

*1:00 P.M. Wednesday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – WEBEX*

**Present:**

|                    |          |                  |          |
|--------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Heba Ahmed (Chair) | Armtec   | Chris Flickinger | Frontier |
| Liz Bouchard       | Armtec   | Jim Evans        | AK Steel |
| Jason Sherwood     | Atlantic | Mike Mounts      | Valfilm  |
| Dennis Park        | Atlantic | Dianna Brooks    | NCSPA    |
| Mike Williamson    | Hubb-Cap | Mike McGough     | NCSPA    |
| Kamran Derayeh     | AMD      | Ray Wilcock      | CSPI     |
| Bruce Matheson     | Frontier |                  |          |

**Absent:**

|                  |          |              |        |
|------------------|----------|--------------|--------|
| David Newbigging | AMD      | Byron Nelson | Leland |
| Ian Berry        | Warner   | Bobby Weir   | MarMac |
| Derek Niezen     | Ironside | Mike Hook    | MarMac |
| David Watson     | Leland   | Todd Gray    | ACI    |

**1. Welcome & Opening Remarks**

Heba opened the meeting and welcomed all members. Attendance was taken and is recorded above.

**2. Review Minutes of November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Meeting**

Minutes were reviewed and accepted. A motion for approval was made by **Kamran Derayeh**, second by **Liz Bouchard**.

**3. Strategic PPC Action Items**

**a) DOT update**

Outstanding items:

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SK</b>  | Accepted material updates (A2 and PL) to standards. Presently in hydraulics manual with next update to material standards to include both materials.                                                                               |
| <b>MB</b>  | Recommendations submitted – Danielle Salem now in charge. Future discussions to take place in 2021.                                                                                                                                |
| <b>QC</b>  | Still holding to 50 years for Polymer materials due to abrasion testing of bolts. Will take another run in 2021, utilizing ASTM inclusion and subsequent CSA publication. Leland and Atotech to provide technical background, etc. |
| <b>PEI</b> | Standard specifications rewrite include polymer and aluminized. Out for review with comments expected back in December. Expect to publish early 2021.                                                                              |
| <b>NB</b>  | Have asked for a list of polymer projects in the province. Working with Julien Cassie and Roger Leger to identify same.                                                                                                            |

- NS No change yet. Working with Paul Proctor who sits on committee.
- NL New Chief Engineer appointed. Contacted and resent standard updates for materials

**Action Item: Ask for letters of acceptance if verbal given.**

**b) Municipalities specifications update – SWAT Team ideas**

SWAT Team met on February 11<sup>th</sup>. 16 members from across the country. Comments from the opening meeting include:

- Eastern municipalities continue to refer to past performance of CSP installations, citing issues with durability and shorter life
- Newfoundland – continue to dwell on the past (use an old binder with pictures of rusty pipes)
- B.C lower mainland has virtually banned CSP from project material selection
- B.C. forestry industry is bringing in ADS pipe (450mm – 600mm) from Seattle USA which appears to be at US cost, with no exchange added. Anti-Dumping?
- Sr. Engineers are reluctant to even look at new coatings / materials. They prefer to do the same as always and use concrete pipe.
- In areas, there are corrosive soils like in Kamloops BC, thus engineers are risk adverse
- In Ontario, we seem to be beating our head against the wall. We do what is required, with very little success. Risk adverse and tied to concrete pipe.
- In Vancouver CSP is banned. Twenty-person committee that decides what materials are acceptable.
- In Quebec, there have been a number of negatives such as backfill requirements, pipe collapses, accidents incurred during excavation when storm sewers are near water & sewer lines, price wars between concrete manufacturers (selling at cost) which negates our advantages, connections with residential areas requiring water tight joints, all resulting in bad publicity.

