



CAPITAL & CONSTRUCTION MEETING

Monday, August 3, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.
Memorandum

Mr. Hand called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Eric Hand and Jeff Hill. Others in attendance were Legal Counsel Anne Poindexter, Utility Director Andrew Williams, Engineering Manager Wes Merkle, Utility Engineer Ryan Hartman, and Administrative Assistant Maggie Crediford, Committee Chair Steve Pitman called into the meeting.

Public Comment

There was no one present from the public.

#2003 Construction Contract Award

Mr. Merkle said staff is waiting to hear if INDOT will allow HDPE casing instead of steel casing under Michigan Road. The award will be determined by which casing can be used. If steel casing is required, the lowest bidder is TPI Utility Construction in the amount of \$346,650. If HDPE casing can be used the lowest bidder is TSW Utility Solutions in the amount of \$334,102. Mr. Merkle said he is asking for a conditional award and when an answer is received from INDOT the bid award can proceed accordingly.

Mr. Pittman asked what HDPE means. Mr. Merkle said it stands for High Density Polyethylene pipe. Mr. Hill asked if there has been any initial feedback from INDOT regarding the type of carrier pipe they will allow under the road. Mr. Merkle said INDOT prefers steel casing but there are many instances where poly casing has been used. In this case it is a small three-inch diameter pipe. Mr. Hand asked if an update from INDOT will come before the next Board meeting. Mr. Merkle said hopefully yes and the additional information will be provided to the Board at that time. Mr. Hill said it appears the streets in the Timber Ridge neighborhood have recently been seal coated or paved. He asked if this project would have any impact on those new roads. Mr. Merkle said the project will be directionally drilled and should not affect the paved surfaces. Mr. Hill asked if the project is low pressure sewers. Mr. Merkle said it is.

Mr. Hill asked staff to walk the Committee through the bids and recommendations. Mr. Hartman said several contractors bid the project. There was a base bid which includes steel piping, and an alternate bid which includes HDPE casing. If steel piping is required, the lowest bidder is TPI Utility and if HDPE casing is allowable TSW Utility Solutions had the lowest bid. Each neighborhood was also bid individually, in the event the project was over budget, individual neighborhoods could be pulled out and completed later. Mr. Hill asked if staff has any issues using either contractor depending on the direction received from INDOT. Mr. Merkle said staff is comfortable with both contractors. Mr. Pittman asked

if he understood correctly that the low pressure force main will run along one side of the street and when customers want to connect to the system their contractors will have to bore under the street to connect. Mr. Merkle said that is correct. Mr. Pittman asked if the neighborhood streets are private or public. Mr. Hartman said he believes they are public streets.

The Committee will recommend the Board award the #2203 2020 Neighborhood Sewer Extension Contract Award to the lowest bidder. Either TPI Utility Construction if INDOT requires steel piping in the amount not to exceed \$346,650, or to TSW Utility Solutions if INDOT allows HDPE casing in an amount not to exceed \$334,102

Capital Project Updates

#1802 Haver Way Sewer Improvements- A pre-construction meeting was held with the contractor and design engineer. Work is anticipated to begin on site in late August or September with completion due in Spring 2021.

#1901 Lift Station 14 Parallel Force Main- The contractor is currently working around Michigan Road and Willow Road; the project is approximately halfway complete. Completion for this project is projected for October 2020.

#1902 TriCo WRRF Expansion- Crews continued installing new RAS yard piping. Clarifier 7 walls are complete. Crews finished trough walls in Clarifier 9. The contractor completed a large concrete pour for the VLR floor slab which included 1,300 cubic yards of concrete; the value of that work completed in place was nearly \$ 1 million. Excavation and storm sewer work has begun around the pond.

#1906 Eagle Creek Outfall Sewer Project- Staff had a pre-construction meeting with the contractor and the design engineer. Work on site is expected to begin in late August or September and completion is expected in late 2020. The contractor has until Spring 2021 to complete the project but anticipates getting the work done before that deadline.

#1910 Office Unification- Alderson has done a good job moving the project forward. There have been multiple crews onsite at the same time almost every day working. Alderson's communication with staff has been very good. Change requests have slowed considerably. Remaining windows go up in the next week or so. The brick façade and roofing will be complete by the end of August. Mr. Merkle reminded committee members to reach out to him if they are interested in touring the site to see the progress.

