

Staff Report

Subject: Change Order for Professional Services – Blue Jay Elementary School Force Main Extension – Value Addition

Author: Danielle Carver, Procurement and Contracts Manager; To be Presented by Tre Wilkins

Department: Procurement / Engineering

Meeting Date: November 18, 2025

Item Description: Consideration to approve a change order proposal from **Hussey Gay Bell** for additional engineering services related to the expansion of scope for the Blue Jay Elementary School Force Main project.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the change order submitted by Hussey Gay Bell in the amount of **\$107,500.00** for additional professional services associated with the expanded project scope.

Executive Summary / Background:

The original scope of work for this project included only the design of a force main serving Blue Jay Elementary School. The Effingham County School Board was initially responsible for the design and construction of the associated lift station.

During the course of project development, the County assumed responsibility for the regional lift station design to align with a broader long-term infrastructure strategy. In coordination with the School Board and in response to imminent development of the Joyce R. Johnson property, the County determined that the location of the regional lift station should shift north along McCall Road, altering the route of the force main and requiring design of additional gravity sewer infrastructure.

As a result, HGB's design scope expanded significantly to include:

- Redesign of force main alignment
- Integration of future service areas (e.g., Blandford and Pinebrook)
- Elimination of temporary manifold solutions
- New survey work along McCall Road
- Final construction design and specifications
- Limited geotechnical investigation at the lift station site

Despite the increased scope, the permitting, bidding, and construction services remain largely unchanged and will proceed under the original agreement at no additional cost.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the proposed change order from Hussey Gay Bell for \$107,500.00.
2. Decline the change order and direct staff to revise the project scope or select another approach.
3. Defer action pending further evaluation or negotiation.

Recommended Alternative: 1

Other Alternatives: 2, 3

Department Review: Procurement, Engineering

Funding Source: FY 2026 Capital Projects

Attachments: MOU with Hi-Lo SORBA, Inc.