Ideas briefly discussed:

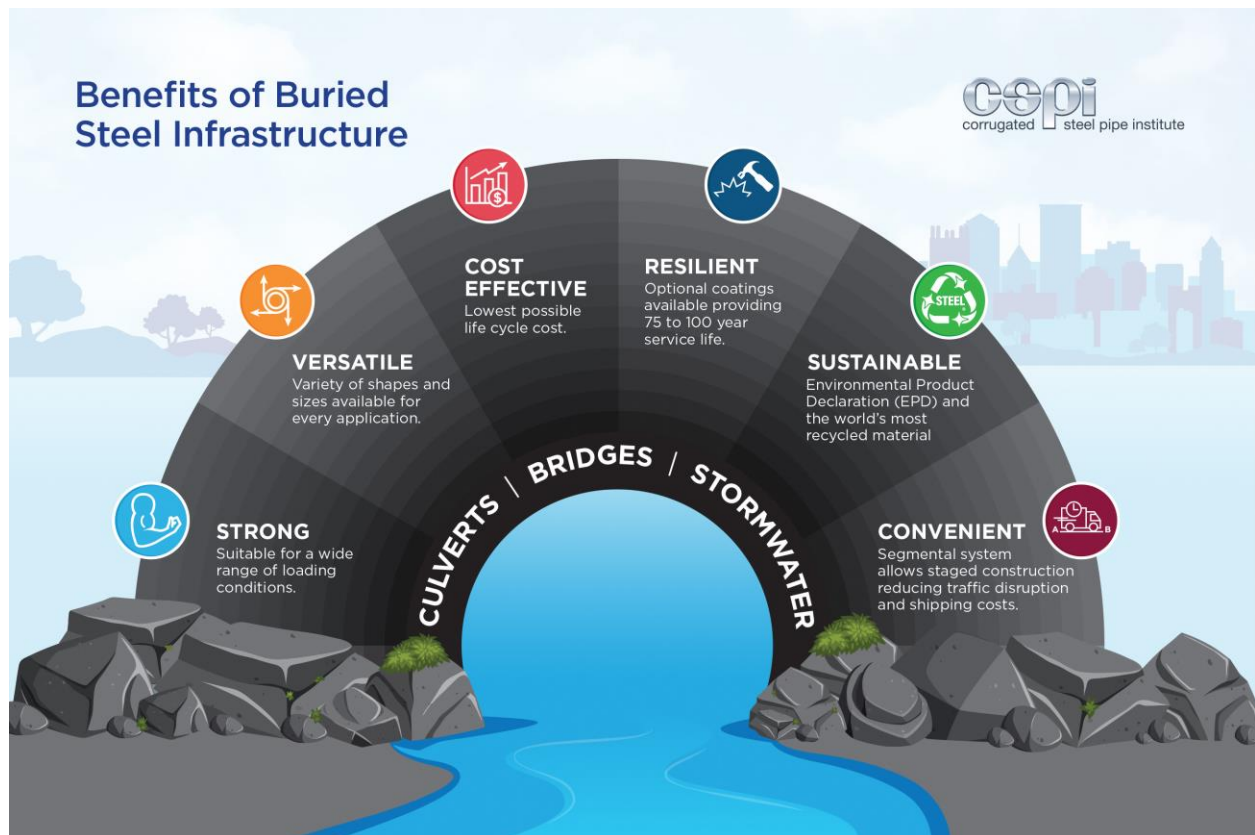
- Target municipal associations and educate – we need a new approach to be addressed by CSPI and members, not individual companies
- Is there anything we can learn from Calgary or other municipalities that allow CSP?
- We need a significant campaign which includes targeting elected officials. A political campaign (lobbying) towards cost savings and carbon footprint
- One positive from Quebec was a recent polymer coated pipe arch used in a storm sewer application
- Using 3/8" neoprene gaskets which improve water tight joints
- Case studies – one-page snapshots of polymer projects, CSP, SRP & SPCS
- Focus on those areas where installations have taken place

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 11<sup>th</sup>. Next steps.

Discussion:

- Target municipalities in the northern regions, that have had some success with using both SRP and CSP. Build momentum from that and then target other municipalities. Learn from what we have done.
- 1<sup>st</sup>. Education
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. Social media – case studies / correcting past experiences. Targeting elected officials via social media committee.
- E-Blast a recent spiral rib case study – testimonial from consultants / owners
- Ask Calgary what standard diagrams exist between connections of CSP to RCP
- Focus towards taxpayers / officials
- Focus on OGRA and other associations – Advertise (\$ to be determine). Find out pricing and circulate to the committee.
- Heba – case study from SK on storm sewer will be made available

c) One pager - "Benefits of Buried Steel Infrastructure" review / any more changes?



Discussion / Action:

Post to website – approved and completed.

**d) Environmental Footprint - Steel versus Concrete – E-Blast / Calculator**

Both are ready to go after much vetting from members. Calculator will be posted on the website in the Sustainable section and home page.

