

Great Game Huddle Notes

August 8th, 2017

Crystal Richards of the Highway Department delivered an overview of Chapter 6 of “The Great Game of Business” by Jack Stack.

Chapter 6 is entitled “Setting Standards”. Jack Stack writes about the importance of setting standards, and how to do so in the correct way so it brings profitability/success.

Standards are incredibly important and are all around us: at work, at home and in finance. Standards are defined in the dictionary as a level of quality or achievement. Jack Stack defines a standard as the number to shoot for in any particular category you are measuring. Who is responsible for setting standards? Not just management, but we as employees and leaders are responsible also. We set standards for ourselves.

1. Set the standard – choose a category, pick a target and go after it!
2. Make it interesting – tell your employees the who, what, when, where and why behind the numbers. Bring the numbers alive/tell a story.
3. Never stop setting standards.

Write down your goals and you are more likely to accomplish them. People who do this are 30 times more successful. A few more helpful tips:

- Re-evaluate your standards occasionally.
- Don't forget the human factor.
- Study successful companies.

“Don't tell me why we can't. Tell me how we can.” Herold Ambler

Adam Humphrey gave us an update on the progress of the Republic Road widening project between Scenic and FF Highway. Adam explained how the project was delayed after the initial bid process. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deemed the area north of the road to be a traditional navigable waterway, rather than a ditch as it was believed to be. Basically, this meant that widening Republic Road on the north side would have an environmental impact, and so the work would need to be done primarily on the south side of the road. Special permits also had to be acquired, and then the job had to be re-bid. Fortunately, the second bid came in at \$380,000 less than the first, which more than made up for the cost of the permits from the Corps. Once the project began, a transmission line for AT & T was discovered on the north side of the road. AT & T had not mentioned this conduit in initial conversations with the Highway Department about the road widening. All this aside, the project is going well and is 30% complete cost-wise. It is expected to be finished before the original completion date of July, 2018.

A portion of the road will be closed from 9-5-17 through 10-14-17 as part of the construction phase.