# **Force Account**

Recordkeeper Job Aid Construction Division



#### **Overview**

When an agreement cannot be reached with the contractor based on cost, Article 4.4., "Changes in the Work" of the Standard Specifications provides that the work may proceed under Article 9.7, "Payment for Extra Work and Force Account Method."

#### **Resources**

- 2014 Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Highways, Streets and Bridges, Article 9.7, "Payment For Extra Work and Force Account Method."
- 2024 Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Highways, Streets and Bridges, Article 9.7, "Payment For Extra Work and Force Account Method."
- Construction Contract Administration Manual, Chapter 7, Section 3, "Force Account and Interim Adjustments to the Contract," and Chapter 11, Section 1, "Estimates and Issues Affecting Payment," Chapter 15, "Contractor Workforce".
- SiteManager Contract Administration Manual, Chapter 6, "Change Orders."

The goal of this document is to provide information regarding Force Account procedures for Record Keepers.

#### **Applications Used**

- SiteManager
- ProjectWise
- LCPtracker

#### **Forms**

Form 316, "Daily Report of Force Account Work"

# Texas Department of Transportation

# **Construction Recordkeeper Job Aid**

#### Reports

SiteManager Change Order Report

#### Force Account (FA) Change Orders (CO)

The FA method is used when the work scope is unknown or an established unit price for the work is unknown. The cost of labor (payrolls), equipment (Blue Book/Equipment Watch), and materials (invoices) should be agreed upon prior to change order work beginning.

FA CO should be executed in advance of the FA work. FA cost should be estimated for the CO and payment is made when invoice is submitted. Form 316 is used for payment justification and invoice verification.

FA under \$10,000 may be paid based on the contractor's estimated costs for labor, equipment, and materials. The Engineer must sign and approve the invoice, and the CO can be executed after the work is completed. Form 316 is not required for FA under the \$10,000 threshold. Effective with a Special Provision to the 2024 Spec Book, the threshold for costs based on the contractor's invoice will be \$30,000.

### **Required Documentation**

The contractor should provide documentation including Form 316 to record the work done for the Force Account. The TxDOT inspector should also document the work associated with the FA in the Daily Work Report (DWR). Once the Contractor's documentation is provided related to the FA, a review occurs to verify the following costs.

- Equipment description
  - Make

- Year
- Model
- Type
- Size
- Horsepower, or
- Other identification
- Equipment rates established in accordance with Article 9.7. Verify rates utilizing Equipment Watch.
- All labor classifications with applicable wage rates
- Material costs associated with the force account work
- Contractor's invoice
- Time needed to complete work
- Any additional information necessary to support the CO

Refer to the Construction Contract Administration Manual (CCAM), Chapter 7, Section 3 for additional information.

Ensure Form 316, when applicable, is completed daily when the force account work is being performed and signed by the Contractor to be included in the project records, along with all supporting documentation. Information to be verified on the Form 316 includes the following.

- Materials Costs The Contractor should provide materials tickets and/or invoices as recorded on Form 316. Compare to the FA estimate.
- Equipment Costs A list of equipment being utilized and hours used will be included on Form 316. Refer to Equipment Watch for equipment rates. Compare to the FA estimate.



Labor Classifications and Wage Rates – A list of employees by job classification being utilized for the work on the force account item(s) will be included on the Form 316. To verify, the actual payroll for the contractor performing the work must be available for review through LCPtracker. Verify the employee name, labor classification, and rate of pay submitted through LCPtracker for the dates of work match Form 316. (NOTE: the employee can have additional hours paid on a day compared to the Force Account work. For example, a laborer performed 4 hours of work for the FA item(s), and they performed an additional 4 hours of work not related to the FA. The payroll will show 8 hours paid to the employee, but only 4 hours will be payable for the FA as recorded by the contractor). Compare to the FA estimate. Refer to CCAM, Chapter 15, Contractor Workforce, for additional information.