Discussion:

- Member companies can post, e-blast, target consultants, municipalities, counties, etc.
- Sales reps target customers / consultants
- Include in member webinar
- **Go to second decimal on CO<sub>2</sub>**
- Look at other associations like AORS, ORBA, OGRA, etc.
- Send the most updated version to all members for posting
- Get rid of 500ml – Show just **“No. of Plastic Bottles to Landfill”**, \*500ml bottles down below

**Action Item: Update calculator with changes above and issue final.**

**e) Asset Management - targeting municipal managers using rehab paper**

Discussion / ideas:

- Targeting asset managers in municipalities – educate these departments
- Idea is to present the rehab paper to these departments
- Use the content of the report to put together a presentation for both municipalities & DOT's
- All municipalities in Ontario have a mandate to put together a comprehensive report on culverts, bridges, etc. to be able to qualify for the gas tax rebate
- Explore with approaching asset departments to see where this goes
- City of London, Niagara, Toronto
- See what Robert presents at OGRA and then review with committee

**f) Presentation template for municipalities – feedback from committee**

Slides were presented. Feedback as follows:

- Include Galvalume
- Include cost in the project slide, use NCSPA life cycle analysis
- Change CO<sub>2</sub> to CO<sub>2</sub>

**Action Item: Send slides to all members for feedback**

**g) Marketing / Promotion discussion – webinars**

Two webinars hosted by OGRA have been confirmed as follows:

April 8<sup>th</sup>            “*Rehabilitation of Culverts & Storm Sewers*” – co-presenting with Robert Cichocki, PHD Student / Research & Teaching Assistant – Queen’s University

April 13<sup>th</sup>           “*Carbon Footprint of Culverts & Storm Sewers*” – co-presenting with Stan Lipkowski from Arcelor Mittal – Dofasco.

Discussion on titles?

- Use carrot words, “improving durability while”, “drastically reducing the carbon footprint”, “Optimize your Budget” - “*Rehabilitation of Culverts & Storm Sewers*”
- Changes will be made to the titles as above.

**4. Website Update / quote from Rebel to move to WordPress**

The current website was built around 2000 in Drupal. Today WordPress covers 40% of the market and Drupal about 4%. The major difference? Drupal requires a developer / programmer for many of the highly programmable features, whereas WordPress is much easier for casual users to create meaningful and unique content.

Quote from Rebel, the current host of the website and email domains is \$2,500 for the entire site.

Discussion:

- Liz – “metatags” on products to push people to the website
- Proceed with formal quote and then have Liz review, pending final approval.

**5. Projects for PPC**

**a) 2021 TAC Spring Meetings schedule**

|          |                                           |
|----------|-------------------------------------------|
| Apr 20th | Climate Change Integrated Committee       |
| Apr 21st | Environmental Legislation Committee       |
| Apr 23rd | Climate Change Council                    |
| Apr 29th | Structures Committee                      |
| May 10th | Road Safety Committee                     |
| May 11th | Small Municipalities Integrated Committee |

**b) Other Trade Shows – ideas**

- Dennis – Trieca.com conference <https://trieca.com/call-for-abstracts/> - investigate – missed the deadline. Now following and will submit in 2021.

- CSCE accepted abstract on “*Climate Change - Everyone's Business - Impact of Construction Products*” for the 2021 Virtual conference. Paper submitted on March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Look at other associations such as BC Engineers, MEGA, submit abstracts for any and all provinces.

**c) Photo Contest – 2021 Program**

Monthly E-Blasts are sent out to all members. Committee encouraged to reinforce message.

**Action Item: Send out E-Blasts in March, April & May**

**d) Education Outreach – 2021 program**

|                      |                              |     |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-----|
| Jan 25 <sup>th</sup> | University of BC             | 100 |
| Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>  | BCIT BC                      | 10  |
| Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Lakehead University ON       | 12  |
| Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | York University ON           | 80  |
| Feb 4 <sup>th</sup>  | University of BC (Forestry)  | 16  |
| Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Niagara College ON           | 14  |
| Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Sask Polytech SK             | 33  |
| Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> | University of Waterloo ON    | 105 |
| Feb 25 <sup>th</sup> | Ryerson University ON        | 65  |
| Mar 1 <sup>st</sup>  | St. Clair College Windsor ON | 30  |
| Mar 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | RMC University Kingston ON   | 10  |

