

FLOOD REVIEW BOARD

Date: June 25, 2020

Time: 10:00 AM

Locations: Lake Estes Conference Room, 200 W. Oak St., Fort Collins, CO 80521 and remote via Zoom

Contact: Devin Traff, Larimer County Engineering Department

MEETING MINUTES

Staff Present: Devin Traff

Board Members: Greg Koch, Chris Thorton, Bets Ervin-Blankenheim, Chris Carlson, John Hunt, Chad Morris

Applicant Present: Trevor Glass (Xcel Energy), Chris Olson (Wright Water Engineers)

Mr. Koch opened the meeting at 10:12 a.m., MDT

Introductions

Item #1: County Road 80 Utility Project FPSR

Mr. Traff gave an overview of the project. The first item is a petition on behalf of Xcel Energy (Public Service Company of Colorado). This petition is for the replacement of the existing natural gas main under unimproved roadways and agricultural fields within the flood hazard zoning district. The project is located ten miles northwest of Wellington close to county road 80 and county road 17. A total of two miles of 2-inch pipe will replace the existing 1.25-inch natural gas main in the Boxelder Creek Floodplain using horizontal drilling. The depth below ground will be four to seven feet below ground. It will approach but not cross the Boxelder Creek banks. Five boreholes will be bored and bore pits will be staged and backfilled after completion. The land will be restored to pre-project grade. A no-rise certification was submitted with the application.

Mr. Olson had the opportunity to speak about the project. He reiterated that the boring is going to take about 2-3 days on each of the 5 bore holes. The project is very short term and all ground disturbances will be returned to their original grade upon completion of work. A Colorado Discharge Permit System (CDPS) General Stormwater Discharge Permit has been issued. Additionally, a copy of the SWMP and permit will be provided to Larimer County. Maps were shown which provided a location of the job site and showed where the borings would be located.

Mr. Koch opened to questions from the Board.



Mr. Carlson asked why the pipe under the channel is not being replaced. Mr. Glass explained that the gas main under the channel has recently been replaced. He said that it is already a polyethylene pipe that they will be tying into.

Mr. Hunt asked for clarification if there will be no evidence of bore holes after the work is complete. Mr. Glass answered that he is correct that there will be no evidence of them working there after it is over. He asked what the minimum depth will they dig to on the bank sides and how far back from the channel bank they will be drilling. Mr. Glass responded that the minimum depth would be three feet and the entire pipe would be between four and seven feet below the surface. He said they will drop potholes on the line where it crosses the channel and find a 4 to 5 feet spot deep to excavate and tie in. The depth will be about 75-100 feet from the top of bank on both sides of the channel.

Ms. Ervin-Blankenheim questioned who owns the land where they will be working on. Mr. Olson and Mr. Glass told her that Elden Ackerman owns the parcel and obtained easement from him.

The Board discussed if the tie in point on the eastern bank of the Boxelder Creek is located too close to the center of the channel based off the plans. With the information provided, Mr. Hunt had questions about how active the channel is. Mr. Glass explained that there is an access road that runs through the channel. Mr. Olson provided photos of where the tie in points would be and provided clarification for any confusion regarding the maps.

Motion:

Ms. Ervin-Blankenheim made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners for this project to be approved. Mr. Koch seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.