Track verified costs of the contractor's Form 316 and supporting documentation for payment purposes. All documentation should be included in the project records.

#### **SiteManager Payment**

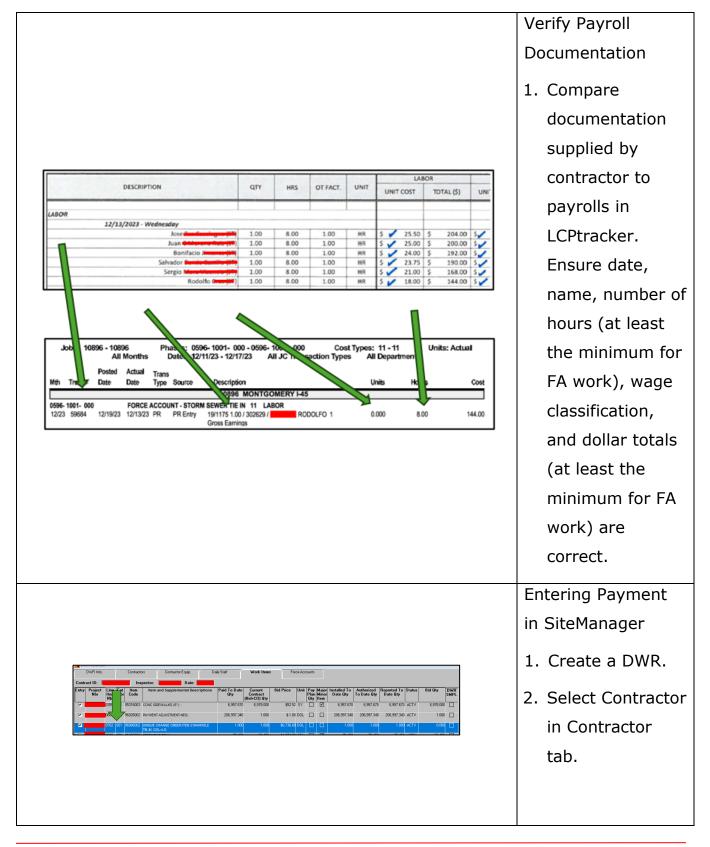
Create a DWR to pay the FA line number in SiteManager for verified costs. If FA work is not complete during an estimate cycle, speak with the Area Engineer to determine when payment is to be made.

#### Filing Force Account Documentation

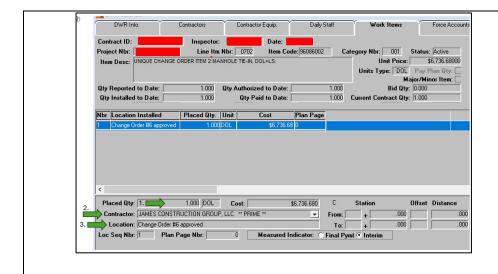
Once the Change Order package is complete, file it in ProjectWise using the current file structure.



#### **Force Account**



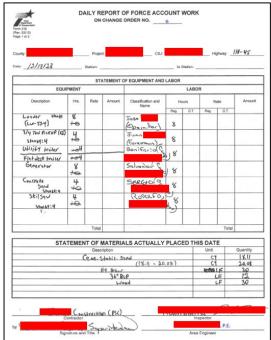


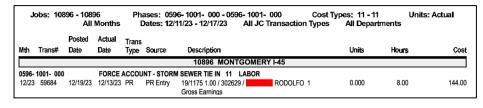


- 3. Select Force Account Item (Unique Change Order Item, in this example).
- 4. Enter payment quantity.
- 5. Pick Contractor from dropdown.
- 6. Enter location.
- 7. Save







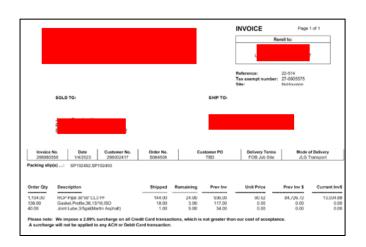


Putting Together a Complete FA CO (Change Order) **Package** 

The complete CO Package should include the following.