**YTD 11 Lectures**

**475 Students**

**Future schedule:**

|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Apr 6 <sup>th</sup>  | University of Guelph ON |
| Apr 21 <sup>st</sup> | Windsor University ON   |

**e) E-Blasts – 2021 ideas**

| <u>2021 E-Blasts</u>                                      | <u>External</u> | <u>Members</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Jan 5 <sup>th</sup> Allowing Multiple Pipes Lowers Costs  | 954             | 81             |
| Jan 7 <sup>th</sup> Photo Contest                         |                 | 90             |
| Jan 25 <sup>th</sup> CSPI Website – Webinars              |                 | 69             |
| Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> Annual meeting dates & Photo Contest |                 | 82             |

Next up – Carbon footprint comparison and calculator, OGRA webinars.

- Customer data base clean up still in progress, assigning targets for specific audiences.

**f) French Translation of documents**

- Savings in budget could be put towards this initiative.
- Budget of \$50,000 between PPC & TAC

**Action Item: Put together a list discussed already for Heba. Once TAC decides, then both Heba and Terry to meet discuss each committee's allotment.**

**g) Education Webinars for external & members – update / discussion**

| <u>Webinar</u>          | <u>Timing</u>        | <u>Members Attending</u> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| CSPI Website Navigation | Feb 24 <sup>th</sup> | 8                        |

Send out a reminder to all members. E-Blast

Ideas include:

1. Buried structures in the Bridge Code (CHBDC) – highlight changes / timely
2. How to specify a stormwater
3. Use of CSP in trenchless applications
4. Designing for durability
5. Water testing / results / choice of coatings
6. Offer educational credits to those who attend and announce within the E-Blast.

**h) Social Media sub-committee update**

**Members**

|                 |          |                  |          |
|-----------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Liz Bouchard    | Armttec  | Chris Flickinger | Frontier |
| Jason Johnstone | Atlantic | Mike Williamson  | Hubb-Cap |
| Ray Wilcock     | CSPI     |                  |          |

- Meets monthly
- CSPI issues on average 1 E-Blast per month
- Linked-In, 4 posts per week, 121 followers
- Instagram, 16 posts thus far, 52 followers

**i) Non-Member Activities**

Nothing to report.

**6. NCSPA Update**

- Podcasts have resumed (15 minutes). Two or three have been completed and they seem well attended. Seem to be picking up steam. Can be shared on Linked In
- DOT presentations on polymer pipe – very well received
- Tracking demographics of website visitors – increase in women visiting – starting a “women in the industry profile”, stories, snippets, etc. highlighting women
- Project of the year contest underway

## **7. Discussion / New Business**

### **a) CETA update**

CETA – Comprehensive & Economic Trade Agreement between Canada and the European Union. Article 24.9 “Trade favouring environmental protection” states; *“The Parties shall, consistent with their international obligations, pay special attention to facilitating the removal of obstacles to trade or investment in goods and services of particular relevance for climate change mitigation and in particular trade or investment in renewable energy goods and related services.”*

From the Canadian Environmental website:

*“CETA includes provisions on maintaining high levels of environmental protection, effectively enforcing environmental laws, and not waiving or derogating from such laws to promote trade or investment; on ensuring transparency and public participation; and establishing a framework for cooperation in areas of mutual interest.”*

Reached out to the City of Calgary. May Cayan replied as follows *“No, we haven’t heard from Supply about this new Agreement yet, therefore there’s no change on how we approve products for now. Procurement process is also managed through Supply. They only contact us (specifiers) if they need material specifications check or if they encounter quality issues with manufacturers.”*

No new info – remove from next meeting agenda.

### **b) PPI / ADS Environmental Promotion**

On the Plastic Pipe Institute website in the sustainability section, they show a comparison on HDPE to RCP, CSP and PVC. They claim based upon a study by Franklin Associates in 2020. They show CSP with the same carbon footprint as RCP with HDPE in a very favourable light. A request was made to acquire the Franklin report, however no return email at this time. Heba requested a copy.

## **8. Adjournment & Next Meeting at the call of the chair**

The meeting was adjourned at **3:04pm** motioned by **Jason Sherwood** and second by **Liz Bouchard**. Next meeting is at the call of the chair.

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Heba Ahmed  
Chair

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Ray Wilcock  
Executive Director