

**CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
AND EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA**

City Hall Commission Chambers

Monday, December 19, 2011

6:00 p.m.

MEETING #4870

WORK SESSION

1. FEMA Levee Certification Update. Report by Director of Engineering, Ray Slattery.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Land Acquisition



Memorandum

December 15, 2011

TO: City Manager
Assistant City Manager
City Commissioners

FROM: Ray Slattery, P.E.

RE: Levee Certification Update

Since August of 2011 Wilson & Company has been working on Phase III of the Levee Certification. To date they have completed the following work of the Phase III Scope of Services;

Verifications – 94% of the anticipated work. Verify that the maintenance items outlined in Phase I have been completed. Also verify the existence of some conduits through and or adjacent to the levee, purpose or operational of two sanitary sewer outfalls, and that the sluice gates are operational. Once the updates to the Operation Manual has been completed, verification will need to be made to how the required closures will be made if or when necessary.

Video Documentation – 42% of the anticipated work. The video recordings of the 14 conduits that either drain through or under the levee was completed in November. The Engineer needs to complete the review of the recordings. An initial review shows only some minor repairs need to be completed.

Visual Inspection – 100% of the anticipated work. The engineer completed the visual inspection of a vault and three RCB's that are part of the levee system.

Geotechnical Analysis – 1% of the anticipated work.

2nd Ave. Bridge Closure – 73% of the anticipated work. The Engineer will evaluate two methods of closing the 2nd Ave. Bridge due to a flood event. One method is a stop-log closure at each end of the bridge. The other method will be for sand bag closure.

Arkansas River Improvements – 35% of the anticipated work. This item includes a majority of the work of Phase III Levee Certification. The improvements include the sediment removal needed for the necessary free board, riprap tie-back jetties along the levees, and two alternates for the levee beautification/jetty jack removal. Installation of Sedimentation Monuments is included in this work item.

Operation & Maintenance Manual – 1 % of the anticipated work. This will include updates to the 1992 Revision Operation Manual as required in Section 1-02 of the Levee Certification.

Levee Certification – 0.3% of the anticipated work. All of the work completed to date represents this percentage of the total Levee Certification work needed. Once all the projects are completed the Engineer will certify that Levee System meets the FEMA requirements per 44CFR 65.10.

Project Management & Quality Control – 1% of the anticipated work. I believe this percentage is probably higher than Wilson & Company has stated per their invoices, because of all the inquiries we have made of them.

To date Wilson & Company has completed 28% or \$141,277.66 of the total project.

As for the removal of the sediment in the river bottom, plans to date indicate that a channel 280' wide at the original flow line elevation will be required to meet freeboard requirements. With this design about 622,000 cubic yards of material will need to be removed from the river bottom.

There is proposed legislation that would extend the time up, to 4 years, to complete the repairs/improvements to the levee to meet certification. The proposed Bill would required that 100% of the project(s) be authorized, at least 60% of the project costs secured or appropriated, at least 50% of the flood protection system assessed as being without deficiencies to be granted the 4 year extension. We believe that if the legislation is passed, to qualify for the time extension we would need to pass a resolution that states we are committed to complete the necessary improvements and have 60% of the funds obligated. The obligation of funds may be the hurdle in this process.

Currently the mapping update is still on hold as FEMA tries to determine how to deal with levees that do not meet certifications. Doug Danaher, Wilson & Company, believes it will be the end of 2012 or mid 2013 before the new maps are adapted to account for these levees. Then there will still be some time before the new maps are sent out for use.
