

GLS Tech Team Meeting – Minutes (FINAL)
WEMA, WisDOT, Industry and Partners
Wednesday, September 17, 2025 1:00 - 4:00 PM
{Hybrid Meeting – WisDOT Truax Building – Antigo Silt Loam
Conference Room/Teams Virtual Meeting}

Introduction/Welcome – Dave Staab

- Membership updates:
 - **Added:** Jeff Bruesewitz (WisDOT BTS)
 - **Departed:** Carl Fischer (FHWA) (membership list attached)
- Meeting Notes: Brian DuPont/Dave Staab
- Meeting was not recorded. [Barry Paye said new guidance is not to record meetings, if possible, due to records retention requirements.](#)
- Approval of previous meeting minutes (03-19-2025 Minutes attached)

Recurring & Previous Meeting Carryover Topics:

GLS Priority Initiatives – Brian DuPont/Dave Staab/Jake David

- Separate items for asphalt and concrete pavement removal, not included in common excavation. [Brian DuPont said this is the item we are focusing on right now. Got three pilot projects in the SE region. Contractors endorsed these three projects. PSEs are Nov 1st, 2025.](#)
- EBS and EBS Backfill - [Brian said no volunteers provided projects found for this item. Contractors will give WisDOT their ideal project characteristics for these items.](#)
- Excavation Waste Bid Item – [No projects volunteered for this item.](#)

[Krissy VanHout suggested that criteria for pilot projects be developed, so the regions have a better understanding of project characteristics that would make good pilot projects. Dave Staab agreed, and this is something that the pilot project task force will work on developing.](#)

Environmental Topics – Hans Hallanger (Absent), Jeremy Ashauer

- Trans 401 Rulemaking – [Environmental services section has completed their revamp of 401. Submitted to legal team for review. Public input \(hearing\) planned between October and December. Then submitted to legislature for approval in February 2026. Implementation timeline unknown.](#)
- Select Site Transfers – [Finalized guidance for this topic. Posted on erosion control website: \[WisDOT Erosion Control\]\(#\)](#)
- ECIP Form Updates – [Made progress on new forms. Still working on it with some NC region staff. Will also have guidance to help with getting better submittals. Goal to be more efficient with submittals. Goal is to publish in January 2026. Will be brought up at WTBA November meeting for contractor input.](#)

Landscaping Updates – Mark Polega (Absent)

- Mark was not available. Dave said Mark had no landscaping updates since last meeting.
- Brian DuPont brought up that he talked with Mark P. on site restoration and the idea that we might need to be doing mowing to promote the desired permanent vegetation. Will wait to talk about this further until Mark can explain.

QMP Subgrade Updates – Dave Staab

- Pilot Project – I-41/Southbridge Update
- This project is almost complete.
- The first-year things went well with the dry weather. There was a learning curve getting Proctors established, but that was figured out in 2024 without much trouble.
- 2025 was a wetter year. The source was wetter too. But QMP still worked well.
- Project stats: Total QMP Subgrade yardage: 297,407 CY; 17 five-point Proctors (1 per 17,500 CY). 14 one-point Proctors; 187 QC field density/moisture tests (1 per 1,590 CY); 47 QV field density/moisture tests.
- Construction oversight feedback suggested that, if possible, it might be more strategic with the QMP subgrade to pinpoint areas that we would want it applied instead of over the entire project.
- Part of the success of this project is the source was the overburden of a quarry. The contractor did a good job managing the borrow source. The operator at the source was able to notify when there was a change in material ahead of time so that another Proctor could be completed (usually 2 days). Some projects might not have this good of conditions. Sometimes the source doesn't have such consistency.
- Jake David emphasized the issue of changing materials and the lagging testing that can cause delay.
- Jake David said that the wetter seasons of the year can cause issues with moisture content that can stifle a project.

Note: The I-94 E-W project will be using the new QMP Subgrade SPV, so this will be an opportunity to see how this works on an urban project that may have more variable borrow material.

Std. Spec. 614 and 104 –Brian Boothby

- Brian B. said that the standard spec requires beam guard to be installed prior to final grading being completed.
- SS 104.6 was updated per ASP-6, effective with the November 2025 letting.
- Next step is to change FDM language, but they are still in meetings to determine what it will be changed to. Working group does not have a draft yet. Goal is to provide designers more guidance.

Rock Excavation at Inlets, Manholes and Catch Basins (SS611)– Dave Staab

- Working on minor updated 608 and 611 spec. language
- When Dave polled regions, most were already paying for rock excavation at storm

sewer structures in some fashion.

- Dave thought this appears to be an education item for construction inspectors.
- Minor changes to SS608 and SS611 are being discussed to be more specific in paying for rock excavation at storm sewer structures. Staab will send out proposed changes for comments from the group.

