

Metropolitan Council/Hennepin County

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Special Meeting of the SWLRT Executive Change Control Board

June 9, 2021

Members Present: Charlie Zelle                      Debbie Goettel                      Chris LaTondresse (Alt)  
Molly Cummings                      Marion Greene

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Charlie Zelle called the June 9, 2021 special meeting of the Executive Change Control Board to order at 10:00 a.m. via a conference line. There was a quorum of members to start the meeting.

**2. MINUTES FROM MAY 14, 2021 MEETING**

Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve the draft minutes of May 14, 2021. Commissioner LaTondresse seconded the motion. Following a roll call, the minutes were approved.

**3. RESOLUTION 21-ECCB-07**

Brian Runzel presented the item, which is a part one change order of \$1.75M for jet grouting work in the Kenilworth Corridor. Brian explained in some cases, as the sheets were driven into the ground, they encountered obstructions such as boulders and cobbles. Occasionally, a sheet deflected slightly when it hit a larger obstruction and created a gap between the sheets. These gaps do not compromise the SOE structural integrity but do allow water and soil to infiltrate into the excavation. Over time, this infiltration can result in significant soil settlement if the gap in the sheeting is left unrepaired. To prevent this settlement, gaps in the sheets will be sealed with grout. This was found to be the most effective solution rather than to weld a patch over the gap. This change order is part one to allow the contractor to get submittals in and begin the work. We will then negotiate a part two lump sum payment change order.

Commissioner Goettel asked what the timeline is for phase one. Brian stated that the work can begin in early July and will take approximately 8 weeks to complete. We will use diver inspections to supplement the jet grouting as the project performs excavation.

Commissioner Goettel asked how many areas will need the jet grouting? Brian stated that the number of obstructions are grouped in areas, with about 9 – 10 areas.

Commissioner Goettel asked what the long-term maintenance for this work is, and how long will it hold up? Brian explained we only need this work for the excavation and construction phase. The jet grouting will seal up any splits in the sheets, and then we can begin excavation. The new tunnel walls with permanent waterproofing will be the final protection.

Commissioner LaTondresse asked about the process, is it sheet piling and then jet grout to seal the sheets? Also, will it add 8 weeks to the schedule? Brian explained that all sheet piling installation is complete. The only area where the sheets are not installed is where secant wall will be built. With all of the sheeting installed, jet grouting will be performed in advance of excavation. The plan is to do all the jet grouting at once, not in phases.

Commissioner LaTondresse asked if there are possibilities for sinkholes to develop under the rail line? Brian stated that this work is being done to prevent this from happening. Also, we have steps in place such as automatic track monitoring, along with track inspections performed multiple times a day.

Commissioner Greene asked if there is anything to learn from this process for other future elements of our construction.? Brian stated this is unique, as it is a very specialized area. The Hwy. 62 tunnel would be the most similar area, but excavation for that area is already complete, and we didn't have any problems.

Council Member Cummings asked about the divers and where they were from. Brian stated the divers are part of VEIT, which is a company that performs many different types of specialized construction. One division of VEIT has divers specialized in performing underwater construction work. VEIT can do underwater welding along with other items and because they are located in Minnesota were able to mobilize to the site in a matter of days.

Council Member Cummings made a motion to approve Resolution 21-007. Commissioner Goettel seconded. After a roll call vote, Resolution 21-007 was approved.

**5. ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Hoffner, Recording Secretary