- 1. Signed **Form** 316\* with all supporting paperwork
  - a. Equipment Watch
  - b. Payrolls
  - c. Materials invoices
- 2. Signed CO (Change Order)
- 3. New/revised plan sheets (if applicable)
- 4. Applicable correspondence related to the FA and CO





SiteManager CHANGE ORDER NBR. REPORT DATE: 2/1/2024 10:48:54AM CONTRACT ID: HIGHWAY: DISTRICT: Forse Account
Final Quantity
Change Project Limits
Delate/Add CSJ PROJECT: CONTRACT: AWARD AMOUNT: PROJECTED AMOUNT: ONTRACTOR: JAMES CONSTRUCTION GROUP, LLC O AMOUNT: \$6.736.68 NON-PARTICIPATING RD PARTY AMOUNT: OVERRIDE PPRV LEVEL: SESCRIBE THE REASON FOR THE CHANGE ORDER AND WHAT IS BEING CHANGED. WHEN NECESSARY, INCLUDE EXCEPTIONS TO THIS AGREEMENT: This change order provides compensation to James Construction Group, L.L.C. (Contractor) to connect a 36-inch reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) to a manhole. The project plan set preparec by BGE Inc., for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), provides for the construction of a new location frontage road consisting of grading, base, concrete pawement, signing, drainage structures, illumination and CTMS. The project provides for the installation of 36-inch RCP at IH 45 Frontage Road, STA, 64-65 LT as a cross culvert that connects to a manhole. The manhole is constructed by a third-party that works for a private developer. The preject plan set provides direction that the FCP connection to the manhole will be completed by others (a third-party construction crew hired by the private developer). However, installation of the RCP and the construction of the manhole occurred during different time frames and the work to conrect the two structures was not completed by the third-party construction crew. As described in the attached emeil communications, the Montgomery Area Office (MAC) and the developer responsible for the construction of the manhole agreed that the RCPimarhole tea-mountle to covered by TADOT. The MAO communicated this decision to the Contractor for the subject project. Both parties agreed that compensation for the RCP/manhole tie-in would be documented and compensated as 2014 Standard Specifications - Item 9.7 Force Account Method. Attached is a cost breakcown provided by the Contractor hat is derived from information recorded daily on TXOOT - Form 316. The cost breakdown has been thoroughly revieweed and accepted by the MAO. The batal cost is calculated to a lump um compensation due to multiple Items of work being involved. Therefore, this change order adds the following item to the contract. This change order does not require revisions to the original environme stal clearances or approval by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. There are no platest revisions associated to this change order. This change order will not cause the total monetary amount of change orders to exceed 10% of the original contract amount. This change order will not Datrict Engineer approval. Revisions covered by this change order and or expuire Houston Datrict Engineer approval. Revisions covered by this change order are estimated to result in an overrun of the funds authorized for this project in the amount of \$6,736.68.

DISTRICT ENGINEER:

DIRECTOR, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION:

31/01/2024

31/01/2024

31/01/2024

DATE

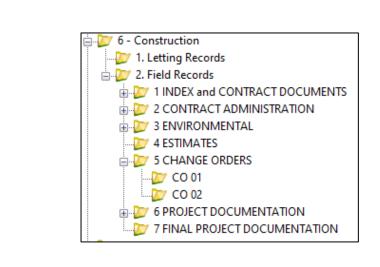
THE CONTRACTOR

TYPED/PRINTED NAME:

TYPED/PRINTED TITLE: President

\* If the FA total is below \$10,000 for 2014 Spec and \$30,000 for 2024 Spec, all that is required is the invoice provided by the contractor.





# File FA Documentation

Once all paperwork for the CO including the FA has been completed file the complete CO package in ProjectWise