

The Mid-Allegheny Minutes



November 8, 2023 Workshop

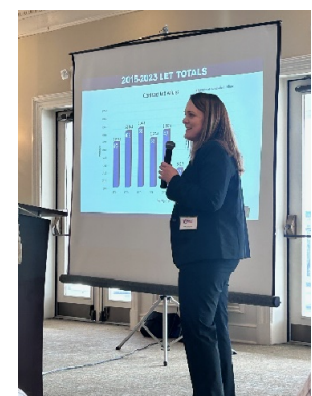
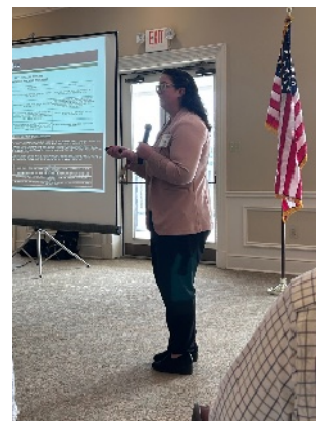


The ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section held a workshop in conjunction with District 10-0 staff at the Indiana Country Club, Indiana, PA. The workshop included topics on the Good, the Bad and the Ugly with presentations by representatives from the Design, Construction and Maintenance Units from PennDOT District 10-0, one contractor and one design consultant.

The topics ranged from construction lessons learned to the upcoming 2024 Design Forecast. Some of the noteworthy items include:

- Snowplows needing a minimum of 14 feet during phasing
- Pipe culvert installation tolerances
- Contractors asking questions in ECMS are often intended to alert the other contractors to situations, or interpretations as a way to equilibrate the bidding
- Working toward amicable settlements with ROW efforts
- Utility Alleged Violation Reporting (AVR) have 30 days to report to PA One Call
- Consider maintainability for environmental techniques such as vegetated filter strip, infiltration berms and vegetated swales
- Open Roads Designer (ORD) allows for live updates within the plans, cross sections and profiles. However, the file sizes are often very large and can result in slow processing speeds. Subsequent modifications and updates can be more difficult due to the large file sizes.
- There are 9000 items that were assigned in May 2023 such as E-Ticketing
- Inflation impacting construction costs was up 17% in 2022 and 20% in 2023

The ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section President, Sean Hart, opened the workshop with a welcome address and closed things out with a final wrap-up. The section is grateful for the depth of information that was presented to the industry.



Photos: Brian Allen, Paul Koza, Kevin Polino, Carla Studebaker, Jessica Schrecengost, Thomas Monda, Chad Mosco and Doug Surkala, and Alice Hammond

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Upcoming events include:

- January 17, 2024 Dinner Meeting – Meeting at Indiana Country Club, Indiana, PA on Bridge Aesthetics for Workhorse Bridges and Historic Structures.
- February 21, 2024 Joint Dinner Meeting at UPJ in Johnstown, PA – Topic TBD
- March 2024 Dinner Meeting – Topic and Date TBD
- April 25, 2024 Joint Meeting – Secretary Carroll speaking at RLA Learning and Conference Center in Cranberry Township, PA
- May 2024 Dinner Meeting – Awards, Scholarships, and Induction of Officers, Date TBD

Additional information on the events above can be found on our website.

We sincerely thank all of our Members and Sponsoring Firms for your continued support of the Section.

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Contact the ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section

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If you have comments or suggestions related to presentations, meetings, or this newsletter, please forward a brief e-mail to the effect. Our board welcomes feedback so we can better serve our membership and industry.