VAA Asphalt News

The Newsletter for Members and Friends of the Virginia Asphalt Association

Issue 2 - 2014

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VAA Annual Meeting Held At Kingsmill

Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg hosted a successful 63rd Annual Spring Member’s Meeting on April 4th and 5th. Over 80 delegates attended the two day meeting with the Secretary of Transportation Aubrey Layne and senior officials of the Virginia Department of Transportation.

On Friday morning April 4th, VDOT management made various technical, operational and financial presentations. VDOT Commissioner Charlie Kilpatrick covered the current financial condition. As of late March, VDOT anticipated being approximately $200 million over their snow budget. This has led to prioritization of work through the end of the fiscal year to cover extra snow removal funds. Additionally, with the reduction in revenue from the fuel tax and sales tax, the Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan will be less than originally projected.

In 2013, VDOT advertised approximately $2.3 billion in projects with $700 million in pavement related activities. VDOT plans on spending $3 billion on pavement over the next 6 years with $1 billion dedicated to the secondary road system in order to improve the overall pavement conditions.

While discussing the financial condition and plans for VDOT, the Commissioner also stressed the need to solve problems at the lowest level possible. It is in the best interest of VDOT and industry to keep projects moving and make good decisions.

Following the Commissioner’s comments, Chief Engineer Garrett Moore spoke on a variety of topics. He noted the progress being made to improve the infrastructure condition on the interstate and primary systems, but the secondary system is not improving. Money will be used over the next 6 years to maintain the interstate and primary roads while beginning to improve secondary routes. The Chief Engineer reviewed the Asphalt Quality Task Force. He men-

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Kevin Jones Heads VAA Board

During the 2014 VAA Annual Meeting, the President’s Gavel was passed from Mr. Jerry Short—W-L Construction and Paving (shown on the right) to Mr. Kevin Jones—Branscome, Inc. (shown on the left). During the Friday evening banquet, Mr. Jones thanked Mr. Short for his service during the past year and presented him with a plaque.

Mr. Jones is the Vice President and Regional Manager for Branscome in the Hampton Roads region. He has been in the paving industry for over 20 years and has served on the VAA Board of Directors for the past four years.

New VAA Directors

The 2014 VAA Annual Meeting saw the installation of a new Board of Directors.

Mr. C. R. Langhorne of Lee Hy Paving was the newest member to the board. He replaced previous VAA President and board member Monty Gatewood. C.R. is the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Lee Hy Paving. Returning to the 2014 BOD are David Branscome, Branscome Paving; Frank Caldwell, Sawyer Paving; Scott Claud, Colony Construction; Ed Dalrymple, Chemung Contracting; David Horton, Virginia Paving; Marshall Luck, Independence Construction Materials; Chris Stiltner, B&S Construction; David White, Superior Paving and Blair Williamson, S.L. Williamson.

The new officers for 2014 are:
- President Mr. Kevin Jones—Branscome, Inc.
- Vice President Mr. Dennis O’Connor—Virginia Paving
- Secretary Mr. Ken Arthur—Templeton Paving
- Treasurer Mr. Dave Helmick—Superior Paving
- Ex-Officio Mr. Jerry Short—W-L Construction and Paving

The VAA Board of Directors routinely meets. Meetings are open to all asphalt contractor members. To attend, contact the VAA office.

Notes

VDOT and VAA officials will be visiting the NCAT Test Track in mid-May. The trafficking on the Test Track will be completed in September 2014. Results on the VDOT and other sites will be presented at a NCAT Test Track Conference in March 2015. With the focus on the VDOT cold plant recycled base materials and the other innovations being studied at NCAT and Lee County Road 159, all VAA members are encouraged to attend the conference.

Pavement drainage has become a hot-topic in the US. Recently, NCHRP awarded a project to develop a better approach to designing porous friction courses (NCHRP 01-54). FHWA advertised and is in the process of awarding a contract to develop design, construction and maintenance materials for porous graded asphalt (PGA). This project will work with 01-54 and will also include permeable pavement structures.

Finally, NCHRP 01-55 will develop a guide and web application to assist state highway agencies with surface and subsurface drainage.

