October 16, 2009
Meeting began roughly at 11:15
KBR Headquarters, Crystal City, VA

Attendees: Vince Duobinis-CCE, David Bierlein-SGC, Ned Zeitunit-SGC, Lloyd Staggs-SGC, Joon Ko-SGC, Bill Kolster-LCPS, Martin Nowakowski-LCPS, David Becker-FCG, Shelly Shattuck-SGC, Bob Gair-R.S. Means, Rick Farrag-KBR

Guest Speaker: Mustafa Hamid- Centennial Contractors

The meeting began with a brief discussion on ways to create additional interest from owners. Kolster stated that it felt like when CJE first started, he and a room filled with contractors. Duobinis said a main goal is have more owners and not become another AGC or ABC organization.

Zeitunit questioned how attendees are notified. Duobinis stated that anyone who has attended any of the meetings to-date are notified as well as his list of contacts from area owners (MD to Richmond). He said others should forward the invitation when received to their contacts. Duobinis did recognize Bierlein as being the only owner who has attended all the meetings so far.

The topic of a webinar was discussed for the next meeting as a way to attract more owner interest, since they would not have to travel. Might be easier in this economic environment. Only downside, no face-to-face interaction and attendee participation may not be as forthcoming.

Gair stated that webinars are a popular mechanism these days and that CJE was successful with a joint webinar with NASFA (over 180 participants). Kolster questioned who had the ability to hold a webinar. Duobinis and Farrag said they both had the capabilities and would discuss off-line.

Duobinis also broached the discussion of 'topics of discussion' and the fact that no one provided any suggestions when they registered for the meeting. He further said that others would need to start thinking about it and they would hold off until after the Safety Presentation by Moose.

Mustaf 'Moose' Hamid, Sr. Safety Manager with Centennial Contractors provided a brief safety presentation on recent OSHA changes, highlighting steel erection and its associated tripping hazards and walking/working surfaces. Hamid stated that 'falling' was the leading hazard in the industry. Additional insight provided was that the state of Nevada is requiring all contractors to take complete either an OSHA 10 or OSHA 30 course depending on their position. When questioned, Hamid said that OSHA recommended that a refresher course be taken by all OSHA trained individuals, every 3 years. Kolster asked if there were stats on the % of OSHA trained individuals in the construction work-place. Hamid said he knew the stats were out there but didn't know

off the top of their head. As a sampling, Duobinis asked those in the room who were at least OSHA 10 trained to raise their hand. 2 out of 11 attendees raised their hands (18%).

Additional safety topics discussed were the recent (10/1/09) Maryland Safety Crane Operations Act and Silica Control guidelines recommended by OSHA.

Kolster questioned if there were any organizations or individuals who could train on bucket-truck safety. Duobinis said the University of MD may offer something and he would get the name of the individual for him to contact.

Farrag asked if there were any OSHA rules for mold. Hamid said that nothing is regulated at this point, but section 501 provides guidelines. Stated that TX and NY have guidelines based on square footage that are good to model procedures after.

During lunch, Kolster provided a brief overview of his presentation on a JOC solicitation at the request of Bierlein. Stated that there are 3 ways for an agency to obtain JOC services, 1) solicit their own, 2) ride a local contract, 3) ride a national contract. Stated that if an owner's volume is less than \$3M it may not be viable to solicit their own as contractors may not be as apt to respond, due to the amount of work they have to do for the volume they could potentially receive. In Virginia there are 2 ways of awarding JOC, if the owner identifies as a construction service then can solicit as an RFP, which allows them to look at the technical aspects along with price. Should make cost 50% or more of value of the award, otherwise questions could rise as to the ability to use.

Kolster further stated that it took Loudoun County P.S. 6 months to put out their solicitation. Said he highly recommends a mandatory pre-proposal meeting so all the contractors understand what they are bidding on. You (owner) don't want the situation where a contractor bids on something they don't quite understand. Also the owner needs to decide if self-performance is important or not. Said that the RFP should be out for 2 – 3 weeks and allow 3 – 4 weeks for response. He recommends that K-12 look to award JOCs in the Dec/Jan timeframe, to allow for a couple of months to develop a relationship so work can begin during summer break and as an owner you don't want the first project to be in the \$500k - \$1M range. The biggest mistake an owner can make is trying to do too much to start.

Kolster will still plan to present, possibly at next meeting (webinar).

Farrag said he would like to see as a topic, from an owner's viewpoint "Best Value vs Low Bid"

Gair said that the hot topics are LEED, Sustainability and BIM. Duobinis questioned Kolster and Becker if they had any LEED A.P. who might be willing to speak on the topic of LEED E.B. Becker wasn't aware and Kolster said he would speak with Kevin Lewis to see if he was interested.

Concluding the meeting Duobinis said that everyone needs to think about topics of discussion for future meetings and forward.

It was suggested that the next meeting be held January 20th at 1:00 as a webinar.

Meeting adjured approximately 1:15