

Illinois State Toll Highway Authority
Minutes of the Engineering-Planning Committee Meeting
December 16, 2010

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority held an Engineering-Planning Committee Meeting on Thursday, December 16, 2010 at approximately 8:00 a.m. at the Central Administration Building in Downers Grove, Illinois. Directors on the Committee in attendance were as follows:

Director Thomas Canham
Director Maria Saldaña
Director Carl Towns

Chair Wolff noted that Committee Chairman Roof would be late to the meeting, and Director Towns would chair the Engineering-Planning Committee in his place.

Committee Chairman Towns called for approval of the Minutes of the Engineering-Planning Committee meeting held on November 18, 2010. Director Saldaña moved for approval; seconded by Director Canham. The motion was approved unanimously.

Director Towns called on Chief Engineer Paul Kovacs to present the Engineering agenda items. Mr. Kovacs requested approval of the following:

Renewal of Contract RR-07-9035 with Systems Development Integration, Inc. for Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and Fiber Optic Program Management & Support in the amount of \$715,000, increasing the contract upper limit from \$3,834,280 to \$4,549,280.

Director Canham moved to put said Renewal on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Director Saldaña. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Kovacs informed the Board that all roadway construction projects for 2010 had been completed. He asked the Board to note that included on the item summary sheets was original bidder information. Mr. Kovacs then gave a brief overview of the Earned Credit Program (ECP). The ECP allows contractors and subcontractors to earn bid credits toward their next Tollway contract; it is based on when they hire and continue to employ from a pool of pre-screened, apprenticeship candidates. This program encourages the sponsorship of qualified, knowledgeable, but disenfranchised candidates. The amount of bid credits each contractor holds varies by their utilization of individuals from the pool. There is a maximum amount of credits that can be used on each bid. Data available indicates that this program has employed 110 individuals throughout the life of the program. The total cost to Tollway has been \$189,000; over \$2.6 million in benefit has been delivered to these disenfranchised individuals.

Director Saldaña asked how the Tollway verifies that these individuals are actually hired. Manager of Diversity Stephanie Stephens answered that the Tollway checks union benefit reports that the contractor submits to verify that the individual is a union member and their salary. Prior to issuing credits, the Tollway pre-screens the candidates.

Director Towns asked if this program was unique to the Tollway. Mr. Kovacs responded that the program is unique to the Tollway. Director Saldaña then asked if any meetings were held with the vendors to evaluate the program's impact and whether there were any possible improvements. Mr. Kovacs responded that there are periodic meetings of the ECP committee in which the program is evaluated. Director Saldaña asked about the frequency with which new individuals enter the program. Ms. Stephens answered that the program is set up so that as long as the contractor employs that person, credit will be awarded to that contract. It typically takes five years for individuals to go through the program and reach "journey level" status.

Mr. Kovacs then requested approval of the following:

Partial Release of Retainage on Contract I-07-5227 to Walsh Construction Company of Illinois for Roadway and Bridge Construction and Widening on the Northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-94) from Milepost 59.7 (IL Route 60) to Milepost 62.4 (IL Route 176); and Offsite Stormwater Compensatory Storage at Milepost 62.5 (Site 10) and Milepost 72.2 (Site 13) by \$1,714,604.35, from \$1,823,104.35 to \$108,500.

Partial Release of Retainage on Contract RR-08-5475 to K-Five Construction Corp./James D. Fiala Paving Co. (Joint Venture) for Roadway and Bridge Rehabilitation on the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) from Milepost 12.3 (I-55) to Milepost 21.8 (Butterfield Road) by \$901,562.24, from \$955,562.24 to \$54,000.

Partial Release of Retainage on Contract RR-08-5571 to Herlihy Mid-Continent Company for Bridge Rehabilitation on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) from Milepost 9.76 (Rexford Avenue) to Milepost 10.31 (Midlothian Turnpike) and from Milepost 31.1 (I-88 Tri-Level Bridge) to Milepost 31.4 (Butterfield Road) by \$306,578.54, from \$316,578.54 to \$10,000.

Partial Release of Retainage on Contract RR-08-5572 to Lorig Construction Company/Geneva Construction Company (Joint Venture) for Roadway and Bridge Rehabilitation on the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) from Milepost 21.8 (Finley Road Overpass) to Milepost 29.9 (Army Trail Road) by \$877,878.07, from \$1,491,430.87 to \$613,552.80.