NCAT and NAPA have released the new Multi-Cool App for android phones and other devices. Visit the NAPA website to learn more about Multi-Cool.
VAA Annual Meeting Held At Kingsmill (continued from page 1)

mentioned areas such as modified paving inspection, and use of ride and other objective measures for quality determination. The recommendations from the task force should result in improved quality that will extend pavement service life.

For the first time in many years, a district administrator attended and presented at the annual meeting. Mr. Rob Cary—Salem DA and chair of the DA Council, presented on the district perspective of paving operations, quality and issues. Following Mr. Cary was Mr. Andy Babish, State Materials Engineer; Mr. Emmett Heltzel, State Maintenance Engineer and Dr. Jose Gomez, Director of VCTIR. The presentations from all four of these presenters can be found in the VAA member only section of the website.

Secretary of Transportation Aubrey Layne headlined the Saturday morning session. Secretary Layne covered a variety of topics and answered questions from the delegates. Mr. Layne discussed the status of the US 460 and US 29 (Charlottesville By-Pass) Design-Build Projects. He discussed the need for federal funding in the Highway Trust Fund (HTF). He and others would be meeting with Virginia congressmen to discuss the impacts of the HTF running out of money on transportation and the economy. Finally, Mr. Layne outlined the impacts of laws passed during the recent legislative session including the use of designated funds in NOVA and Hampton Roads.

Chief Deputy Commissioner Quintin Elliott closed the 2014 VAA Annual Meeting. Mr. Elliott spoke on the VDOT goals and organizational changes. He re-emphasized the points made earlier in the meeting. Thanks to all the speakers!

As the weather turns from the cold of winter to the warmth of spring, the smell of asphalt is in the air as contractors fire up their plants and begin improving the Commonwealth’s roads. Like the previous four paving seasons, VDOT and VAA hosted a series of Regional Asphalt Seminars. Seminars were held in Fredericksburg, Richmond and Blacksburg in late February/mid-March with over 600 people in attendance. Attendees included VDOT, local governments, consultants and industry personnel.

This year each seminar was kicked-off by a key-note speaker. Ms. Marcie Parker, the new Fredericksburg District Administrator, led off the first seminar. She was followed by Chief Engineer Garrett Moore in Richmond. Mr. Moore stressed the need for quality work and doing the right thing.

Finally, Mr. David Lee, Salem District Materials Engineer, reiterated the charge given by Mr. Moore in Richmond as well as expanded on the roles everyone plays in VDOT’s paving program.

The 2014 seminars were slightly different from previous years. First, less emphasis was placed on the various research projects and more time was spent on new initiatives and changes for the upcoming paving season. Additionally, new VDOT and industry speakers were added to the line up. Mr. David Kaufers, Assistant State Materials Engineer, provided an overview of the VDOT Materials Database for Asphalt Concrete as well as moderated the meeting. Mr. Rob Crandol, Statewide Asphalt Program Manager, covered specification changes and the quality assurance program.

Dr. Mike Brown, Assistant VCTIR Director, covered ongoing asphalt and pavement research. For the industry, Mr. Dave Hellick and Mr. Ken Arthur made presentations. Mr. Arthur, Quality Manager for Templeton Paving, co-presented with Todd Rorrer, Regional Asphalt Field Engineer, on best practices to construct and compact longitudinal joints. Mr. Hellick, Executive Vice President of Superior Paving, discussed the attitude and dedication it takes to pave a road smoothly.

At the end of each seminar, attendees were asked to complete evaluation surveys. Based on those surveys, more changes and improvements are anticipated for 2015. To get a copy of the presentations, visit the VAA website: www.vaasphalt.org or the VDOT Materials Website at www.virginiadot.org
Virginia’s Best Paving Awards - 2013 Season

It is once again time to reflect on the 2013 paving season and determine your best paving project or projects. The VAA is accepting nominations for the 2013 Paving Awards in four categories—Best Commercial, Best Municipal, Best Non-Traditional and Best Green projects.

