



AGENDA

Meeting: May 6, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting: <https://call.lifesizecloud.com/9138594>

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1. **CALL TO ORDER - SPECIAL MEETING**
 2. **EXCUSED FROM MEETING**
 3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
 4. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - 4.1 Bassano Wastewater Treatment Upgrades and Irrigation Project – Dewatering
 5. **ADJOURNMENT**



REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting: May 6, 2021

Agenda Item: 4.1

Bassano Wastewater Treatment Upgrades and Irrigation Project

BACKGROUND:

Over the past years as we worked through the design of the project, dewatering has always been a known challenge. The plan relied on working with the EID over many months and years to get a conveyance agreement to use the EID ditch as a discharge for the site dewatering works. The working assumption was that this outlet would be available. The Tender was issued and closed with the pre-qualified bidders under the assumption that an off-site outlet for the water would be provided. After the Tender closed and only days after a pre-construction meeting with the Contractor the EID put conditions on using the outlet, that are impossible to obtain the meet. We are unable to outlet the water off-site.

We then got to work with Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) to obtain the necessary approvals to deal with water on site. We were previously told by AEP that this was not an option that they were in favour of. Approval was obtained in record time and we are allowed to pump the water to the water body immediately south of the proposed storage cell and/or to a temporary location in the borrow area. Until material is removed from the borrow area, the only suitable option we have is to pump the water to the south. To provide sufficient storage for the water in the area to the south, the Contractor must construct a temporary berm across the south edge of the project site from the edge of the existing lagoons to the east edge of the water body. This work would not have been required or anticipated in the pricing received from the Contractor. This work would be considered an extra to the Contract.

The material under the wet area as far as we have found is sandy. Ground water and surface water forced into the ground will travel through the sand seams and come back into our site. Increasing the level of surface water on the south side of the berm will increase this effect. The Contractor will require large pumps to maintain the water in our site limits low enough to permit the construction of the storage cell. It was anticipated under the conditions of the tender that larger pumps would have been required for the initial dewatering and then smaller maintenance pumps would have been used to keep the water at a manageable level. Given that the Contractor would not have known about the higher surface water level and therefore increased groundwater recharge rate, the incremental cost for the extra time with the larger pumps would be considered an extra to the Contract.

There are a couple options for working through extra costs under the Contract. One option is to prepare a Contemplated Change Order to ask the Contractor to provide a lump sum or unit price costs to complete the extra work. There are risks involved with this method for both the Contractor and the Town. Whenever you place the burden of risk on the contractor, the prices will be inflated to account for that risk and the unknowns associated with that risk. I would expect to receive a price higher than what I include in the next paragraph if this route is chosen.

Another option is to complete the work on a time and material or "force account" basis. The bulk of the cost for the installation of the temporary berm is in the equipment time. The Alberta Roadbuilders and

Heavy Construction Association publishes an annual rate guide with standard rates across the province for various types of equipment. We would use this rate guide to establish the hourly rates for the equipment. The extra costs for the pumping will be more difficult to determine and will require closer analysis during the construction.

White Fox has submitted an estimate of additional costs. The estimated costs are approximately \$100,000.00 to \$130,000.00 depending on the source of material used for the berm. This estimate includes costs for building the berm, additional pumping, and removing the berm/site restoration after construction. If sufficient suitable material is found near the temporary berm location, less time will be required to move the material and the cost will be lower end of the estimate. If all the material must be sourced from the borrow area, the travel time would be increased and therefore the cost of moving the material would be increased and the cost will be on the higher end of the estimate.

The course of events that have brought us to this point in the project do not leave us with options other than to build the berm. I recommend moving forward with construction of the temporary berm under a time and material basis.

OPTIONS:

#1 – That council approves a contract amendment to the Bassano Wastewater Treatment Upgrade and Irrigation Project to accommodate the construction and remediation of temporary berm for the purpose of site dewatering. The extra work to be completed under the contract with White Fox Group Ltd. shall be completed on a time and materials basis and charged in accordance with the Alberta Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association rates acknowledging the cost estimate of \$100,000 to \$130,000.

#2 – That council directs administration to proceed to obtain a project change order to accommodate the construction of a temporary berm to allow for site dewatering.

CAO COMMENTS:

Council was informed of these expected change during the project debrief meeting and site visit on April 30, 2021. Dewatering has started and we need to proceed to construct the berm immediately to complete the project.

The \$100,000 to \$130,000 does not change the contract award of \$5,977,912.50 submitted by White Fox Group because there was a \$500,000 contingency.

*Note – we are waiting on an additional change order to address the road bore under the TransCanada – on May 5, 2021 we received approval from the EID to place the line above theirs.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 3 – Task 1

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

That council approves a contract amendment to the Bassano Wastewater Treatment Upgrade and Irrigation Project to accommodate the construction and remediation of temporary berm for the purpose of site dewatering. The extra work to be completed under the contract with White Fox Group Ltd. shall be completed on a time and materials basis and charged in accordance with the Alberta Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association rates acknowledging the cost estimate of \$100,000 to \$130,000.

Prepared by: Blake Smith, MPE and Amanda Davis, CAO

Attachments:

1. None