

**Town of Moretown
Office of the SELECT BOARD**

Draft – unapproved minutes of the April 11, 2013 special meeting held for the purpose of discussing costs associated with stabilizing the temporary bridge that is being used at the bridge #41 replacement site.

Board members present were: Tom Martin, Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom

Guests included: Evan Detrick from DuBois & King, Dean Moulton, Cheryl Brown as board assistant

Tom called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Evan Detrick, Moretown's engineer and clerk of the works for the bridge project, said Austin Construction had no idea the soil near the abutment would consolidate and cause this problem. Austin noticed the abutment weakening and the temporary bridge settling as the piles were being driven but continued jacking and shimming as he went, hoping things wouldn't progress. When the abutment cracked severely he had to stop. Austin expected the town would find him responsible for the costs incurred to add extensions to the temporary bridge, so he went ahead and ordered the extensions and installed them. Evan said he offered George Austin to come to tonight's meeting and talk with the selectboard about getting reimbursement for the bridge extension work, but George isn't here tonight so he would assume George isn't expecting any reimbursement. Evan went on to say that if the selectboard decided to submit a change order anyway and got paid for it, he was sure Austin would appreciate being reimbursed.

The State has determined that contract wording (cofferdam) is such that the contractor is responsible for maintaining the temporary bridge and therefore would most likely not approve any change order submitted for that work. Evan will not forward a change order at this time.

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July 1st is the deadline to complete the project. Moretown will ask the State and FEMA to approve a three month extension from that date. The board told Evan that Austin is still being held to the June 7th completion deadline, but the extension if granted would give the town additional time to submit final invoices etc., for close-out.

The board emphasized to Evan that if George Austin wants to pursue the town paying for any costs associated with the bridge extension, he has a limited time to make that request.

Tom moved to adjourn at 5:40 p.m. John seconded. All were in favor.