Contractors and Municipalities wishing to nominate a project must complete a project description form. With the submittal, the contractor/municipality should provide several high resolution digital pictures of the final project.

In 2012, W-L Construction & Paving won the Best Commercial Award for work at Dominion Power Hybrid Energy Plant in Wise. The Best Municipal Award was presented to Virginia Paving Company for paving Brooke VRE Parking Lot in Stafford. The Non-Traditional Award went to Chemung Contracting Corp for Extending Runway 21 at the Charlottesville/Albermarle Airport in Albermarle. Finally, the newest award presented by the VAA was the Green Award. The first year honors went to Virginia Paving for the Mosaic at Merrifield project in Fairfax.

Nominations for the 2013 awards are due August 1st, 2014. Once the nominations are received, the VAA will evaluate the submitted forms, shortlist the projects and make final field evaluations. If your nominated project is at a security restricted facility, the contractor/municipality must provide numerous pictures for evaluation by the VAA review team. If the project is selected as a finalist for site review, then the contractor/municipality must arrange for access to the site. If you have questions, don’t hesitate to contact Caroline at the VAA office: cfahed@vaasphalt.com

Payral Reappointed
David K. Paylor has been reappointed as the DEQ Director by the McAuliffe administration. Paylor has served as the Director under both the Kaine and McDonnell administrations. Paylor has been a staff member for DEQ and the State Water Control Board for the last 40 years.

VDOT Storm Water Permits
VDOT has been meeting with DEQ and municipality representatives to work out responsibilities for the permitting process for construction projects within the VDOT right-of-way. VDOT’s budget for storm water permitting administration has been cut due to the harsh winter. Details on how storm water permits will be managed are under review and are expected to be ready by the end of this year.

Curtis Contracting Opens New Asphalt Plant
Southeast Virginia has a new asphalt plant. Curtis Contracting of New Kent county opened a state of the art plant in Ivor along the US 460 corridor.

The new drum mix plant is a 300 ton per hour Gencor. The plant has multiple cold feed and RAP bins as well as several liquid asphalt binder tanks. The plant is situated on 22 acres immediately adjacent to US 460 in Southampton County. The easy access and location will allow Curtis to serve Southampton and the surrounding counties and cities.

To aid in the transport of virgin aggregates and other materials, the plant will be serviced by over 2500 linear feet of rail siding on the Norfolk Southern freight line.

The ribbon cutting for the grand opening was held on April 10 with over 225 plant neighbors, friends and business leaders in attendance. VDOT Commissioner Mr. Charles Kilpatrick was the keynote speaker. The weather and food were great and it was a very proud day for everyone at Curtis Contracting. Andy Curtis said “We thank everyone for the support and success that we have had over the past 29 years.”
Climate Change

Governor McCauliffe made a presentation at the annual Environment Virginia Symposium in Lexington, Virginia on April 8, 2014 during which he expressed a strong commitment to address climate change in Virginia. He stated that man caused carbon emissions were responsible for global warming and that global warming was settled science. He will be reconstituting the Climate Change Commission that was created during the Kaine administration. The Commission has been inactive for the last four years. The Commission at that time developed a long list of recommendations to deal with the global warming problem and the Governor indicated that the recommendations would be updated and amended as needed. The Commission will meet quarterly. Other priorities mentioned by the Governor include cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay, energy efficiency and land conservation.

Upcoming VAA Annual Meeting’s

Mark your calendar for the next three years of VAA Annual Meetings:
• April 23-25, 2015
  Omni Homestead Resort.
• April 28-30, 2016
  Pinehurst Resort
• April 6-8, 2017
  Greenbrier Resort

2015 will be VAA’s first visit to the renovated Omni Homestead Resort. 2016 and 2017 VAA will visit two of the top resorts in the area, Pinehurst and the Greenbrier. Mark your calendars now and plan on joining other members of VAA at these outstanding resorts.

Membership News

Welcome to Rogers Group, VAA’s newest Producer member. New to Virginia but not new to the paving industry, Rogers Group is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee and operates in 8 midwest and southeastern states. Family owned since 1908, Rogers has asphalt, sand and gravel, crushed stone and road construction operations. Rogers will be opening two asphalt plants in southwest Virginia (Tazwell and Russell Counties). To learn more about Rogers, visit their website at www.rogersgroupincint.com.

