Heron Lake Watershed District (HLWD)
Special Meeting
December 2, 2019

1. **Call to Order**
   Bruce Leinen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
   Managers present: Wayne Rasche, Bruce Leinen, Harvey Kruger, Mark Bartosh, and Jim Buschena
   Staff: Jan Voit
   Others present: Chuck Brandel and Jacob Rishmiller, I+S Group (ISG)

2. **Agenda**
   Jim Buschena made a motion to approve the agenda. Harvey Kruger seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Jackson County Judicial Ditch (JD) 19 Change Order and Pay Request**
   Chuck Brandel explained progress on the JD 19 improvement project. There have been no significant over runs. Tile installation is 70 percent complete. Granular pipe foundation is running at seven percent of the estimate, with a potential savings of $48,000. Tile investigation is at 41 percent of the estimate, with a potential savings of $17,000. ISG will be discussing the possibility of removing a 24 inch culvert installation, which could save $25,000.

   He also described the proposed change order. It is for additional seeding for grading the areas around the city lot and the pond, substation, wetland, and farm sites. Wet conditions made construction difficult and more land was disturbed than planned. ISG worked with the contractor to remove some of the blanket areas in exchange for seeding more areas. This removed 2.30 acres of blanket at $7,260 per acre and seeded 14.15 acres at $1500 per acre.

   Discussion was held regarding hydroseeding and blanket installation. Hydroseeding will reduce erosion. When the project was bid, the area to seed was smaller. A blanket was used for the bid process. This was because they were having difficulties with hydroseeding at the time of the bid. Those difficulties included seed being suspended and not having soil contact, as well as poor quality contractors. That is not the case with the JD 19 project. The contractor could use blankets, rather than hydroseeding. But, they have agreed to use hydroseeding, which is a cost savings for the project.

   Discussion was held regarding all the change orders for the project. The alignment change around the substation was one of the main reasons for this change order. Even though boring under the electrical lines was done, there still needed to be open cutting to identify the locations of the existing tile lines. There were also changes because of the power company’s requirements for crossing the electrical lines. The majority of that cost is being paid by the power company.

   Discussion was held regarding the overall project cost. If all things go according to plan, the cost should be at the bid price or slightly lower. When the plan was developed, the number of connections and the amount of granular needed were estimated. At present, many of the connections and much of the granular are under the amounts estimated. There is a 24 inch culvert that is proposed to go under County Road 14. With water levels as high as they are, it may not be possible to bore under this road. ISG may talk to the county about potentially removing this. If that is the case, that would also be a savings for the landowners.
Jim Buschena made a motion to approve the change order and pay request to Svoboda Excavating in the amount of $328,204.20. Wayne Rasche seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

Chuck Brandel mentioned that the contractor asked him to speak with the board about additional funds for the electrical crossings. There are one or two lines left to cross. This is different than the original bid, but not different than what the power company required. He does have some legitimate argument that this has slowed them down. However, the time extension is worth more than the cost for the crossings.

4. **Jackson County Ditch (CD) 3 Change Orders**

Chuck Brandel and Jacob Rischmiller explained Change Order #1 on Bid Package 1. ISG received comments from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) regarding erosion control. MPCA is requiring a bioroll around intakes near the pond, a stabilized construction exit, and a rock check dam. At this point, none of these additional items have been used and they may not need to depending on progress and timing. If needed they will be available for erosion protection/prevention.

Discussion was held regarding pond construction and dirt excavation. Chuck Brandel explained several options that have been done by contractors on other projects. ISG does not dictate how the contractor does the dirt removal. There is concern about the bridge near the pond location being able to handle the traffic from large equipment.

Chuck Brandel and Jacob Rischmiller explained Change Order #1 on Bid Package 2. Until now, all gravel road crossings in Jackson County have been open cut. Jackson County Public Works is requiring County Road 63 to be bored. Road crossing costs are the road authority's responsibility.

Chuck Brandel discussed the change order for boring under County Road 63 with county commissioners Jim Eigenberg and Scott McClure, county staff Dave Macek and Tim Stahl, and county attorney Sherry Haley. They understand the cost for this change order is the county's responsibility.

Discussion was held regarding timing for the boring. It will be done very soon. ISG was informed about this request when the permit for the project was submitted to Jackson County about two weeks ago. Dirt Merchant, Inc. (DMI) has a boring crew working in portions of Bid Package 4. This crew will do the boring for the same price quoted for the other portion of the project.

Boring rather than open cutting is a new Jackson County policy. It takes longer than open cutting. The road authority can tell the engineer how they want the road crossings done, but all costs associated with the crossings are the road authority's responsibility.

There are three crossings on the roads in the bid package on which LooCon will be working. That will be a change order at a later date since they will not start construction until next year.

Harvey Kruger made a motion to approve Change Order #1 on Bid Package 1 and Change Order #1 on Bid Package 2. Jim Buschena seconded this.

A question was asked regarding the possibility of boring the lines on Bid Package 4 now, instead of later on, in order to save the county money. ISG will discuss this with Jackson County.

The board voted. Motion carried unanimously.

Chuck Brandel described progress to date. DMI has two crews working as well as a subcontractor. They are doing a good job of communicating.
Discussion was held regarding tile installation, sand, and backfill. Six inches of sand is placed underneath the pipe and another six inches on top. The rest is backfill. The contractor is installing 42" and 36" pipe right now. That takes a lot of sand. Rock is installed on all bends and intakes, sand on the rest. It is less expensive to use sand and plastic pipe than cement. All tile installation is bid by linear foot.

5. **JD 3 Payment to H2Over Viewers**
   Wayne Rasche made a motion to pay H2Over Viewers $8,800 for viewing costs for the months of October and November. Jim Buschena seconded this. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Adjournment**
   The meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

[Signature]
Harvey Kruger
Secretary