



ITEM ID: 2023-383-0

TRANSMITTAL DATE: February 16, 2024

MEETING DATE: February 23, 2024

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Donald Filippi, Chief Operating Officer

SUBJECT: Contract No. H1667-20 - Master Product Purchase and License Agreement (MPPLA), Engineering Support and Tools for PTC and 220MHz Radio Network - Term Extension and Increase Contract Authority - Meteorcomm LLC (MCC)

Issue

Ongoing software license agreements, hardware warranty, engineering support services and tools are required to support the Authority's Positive Train Control (PTC) messaging system, 220 MHz radio network and supporting hardware. Current contract agreement with MCC will expire on June 30, 2024, and has \$248,728 remaining in contract funding authorization out of \$2,248,640. The term extension and contract funding authorization increase of Contract H1667-20 will support the Authority's software and hardware maintenance in efforts such as:

- Development of Centralized Train Control (CTC) over Interoperable Train Control Messaging (ITCM) software,
- Systems Installation and Configuration costs
- Annual professional services costs
- Annual license agreements for onboard and wayside equipment
- Wireless Crossing Technology modeling
- ARM Tool
- Onboard hardware (220 MHz radio and Slot 10) maintenance and support
- Wayside Message Servers (WMS) hardware and software maintenance and support
- Purchase of next generation PTC 220 MHz radios for Authority's state of good repair rehabilitation program.

Recommendation

Contracts, Operations, Maintenance, and Safety Committee recommended (4-0) the Board authorize the Chief Executive Officer to amend Contract No. H1667-20 with Meteorcomm LLC

(MCC), Master Product Purchase and License Agreement (MPPLA), Engineering Support and Tools for PTC and 220MHz Radio Network, to extend period of performance for five years through June 30, 2029, and increase contract authority by \$8,000,000 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$10,248,640. This amount includes annual fees for Software Licenses, Support Services, Tools, and New and Replacement Hardware.

Strategic Commitment

This report aligns with the Strategic Business Plan commitments of:

- **Safety is Foundational:** We will stay on the leading edge by deploying new technologies and processes to enhance the safety and security of our riders, employees, and the communities we serve. This contract supports the continued maintenance and development of PTC in the Authority's rail system.
- **Modernizing Business Practices:** We will improve our operational efficiency, through transparency, objective metrics and streamlined governance, reducing reliance on subsidy while bringing our system into a state of good repair and investing in the development of our employees. Increase contract funding authorization will allow the Authority to leverage this contract for system and process improvements through the PTC systems.

Background

Early in the PTC project, MCC was identified as the sole provider of the proprietary 220 MHz radios and the Interoperable Train Control Messaging (ITCM) system that the Class 1 Railroads were using to implement the PTC system across their fleets. To maintain compatibility with the industry, the Authority, along with its PTC vendor/integrator contractor Parsons, entered into a license and maintenance agreement with MCC. On April 21, 2015, the Authority entered into Agreement No. LI106-15 with MCC, for 220 MHz radios and the ITCM system, with a three-year base and a total contract funding authorization of \$600,000. At the time of the agreement, MCC was not offering engineering support services or additional tool development.

Following the execution of the Agreement by the CEO in 2015, the Authority included the renewal of the term, and the cost of the license and support which was now being offered.

On June 28, 2019, the Board authorized the Chief Executive Officer to award a Master Product Purchase and License Agreement (MPPLA) No. H1667-20 with MCC in an amount of \$2,248,640 for a period of five years. This amount included annual fees of \$200,000 for the software license, \$225,000 for support services, and \$24,728 for tools.

Discussion

As the rail industry continues to advance its PTC technology development, the proprietary engineering services and the accompanying tools provided by MCC will ensure that the Authority's PTC system remains current with the rail industry standards. This will also add

functionality and operational efficiency including a robust PTC trouble ticket management system, systems management tools, PTC radios, Wayside Message Servers, Onboard and other PTC system components.

Budget Impact

The amount for which contract authority is requested is included in the FY24 Operating Budget (\$248,728.00) and FY22 Capital and Rehabilitation Budget (\$898,000.00) . Funding for subsequent years will be requested through the Annual Operating and Capital budget or an equivalent process and will only be used if budget amounts are approved. There is no financial commitment with respect to subsequent years and work will be authorized only if funding is approved.

Next Steps

Upon Committee and Board approval, staff will commence executing a five-year contract extension with Meteorcomm, LLC, for Engineering support and tools for PTC and 220MHz radio network.

Prepared by: DeAndre Conley, Senior Manager, Communication Systems

Approved by: Don Filippi, Chief Operating Officer