

ITEM #: 18
DATE: 09-12-23
DEPT: W&PC

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: FY 2022/23 STORY COUNTY EDGE-OF-FIELD PROJECT

BACKGROUND:

On December 14, 2022, a contract was awarded to JEO Consulting Group (JEO) of Wahoo, Nebraska, in the amount of \$41,200 for the preliminary and final design of bioreactors and saturated buffers to treat subsurface drainage from agricultural tile outlets for the Story County Edge-of-Field Project. Saturated buffers and bioreactors reduce the nitrogen discharge from subsurface field drainage before it enters a stream or other surface waters. These practices can be entered into the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Exchange and the nutrient reductions will be 'banked' for future use.

On April 17, 2023, a Change Order was executed in the amount of \$6,300 to add final design of bioreactors and saturated buffers for three tile outlets that were not originally included in the Scope of Work.

An additional Change Order in the amount of \$4,000 is needed to cover costs associated with redesign requests from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The NRCS oversees design and approval of these practices. JEO had nearly completed final design for saturated buffers associated with two tile outlets when the NRCS determined that these practices were not acceptable. JEO was able to provide acceptable designs by switching to bioreactors to treat the subsurface drainage from these two outlets.

A summary of the contract history is as follows:

Original Contract Price	\$ 41,200
Change Order #1	6,300
Change Order #2 (this action)	4,000
Adjusted Contract Price	\$ 51,500

This project is being funded from the FY 2022/23 Edge-of Field Project/Watershed-based Nutrient Reduction CIP, which is budgeted at \$300,000 annually. Additionally, Story County Conservation and the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship are reimbursing the City for costs related to this project. The cost-share for design services is 1/3 each, meaning the net cost to the City for Change Order #2 will be \$1,333.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve Change Order #2 in the amount of \$4,000 to cover costs associated with redesigning practices for the Story County Edge-of-Field Project to JEO Consulting Group of Wahoo, Nebraska.
2. Do not approve Change Order #2 and do not proceed with plans to treat subsurface drainage from the two tile outlets requiring redesign.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Treatment of subsurface drainage from agricultural tile outlets with bioreactors and saturated buffers is an effective method for reducing nutrient loading to surface waters. The Water & Pollution Control Department can 'bank' these nutrient loading reductions in the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Exchange and will be able to apply any banked reductions to future nutrient reduction requirements in the Water Pollution Control Facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.