

Metropolitan Council/Hennepin County

Special Meeting of the SWLRT Executive Change Control Board

Friday, July 14, 2023

Members Present: Chair Zelle Chris LaTondresse
 Debbie Goettel Rafael Ortega (non-voting)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Zelle called the July 14, 2023 meeting of the Executive Change Control Board to order at 11:45 a.m.

2. MINUTES FROM MAY 12, 2023

Commissioner Goettel made a motion to approve the draft minutes of May 12, 2023. Commissioner LaTondresse seconded the motion. Following a vote, the minutes were approved.

3. RESOLUTION 2023-011

Nic Dial, Director of Construction, explained the resolution, which is a change order to the Systems contract to replace manholes with basements at 18 of the 19 Traction Power Substation Sites (TPSS) for the Systems contract. The reason for this change is the manholes that were included in the bid documents were found to be inadequate in size, which required additional area to encapsulate all the cabling and conduit into these sites. It was reviewed and determined that to include basements was the most economical solution, as other manhole configurations would have required additional Right of Way.

Commissioner Goettel asked why it wasn't needed in the 19th TPSS. Nic Dial stated that the 19th TPSS is the site near Valley View, where there is a larger work area and available Right of Way from MnDOT. A couple of manholes were added in this area rather than a basement.

Commissioner Goettel commented that confined spaces can lead to problems, with water and unfavorable areas to work in. This is a lessons learned for the future, to overbuild the manholes rather than under build or build to spec. Nic Dial mentioned that waterproofing is included the basement design, and staff reviewed the design with Metro Transit E&F for their input.

Commissioner Goettel made a motion to accept 2023-211, Commissioner LaTondresse seconded the motion. Following a vote, Resolution 2023-11 was approved.

4. RESOLUTION 2023-012

Nic Dial explained the resolution, which is a part two of a change order to the Civil contract to replace the freight crossing at 5th Avenue in Hopkins. A part one for this work was issued earlier this year. Project recommended full scope replacement for this work, which is a removal and replacement to bring the crossing panels up to current standards. This change order is for the final pricing.

Chair Zelle asked if this can be done in a way not to disrupt TCW operations? Nic said yes, this is a phased construction. There are two crossings, so we will do one crossing at a time so one can remain open. This will not disrupt TCW operations.

Commissioner Goettel commented that this is another lessons learned. For future projects, we should be more aware, checking the roads and crossings more often so more contingency can be put in for these very things.

Commissioner LaTondresse made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-12. Commissioner Goettel seconded the motion. Following a vote, Resolution 2023-12 was approved.

5. MONTHLY REPORT ON CHANGE ORDERS

Nic Dial reviewed the report on new change orders under \$350,000. Since the last ECCB meeting, there were 19 new change orders to the Civil construction contract and two for the Systems contract. All 21 change orders on this list had dollar amounts below the ECCB approval level. Nic highlighted a few of the higher price change orders.

On Change Order 834, Commissioner Goettel asked if this is from a difference in the groundwater level compared with when first scoping the work. Nic said yes, the groundwater table has changed a lot over the course of the project.

Nic reported that the two Systems change orders are both work originally in the Civil contract and will be deducted by change order from the Civil contract.

Commissioner LaTondresse asked for more clarification on change orders 822 and 830, for clearing, grubbing, irrigation repair and tree removal. These numbers seem high. Nic responded that grubbing is clearing, removing stumps, brush and small trees. This requires large machinery, deep in the ground, with mobilization and also relandscaping. Nic responded that 822 also has tree removal, which is costly. For the irrigation repairs there will be multiple days of work as the repairs were in multiple locations, which also adds to the cost.

Joan Hollick, Deputy Project Director, expanded on the change order process. When a change comes through, we request a proposal from the contractor. We then review all the backup documentation for the proposal, which in some cases includes quotes from their subcontractors. We evaluate the pricing very thoroughly and look at the labor rates, equipment rates and man hours spent. We also compare it to our independent cost estimate (ICE). This process is done for every change order, so by the time the change order is in place, we have found the price to be fair and reasonable for the scope of the work. Dan Soler also stated the overhead rates from the contractor on these items were rates that were addressed and negotiated in the settlement agreement. Nic stated that the ICE amount was higher on both of these items. Chair Zelle mentioned we do have a robust overview of the change order process.

Commissioner Goettel made a motion to receive the monthly report on change orders. Commissioner LaTondresse seconded the motion. Following a vote, the report was received.

6. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Hoffner, Recording Secretary