Welcome to A & G Enterprises VAA’s newest Pavement Marking member. A&G Enterprises provides pavement marking services in the Richmond Metro area.

Lanford Brothers Sells Cold Recycling Plant. Recently, Lanford Brothers sold their plant to Adams Construction. The plant was used on the I-81 rehabilitation project and at NCAT Test Track and Lee County road 159 sites.

B&S Expands Services. B&S Construction has added another service line. In addition to asphalt paving, B&S has the ability to install longitudinal underdrains for projects.

Curtis Contracting, Slurry Pavers and B&S Turning Blue Ridge Parkway Green. FHWA awarded a contract to a joint venture between Curtis and Slurry to perform full-depth reclamation and asphalt concrete (AC) overlay on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Slurry will be providing the FDR services while B&S will be placing two lifts of AC over the FDR.

VAA 2014 Membership Directory

VAA is hard at work publishing the 2014/2015 Membership Directory. All of our member companies should receive their copy in early July. This year’s front cover will display the VDOT Paving Award Winner in Construction: Superior Paving Corp. The back cover will display the VDOT Paving Award Winner in Maintenance: Superior Paving Corp. There is still time to place an advertisement or change your company’s listing. Contact Charlotte Burden at cburden@vaasphalt.com or Caroline Fahed at cfahed@vaasphalt.com
**Potential 2015 Spec Changes**

The second specification change will concern asphalt curb mixes. The current specification is prescriptive, does not allow the use of RAP and incorporates stabilizer fibers. With most curb mixes being placed under guardrail to divert surface water, a specification change to allow SM-9.5 as a curb mix is being considered.

The third specification change will impact the binder designation system used in Virginia. For several years, FHWA and the asphalt binder industry have been working to standardize the binder testing procedures known as PG + specifications. Today, many states have one or more performance tests to evaluate binders beyond the performance grading (PG) tests such as elastic recovery. The adoption of MSCR by VDOT will aid binder suppliers and bring VDOT in line with other states.

Beyond these three potential changes, VDOT is considering modifications to SMA materials and compaction, THMACO tack coat materials and paving equipment, RAP/RAS binder replacement table, and surface mix design criteria. While some of the proposed specifications will be finalized at the May 2015 VDOT/VAA Asphalt Co-Op meeting, other changes may not be completed until later this summer. The Final changes to the 2015 specifications will be detailed in future VAA Asphalt News newsletters.

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**Permeable Pavements Status**

VDOT is moving forward with finalization of standards for permeable pavements. The initial effort is to complete typical detail sheets for permeable asphalt parking lots based on the experience gained at the SR 234 Cushing Lot. The typical design will include a two layer system of porous asphalt mixtures over a variable thickness aggregate reservoir 12” - 36”). The reservoir will be laid on a geotextile fabric over non-compacted subgrade soil. Outlet pipes will be used in this system for the discharge of storm water. VDOT anticipates completing the overall permeable pavement design guide later this year.

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**SYIP Released**

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) released the next six year improvement plan (SYIP) on April 16. The draft $13.1 billion plan includes $9.9 billion for highway construction and $3.2 billion for rail and public transportation. This draft plan is a $1.3 billion less than the previous SYIP. The reduction in funds is a result of reduced state revenues as well as federal highway and transit fund decreases. Hearings on the draft SYIP will be held across the state prior to final adoption by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

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**AQTF Update**

The Asphalt Quality Task Force is continuing to work on improving VDOT’s roadway network. The task force is focusing on two broad areas—what things can VDOT do to enhance quality through contract development and what things can the contractor do to enhance quality through contract execution. Efforts on contract execution have focused on ride quality, density uniformity, mix consistency and workmanship. The task force is developing approaches and recommendations that can be piloted during the summer of 2014. However, some ideas will require additional research and assistance by the paving industry. More updates will be provided in future VAA Asphalt News newsletters.