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April 05, 2011

ITCD 304

Summary of Larry Lewis’ Visit

 In our last class, we had a visitor from Standafer Builders come and talk to us. His name was Larry Lewis. He is in charge of estimating in the paving and sealing department. He taught us many helpful things about reading a blueprint and estimating the amount of materials that are needed for the asphalt purposes.

 The first thing that he taught us to do was to read the spec book. This is where everything that you will need as an estimator will be located. You must find the wage rates if they apply to that specific job. You must also find out if a bid bond and unit pricing is required. The next thing that you must find is what type of asphalt mix you must have for the job. If there is asphalt testing required, you must also factor that into your estimation.

 The next thing that you must do is get the set of blueprints and your engineers scale. You should first begin by reading the key notes, which covers all of the areas that you will need to use when estimating the job. The next thing that you must do is use your scale to measure the areas that need to be paved. Then you should look for the details about the paving. After this you should fill out your take off sheet, which was included in our packet. This sheet is where you figure all of your prices so that you can give the customer a good estimation.

 He also told us about things that you should always do. The first was always double check your numbers to make sure that you haven’t figured wrong. You should also go to the meetings so that you can make sure that you have covered everything that you will need to make a good estimate. His presentation was very beneficial to know what goes on in a bid process.