





UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE NORTH DAKOTA LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Bill Anderson Status Report



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Hettinger County	Lee Meier, Road Superintendent reviewed the following topics: The Hettinger County 2014 program/budget, the County Equipment and the procurement of gravel.
	Lee is concerned with the Hettinger county's ability to maintain its asphalt surfaces and the ability to match any available funding. Lee stated that the county is surviving on funds derived from township work. Lee has established costs for furnishing and placing aggregate dependent upon haul distance, routine grader maintenance, ditch pulling and backhoe work. These costs have been developed for the calendar year and are made available to each township in Hettinger County.
	Hettinger County procures gravels from every available source which will lead to reduced haul distances. Contracts are advertised with a maximum size spec. Testing is completed by the county. On completion of tests, Lee has experienced good results working with the Contractor to make changes within the pit on material gradation by limiting some of the fine sand material within the sources which is incorporated into the stockpiles. Lee says is pleased with this process.
	Hettinger County is currently using MC800 to fill cracks asphalt roads. Crack filling is done on an annual basis.
McHenry County	I met with McHenry County Auditor, Darlene Carpenter and Dave Medalen, County Commissioner. The three McHenry County Commissioners manage the work being done by the road department in their designated districts. The county contracts the majority of their work. The county maintains signs and gravel surfaces, mow shoulders, and plow snow. The county does not own a backhoe or any compaction equipment.
	The county commissioners discussed procurement of aggregate material. McHenry County is currently purchasing gravel from commercial pits in the county. They specify North Dakota Class 5 or 13 but have not tested.
	There was discussion on implementing a safety program by gathering data on accidents in conjunction with the sheriff and highway patrol offices. By gathering this information over a period of time emphasis areas in general or by clusters of accidents may be pinpointed and remedies implemented.
McLean County	I met with Ron Wagner, McLean County Superintendent. Ron had questions concerning contacts for imported aggregate products at the trans load facilities in Minot and Dickinson. Ron also asked about road salt contracts in South Dakota; costs and sources. I have provided Ron with the contract website for road salt (South Dakota Department of Administration). Strata Corporation is the company primarily involved in handling the aggregates that are being imported into Minot. Information concerning Dickinson has not yet been obtained.
	McLean County has an approach permit requirement for new accesses from roads under County jurisdiction.
Bottineau County	Rich Gimbel, County Road Superintendent, discussed implementing a safety program by gathering data on accidents in conjunction with the sheriff and highway patrol offices.

	Bottineau County has several frozen culverts which are creating problems in the area. Asphalt surfaces are sealed with MC800 by county crews without routing. Current budgets have reduced coverage from all asphalt surfaces every year to ½ of the surfaces each year.
Renville County	Richard Brunner, County Road Superintendent, discussed beginning a safety program by gathering data on accidents in conjunction with the sheriff and highway patrol offices.
	Renville County purchases gravel in stockpiles with contractor developed sources. Richard stated that there appears to be sufficient binder in the Class 13 which they specify.
	Renville County has a limited dust control program.
Ward County	Travis Schmitt, Ward County Assistant Engineer, reviewed the Ward County approach permits. Ward County has a process in place currently for approving new approaches. The approaches are reviewed for safety (primarily sight distance) and drainage.
	Travis also reviewed aggregate stockpile contracting and testing requirements. Ward County requires contractors to submit daily or per specified tonnage testing. Deductions in price for out of spec material or rejection of material is based on this testing.
	FEMA work from the last several years of flooding is continuing throughout much of the county.