Partial Release of Retainage on Contract I-07-5233 to Plote Construction, Inc. for Roadway and Bridge Reconstruction and Widening on Northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-94) Milepost 65.0 (IL

Route 137/Buckley Road) to Milepost 70.5 (South of Stearns School Road) by \$1,087,272.12, from \$1,247,272.12 to \$160,000.

Partial Release of Retainage on Contract I-07-5241 to Plote Construction, Inc. for Roadway and Bridge Reconstruction on Northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) from Milepost 44.5 (Dempster Street) to Milepost 48.3 (Willow Road) by \$1,256,197.24, from \$1,331,197.24 to \$75,000.

Chair Wolff asked for clarification on the timing of payment in relationship to verification of meeting the DBE goals. Mr. Kovacs noted that there are a few steps that have to occur before actual payment for the work, including documentation of the work, preparation of bills by the construction manager, submittal to the Tollway, review and approval, and finalization of extra work orders and change orders. What has currently been achieved is not yet necessarily reflected in the DBE percentage numbers indicated on the item summary sheets. This is largely a function of the reporting schedule; sometimes the time that staff receives the official reports from the contractors does not align with the Board meeting. Contractors submit DBE estimates once a week or bi-weekly, and, therefore, actual DBE participation may not be fully reflected in the current summary sheets that are distributed at the Board meeting.

Director Canham asked what the consequence is for not hitting DBE goals. Mr. Kovacs noted that there is language in the contracts that if contractors fall short of their required DBE goal, the Tollway can issue a sanction. He added that this has happened once, with a sanction of \$40,000.

Director Saldaña moved to put said Releases on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Director Canham. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Kovacs then requested approval of the following:

Full Release of Retainage on Contract I-07-5243 to Plote Construction, Inc. for Roadway and Bridge Reconstruction on Northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Milepost 48.3 (Willow Road) to Milepost 51.3 (Dundee Road) in the amount of \$630,000.

Full Release of Retainage on Contract I-08-5696 to Plote Construction, Inc. for Eola Road Interchange on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) Milepost 120.5 to Milepost 122.0 (Eola Road) in the amount of \$50,000.

Director Canham moved to put said Releases on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Director Saldaña. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Kovacs then requested approval of the following:

Full Release of Retainage on Contract I-08-5541 to Rockford Blacktop Construction Co. (currently known as William Charles Construction Company, LLC) / Rock Road Companies (Joint Venture) for Reconstruction and Widening on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Milepost 69.9 (IL Route 173) to Milepost 62.3 (Cherry Valley Interchange) in the amount of \$20,000.

Director Saldaña moved to put said Releases on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Director Canham. Director Towns recused himself from voting on this item. The motion was approved.

Mr. Kovacs then requested approval of the following:

Full Release of Retainage on Contract I-07-5244 to Walsh Construction Company of Illinois for Roadway and Bridge Reconstruction on Northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Milepost 51.4 (Dundee Road) to Milepost 53.5 (Lake-Cook Road) in the amount of \$165,187.72.

Full Release of Retainage on Contract RR-09-5579 to Lorig

Construction Company for Bridge Repairs and Concrete Ramp Patching on Southbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Milepost 31.5 (Bridge 212) and Northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Milepost 31.8 (Westbound I-290) in the amount of \$27,148.09.

Full Release of Retainage on Contract RR-09-5582 to F.H. Paschen, S.N. Nielsen & Assoc., LLC, for Bridge Rehabilitation on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Milepost 23.1 (Bridges 549 and 550 over the Fox River) in the amount of \$120,434.93.

Full Release of Retainage on Contract RR-07-9927R to Divane Bros. Electric Co. for M-4 Self Supporting Communication Tower Construction on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94) at Milepost 70.0 (Grand Avenue) in the amount of \$43,130.01.

Director Saldaña moved to put said Full Releases of Retainage on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Director Canham. The motion was approved unanimously.

There being no further business, Director Saldaña moved to adjourn; seconded by Director Canham. The motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:28 a.m.

Minutes taken by: _____

Jackie Diaz