#2001 Little Eagle Creek Interceptor Extension- Lennar, who is looking at developing land in the northwest corner of TriCo's service area in Zionsville, had been holding off on their plans pending the release of an economic development plan for the area surrounding the Indianapolis Executive Airport. The Town of Zionsville recently released a draft version of their plan, scheduling an open house for a few days later, only to cancel it due to the amount of public interest and concern.

Mr. Pittman asked if TriCo's plans in the area are on hold until Lennar receives approved zoning to move forward with development of that area. Mr. Merkle said TriCo's plan is to construct an interceptor extension project simultaneously with the development of the property so that sewers are not installed and then sit for years unused. Mr. Pittman said the Town also released a thirty-minute video about airport development which discussed having community input sessions or stakeholder meetings. Mr. Pittman said that he has been in contact with area landowners regarding development plans. Mr. Pittman said it is his belief that TriCo is in the best position to provide sewer service in that area. He is disappointed the Utility was not involved in any discussions with the Town of Zionsville regarding sewer service to this area. Mr. Hill asked if TriCo is considered a stakeholder in the planning discussions and has TriCo had any discussions with the Town regarding service, especially considering the proximity of existing sewers to that area. Mr. Merkle said TriCo has not been invited to participate in planning efforts with the Town. HSE Utilities currently holds the certificate of territorial authority in Union Township for the area TriCo does not serve, despite having no infrastructure in place. Staff has heard HSE and the Town have been talking to Citizens about taking it over. The video presentation posted online suggested sewers to the airport be extended from Citizens Westfield. The Town should speak with Clark Byrum about how Citizens handled sewer service requests to his property in Westfield.

#2003 2020 Neighborhood Sewer Extensions- If this project moves forward staff anticipates having sewers in place by the end of 2020. A few people came to TriCo's last Board meeting. Mr. Hartman said neighbors are supportive of the project; one gentleman voiced concerns about the use of low pressure sewers instead of gravity sewers due to the number and length of power outages they experience in Lakewood Gardens. The homeowner said it is not unusual for them to experience three-day power outages. Mr. Hand asked which electric utility services that area. Mr. Hartman said IPL. Mr. Hill asked if the Utility requires connection or if the service is optional. Mr. Merkle said property owners can connect when they need or want service, there is no forced connection by TriCo.

Lift Station 1 Repairs- Mr. Merkle said the new generator has been ordered. The generator is expected to take 16 weeks for the manufacturer to deliver. Most of the work will happen once the equipment is delivered and can be installed.

Other Business

Mr. Hand said he has some questions regarding the Eagle Creek Outfall Sewer Expansion Project. Mr. Hand asked Mrs. Poindexter if the water discharged by the Utility could be repurposed for geothermal, power generation, or irrigation. Mrs. Poindexter said to discharge the water differently than TriCo does now, a different permit would be needed. TriCo can get a permit for the application of solids for agricultural purposes. Mrs. Poindexter would need to research if there is a permit available for water application. It could be a possibility, and if it is economically beneficial then the Utility might be able to use discharged water for the other purposes as well if there is someone nearby that would use it. Mr. Merkle added the outfall sewer itself is sized for wet weather capacity, which is a small percentage of overall flow throughout the year. Mr. Merkle said any of those

applications would be sized appropriately for daily use and flows and not peak weather flows.

Mr. Merkle said there was an initial value engineering change order on the plant project for over \$300,000. There was miscommunication with regards to a component of the proposed equipment for the clarifiers. It turned out this alternative was not well explained and unacceptable to plant staff. Once the submittals and details were provided it was obvious that the proposal needed to be revisited. Staff discussed with the equipment manufacturer, the local representative, Theineman and the design engineer. It was decided the best option for TriCo is to go back to what was originally bid. The component affected by the change order was \$40,000. It will be presented to the Board as a change order once it is processed. Mr. Merkle discussed ongoing challenges with Thieneman's supervisors on site and ongoing quality issues. Mr. Merkle said that he hopes these issues will improve. Mr. Pittman said it does not sound like there have been any major problems with the construction projects financially. Mr. Merkle agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Wes Merkle
Engineering Manager