

Metropolitan Council/Hennepin County

Meeting of the SWLRT Executive Change Control Board
January 8, 2021

Members Present: Charlie Zelle Debbie Goettel
 Irene Fernando Marion Greene

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Charlie Zelle called the January 8, 2021 meeting of the Executive Change Control Board to order at 11:00 a.m. via a conference line. There was a quorum of members to start the meeting.

2. MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 11, 2020 MEETING

Commissioner Fernando made a motion to approve the draft minutes of December 11, 2020. Commissioner Goettel seconded the motion. Following a roll call, the minutes were approved.

3. RESOLUTION 21-001

Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve Resolution 21-001. Commissioner Fernando seconded. Brian Runzel then reviewed the resolution, which is for a part one change order for excavation and shoring needed to avoid a conflict with a gas main during construction of a pedestrian tunnel at Blake Road.

Commissioner Goettel asked the age of the gas main as-built drawings. Brian stated the as-builts were from the recent CenterPoint gas line relocation project performed as part of the City's project to reconstruct Blake Road. The gas main conflict resulted from the City's project advancing ahead of SWLRT.

Commissioner Greene asked if there were other options to avoid the gas main. Brian indicated the Council looked at other options. However, the only viable option was to relocate the gas main deeper than the pedestrian tunnel which would have been at a greater cost.

After a roll call vote, Resolution 21-001 was approved.

4. RESOLUTION 21-002

Commissioner Goettel made a motion to approve Resolution 21-002. Commissioner Fernando seconded. Brian Runzel then reviewed the resolution, which is for additional areas to be cleared/grubbed and for tree removal. Staff reviewed the clearing/grubbing acreage and tree removals to ensure the quantities were accurate. A large part of the additional removals were in the freight rail corridor.

The contractor submitted costs after it had completed the work, which is the contract process for contractor-initiated change orders. Commissioner Greene asked if the Council was disadvantaged in negotiations as this work was already completed. Brian said it is easier to negotiate this type of work after it is complete because it is based on the actual work performed and mitigates the risk of delaying the work. Staff monitored the work as it was being completed to avoid unnecessary removals. Commissioner Greene asked if there are environmental impacts that need approvals. Jim Alexander responded that the Council performs environmental checks on all change orders, and there were no environmental impacts with this work.

Commissioner Goettel asked if anyone walked the area to aid in determining the base contract quantities. Brian responded the quantities were determined using surveying where possible and aerial imagery.

After a roll call vote, Resolution 21-002 was approved.

4. MONTHLY REPORT ON CHANGE ORDERS

Brian Runzel went over the report on new change orders under \$350,000 and explained each of them. Since the last ECCB meeting, there have been 15 new change orders to the Civil Construction Contract and one for the Systems contract. All 16 had dollar amounts below the ECCB approval level.

One of the 16 change orders was for additional soil correction required by the Council's Geotechnical Engineer based on in-situ soil conditions. Commissioner Goettel asked if the Council has done enough soil analysis and testing to ensure additional soil correction change orders will not be needed. Brian said the project design is based on soil borings that are spaced out along the alignment. It is possible soil conditions will vary between soil borings and that additional soil correction change order may be needed. That said, the number of soil borings conducted in the area met the standard of care for this type of work. Commissioner Goettel asked if an allowance was included in the contract for the additional soil corrections. Brian stated the Council did not include an allowance for this item because the extent of soil corrections is specified on the drawings and included in the contractor's lump sum bid. Jim Alexander stated that underground work is the leading source of unforeseen issues, which will decrease as the project progresses above ground.

Commissioner Greene made a motion to receive the monthly report on change orders. Commissioner Fernando seconded. A roll call was taken, and the report was received.

5. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Hoffner, Recording Secretary