Draft updated spec language (under review):

Revise 611.4 as follows:

611.4 Measurement

(1) The department will measure the bid items under this section as each individual unit acceptably completed.

(2) The department will measure rock excavation as specified for storm sewer rock excavation in 608.4.

Revise 611.5 as follows:

611.5.1 General

(1) The department will pay for measured quantities at the contract unit price under the following bid items:

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	UNIT
611.0410	Reconstructing Catch Basins	EACH
611.0420	Reconstructing Manholes	EACH
611.0430	Reconstructing Inlets	EACH
611.0500 - 0599	Manhole Covers (type)	EACH
611.0600 - 0699	Inlet Covers (type)	EACH
611.1000 - 1999	Catch Basins (dimensions)	EACH
611.2000 - 2099	Manholes (dimensions)	EACH
611.2100 - 2199	Manholes Communications (dimensions)	EACH
611.2500 - 2699	Manholes Variable (type) (dimensions)	EACH
611.3000 - 3499	Inlets (dimensions)	EACH
611.3900 - 3999	Inlets Median (number of grates)	EACH
611.8105	Adjusting Catch Basin Covers	EACH
611.8110	Adjusting Manhole Covers	EACH
611.8115	Adjusting Inlet Covers	EACH
611.9705	Salvaged Manhole Covers	EACH
611.9710	Salvaged Inlet Covers	EACH

(2) The department will pay separately for rock excavation as specified for storm sewer rock excavation in 608.5.

Revise 608.4.2 as follows:

608.4.2 Rock Excavation for Storm Sewer

(1) The department will measure Storm Sewer Rock Excavation by the cubic yard acceptably completed. The department will measure this work in its original position and compute the volume, excluding boulders, by the method of average end areas.

(2) The department will measure boulders of 1/2 cubic yard or more as specified for boulders and surface stone greater than one cubic yard in 205.4.1.

(3) The department will measure this work vertically from the top of the rock to the bottom of the rock, or to an elevation 6 inches below the bottom of the pipe or storm sewer structure, whichever is higher. The department will measure this work horizontally as the outside diameter of the pipe or outside dimension of the structure, plus 3 feet, 1 1/2 feet on either side,

regardless of actual width required under 608.3.1.1.

Contractors would really like DOT to provide road centerline data on all projects, including local program projects –BPD/Jake David

- Brandon Lamers said surface models are significantly more work for the designers to provide.
- Brandon said he could bring the topic to the locals but would need to provide them with reasons why it would be beneficial for them to have their designers supply it. Needs more specifics about what contractors want and why that's important. Jake David and Matt Grove will get that info to Lamers/Staab. (**Update:** Tony Smith (Relyco) sent an email to Brandon Lamers on Sept. 19 detailing contractor perspective.)
- Matt speculated that consultants are saying they don't want to provide centerline data because it's not in their design contracts or that the consultants are concerned about liability.

Weather Days – Jake David

- Possible updates to 108.10.2.2 regarding time extensions for weather delays.
- Jake said the colder/wetter weather cause issues with work, but the standard spec doesn't allow them to get weather days for this between Nov. and Apr.
- WisDOT staff indicate we should be accounting for this in design when we put together the Time Chart using the production chart based on monthly assumptions.
- Contractor said they want to see something in the special provisions that said the designer anticipated earthwork to make progress over winter.
- VanHout suggested that maybe FDM 19-10-30.3 could have added language to help guide designers about what to do when designer intends to have work done over winter to satisfy schedule requirements.
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New Topics:

Pond Liner Clay SPV Updates - Dave Staab

- NE region has had struggles on several recent pond liners.
- BTS worked with the NE region and consultants working on I-41 to update the SPV.
- Updates include:
 - Updated dewatering language.
 - Clarified contractor vs. department testing.
 - Updated test references – MOTP/WTM
 - Clarified technician HTCP qualifications
 - Grading Tec or Assistance Grading Tec (Agg Tec no longer acceptable)
 - Nuclear Density Tec or Assistant Nuclear Density Tec
- SPV was reviewed internally and by FHWA.
- Updated Pond Liner Clay SPV is attached.
- The updated SPV will likely be an STSP in 2026.

Guardrail Timing Change Orders on Projects – Josh Wade

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- Contractor noted that he has a project where the project staff ordered a change so that beam guard would be required to be remove replace in 24 hour window. (The current standard spec requires a short window of 5 days that makes this change complicated.)
- Boothby talked about a topic coming up during the revision to the spec 614/104 about getting better guidance to the designer for avoiding the need to have exposed blunt ends. Example would be staging traffic further from the hazard or detouring traffic or use of a barrier wall.

Other/Additional Topics -All

Next Meeting: March 18, 2026 - 1-4 PM (Virtual/In-person TBD)

(There is a let on March 10, 2026.)

Attachments:

- Pond Liner Clay (updated SPV)

GLS 09-17-2025 Minutes-Draft