

J1S3019, Holt County, Route 111

Pre-Bid Conference

December 20, 2011

1:00 p.m. in the Northwest District Conference Center

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Description of project -- Purpose and site conditions

Review of key job special provisions

- Traffic control
- Variable quantities
- Measurement and source of material
- Cooperation with MSHP
- Bidding

Contractor Questions and Answers

Q. Do you plan on having patrol members at both the excavation and the fill areas?

A. Yes. The total number of patrol personnel depends on the size of the contractor's operation. We will probably have a ½ dozen or more on site each day. All officers have safety gear, reflective vests, etc.

Q. Do you want us to limit the depth of cut to aid in search operations?

A. The greatest search emphasis will be at the fill locations where the material is placed. Patrol may want a dozer to "thin" the deposited material to aid in searching. It was noted that we may need to compensate for this additional dozer work.

Q. There are a couple of runs of irrigation equipment at the job site, is the owner going to move these?

A. Yes. This can be coordinated with the property owner. If we clear a path approximately 100' wide adjacent to the equipment he will move it over.

Q. What about the irrigation equipment that is in the hole?

A. We may work with the contractor to take care of this, possibly using a force account, etc.

Q. What about the brush piles that are out there?

A. There is no debris removal in the contract, we can work around them. *It was noted by the patrol that they would like to have these moved so they can search the area underneath the brush piles.*

Q. Where are the 4 acres of clearing that are in the contract?

A. There are some trees in the gully/drainage ditch. The clearing may or may not actually be used, but we wanted it in there in case it was needed.

Q. Is burning allowed?

A. The county probably allows it, but we are not sure if the spec book allows it. We could possibly add a provision that specifically allows burning.

Note: Sec. 201.2.5.1 covers burning.

Q. Is de-watering required?

A. De-watering is not required by the contract, but the contractor is free to do so if he feels it is necessary.

Q. What are the lift thickness and compaction requirements for this contract?

A. Lift thickness and compaction requirements are only in effect for material placed 5' above the water table and above.

Q. Are we supposed to fill the entire hole?

A. There is not enough material to fill the entire hole. The extent of the project depends on the results of the recovery efforts.

Q. Are we supposed to remove all the sand off of the fields?

A. Not necessarily, again it depends on the results of the recovery efforts.

Q. Are you interested in getting the road repaired and open?

A. Not with this project.

Q. Is the finish date as flexible as the goals of the project?

A. The finish date was chosen with consideration for the next project (to open the road) and for the length of time needed for the patrol to search.

Q. Have you considered a working days schedule to allow for weather? There may not be a lot of good days at this time of the year.

A. We would need a special provision to define a working day if we were to do this.

Q. Can we put frozen material in the scour hole?

A. Yes. This is something we will need to call out in the contract.

Q. Are the ditch checks the only erosion control necessary?

A. They are in the contract because we wanted the option to add erosion control if it becomes necessary.

Q. As we fill up the scour hole and displace the water, in what direction will the water flow?

A. The tendency will be for the water to go south. The contractor may need to place sand berms temporarily in order to get the water to go where he wants it to.

Note: Due to the permeability of the soil, it is not expected that displaced water will overtop the scour hole.

Q. Do you have a quantity on the amount of asphalt that will need to be moved and placed as fill?

A. Any asphalt that is out there is small and broken up, and is pretty well mixed in with the sand. As such, we don't have a quantity for this. The JSP that referred to asphalt was removed with the 12/13/11 addendum.

Q. Is there any protection for the contractor, or guarantee as to the quantity of work that will actually be performed?

A. The only guarantee in the posted plans is your bid for Mobilization.

Q. Will you pay 100% of the Mobilization, even if the work is called off early?

A. Mobilization is usually paid at different stages of the contract. We will make sure it is paid 100%, and will make a change to the plans/contract if needed.

Q. Will the Highway Patrol dictate where we work?

A. The RE will designate work areas in coordination with the HP. There will be areas they are more interested in (immediately south of the hole, adjacent to Rte. 111), and these are the areas we will probably want to work in first.

Q. There is a ditch south of the 111/118 intersection, will we need to clean this out?

- A.** The property owner has cleaned out a good portion of the ditch. We can use the excavated material, which is piled up approximately 8' high at a 1:1 slope, to fill the hole.
- Q.** There was something in the contract about bidding on March 23rd...
- A.** This has been changed online, if you print out a new sheet the correct date should be on it now.
- Q.** Can we spread material on both sides of the hole so that the patrol can have time to look through it without impacting production rates?
- A.** We will have to look at this. There will be officers there at all times, to try and keep up with the contractor. We could possibly denote the length of "frontage" that the contractor will have to place material.
- Q.** Is coordination with the gas company going to be the contractor's responsibility?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** How deep is the gas line?
- A.** We don't know at this time.
- Q.** How big is the gas line?
- A.** It is a 4-inch line.
- Q.** Where does the gas line run?
- A.** Not entirely sure, believe it is a north-south route.
- Q.** Is there a need for slope protection or rock for this project?
- A.** No.
- Q.** Can we use state routes as a haul road?
- A.** This is okay as long as it is done in a manner consistent with the spec book. If the contractor elects to do this, he is responsible for traffic control. Route 111 is currently open to traffic and must remain so.
- Q.** Are we responsible for restoring the farm fields to their previous condition?

- A.** No guarantee has been given to the property owner, he is happy to have any sand removed from the fields. Just have to take care not to remove too much soil.
- Q.** Would it be possible to provide an aerial photo showing the gas line and the proposed fill areas?
- A.** We might be able to, although we don't currently have the gas line located.
- Q.** Why don't you just try and fill where the road is going?
- A.** We don't have enough material, and don't believe the sand will stay in one place when it is dumped.
- Q.** Do you consider the surface of the water to be the "water table" for compaction purposes?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** Just to be sure, there is no work under lights, correct?
- A.** *Patrol* – With night work there is a possibility that we could miss something, and the chance of injury to officers goes up. *Wes Moore* – The only possibility would be to push previously inspected material into the scour hole, but the contract does not currently allow this.