

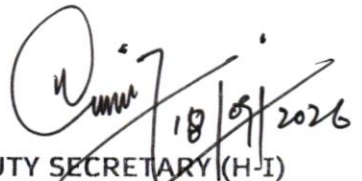
To

The Secretary
C&W Department/ Implementing Agency.

Subject: **MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL COMMITTEE (GRC) FOR REDRESSAL OF GRIEVANCE OF BIDDER AGAINST TECHNICAL BID EVALUATION FOR THE PROJECT TITLED "MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS FOR PROVINCIAL ROADS (5 GROUPS / 9 ROADS) UNDER PPP MODE - GROUP 7: RAIWIND - CHANGA MANGA AND GAJJUMATA-KASUR ROAD"**

I have been directed to refer to the subject and to enclose herewith a copy of minutes of meeting of GRC held on 16/09/2026 for information and required action.

DA: As Above


DEPUTY SECRETARY (H-I)
Secretary of GRC

CC:

1. Chief Engineer, Punjab Highways Department, North Zone, Lahore (**Member of GRC**).
2. Chief Engineer, Punjab Highways Department, South Zone, Lahore (**Member of GRC**).
3. Chief Engineer, Punjab Highways Department, Central Zone, Lahore (**Member of GRC**).
4. Deputy Secretary (PC), C&W Department, Lahore.

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL COMMITTEE ("GRC")
FOR REDRESSAL OF GRIEVANCE OF BIDDER AGAINST TECHNICAL BID
EVALUATION FOR THE PROJECT TITLED "MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS FOR
PROVINCIAL ROADS (5 GROUPS / 9 ROADS) UNDER PPP MODE – GROUP 7:
RAIWIND-CHANGA MANGA & GUJJUMATTA-KASUR ROAD"**

The meeting of the Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) was held on 16 September 2026, under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Technical-I), C&W Department, in the Committee Room of C&W Department, to consider the grievance/representation submitted by the aggrieved bidder, M/s M. Ismail Constco (SMC-Pvt) Ltd (the "**Petitioner**"), against the decision of the Bid Opening and Evaluation Committee (BOEC) declaring the Petitioner's Technical Proposal as "**Not Qualified**" for the project titled "Management Contracts for Provincial Roads (5 Groups/9 Roads) under PPP Mode", in respect of Group 7 – Raiwind–Changa Manga & Gujjumatta–Kasur Road. The attendance sheet of the meeting is attached as **Annex-A**.

2. Communication & Works Department, Government of the Punjab, being the Implementing Agency, invited bids for Management Contracts for Provincial Roads (5 Groups/9 Roads) under the Punjab Public Private Partnership Act, 2025 ("**PPPP Act**") and the Punjab Public Private Partnership Rules, 2025 ("**PPPP Rules**"), vide its Request for Proposal dated 16 May 2026 (the "**RFP**"). As per the RFP, the bids were invited under "single stage, three envelope" process. Punjab Financial Advisory Services ("**PFAS**") was engaged as the Transaction Advisor for the Project.

3. The GRC was apprised of the background of the Petitioner's participation in Group 7, as follows;

- a) The Petitioner was initially recorded as "Not Prequalified" for Group 7 in the Minutes of the BOEC meeting held on 06 July 2026.
- b) On the Petitioner's earlier grievance, the GRC, by its recommendations conveyed on 30 July 2026, recommended that the Implementing Agency seek the requisite clarifications and/or documents from the Petitioner.
- c) Pursuant thereto, the Implementing Agency, vide letter dated 03 August 2026, required PFAS to re-evaluate the Petitioner's Prequalification Proposal. Consequently, PFAS issued its Pre-Qualification Re-Evaluation Report and, on the basis of its findings, the BOEC, in its meeting held on 27 August 2026, declared the Petitioner "**Prequalified**".
- d) Thereafter, the Petitioner's Technical Proposal (Envelope-II) was opened on 28-08-2026 and referred to PFAS for evaluation against the Technical Evaluation Criteria of the RFP under Section 6.4. In the technical evaluation, the Petitioner obtained an aggregate of 43.5 marks, which is below the minimum qualifying threshold of seventy (70) marks out of one hundred (100). As such, the

Petitioner was declared "**Not Qualified**" vide the Implementing Agency's letter No. SOPC (C&W)5-17/2026 (PPP) (General) (Vol-III) dated 04 September 2026 (the "**Impugned Minutes**").

4. The GRC noted the relevant evaluation criteria under Section 6.4 of the RFP relating to Work Experience (Criterion 2), on which the Petitioner scored zero marks, as under:

Sr. No	Evaluation Factor	Basis of Scoring	Max. Marks
1	General Operation & Maintenance Experience (Part A)	Bidder must be in the business of O&M, as contractor/management contractor, for at least 10 years prior to the bid deadline, with activity in at least 6 months in each year. Five (05) years' experience carries 10 marks, with 2 marks for each further year up to a maximum of 10 additional marks. Experience of less than five (05) years attracts no marks.	20
2	Specific Operation & Maintenance Experience (Part B)	Similar work (one similar project in O&M of other road projects, completed / under progress in the past 10 years) evidencing cost and complexity. Base score of 15 marks for one similar project of value Rs.500 Million, with 1 additional mark for each increment of Rs.100 Million, up to a maximum of 5 additional marks.	20

5. Mapped against the aforesaid RFP requirements, the Petitioner's cited experience and the marks scored are summarized below:

Criterion	RFP Requirement	Petitioner's Cited Experience	Marks Scored
Part A – General O&M Experience (20 Marks)	Minimum five (05) years' O&M experience as contractor/management contractor	Three (03) toll-collection O&M contracts cited in Form 3E, cumulatively spanning approx. two (02) years (July 2023 – June 2025)	00 / 20
Part B – Specific O&M Experience (20 Marks)	One similar O&M project of value at least Rs.500 Million (base 15 marks)	Largest similar project cited: Collection of Toll Tax, Lahore–Kasur Road, District Kasur (Mustafabad) – PKR 131.835 Million	00 / 20

6. The Petitioner submitted its grievance vide letter No. MICC/2026/555 dated 07 September 2026 (**Annex-B**), which was forwarded to the GRC by the Section Officer (PC), C&W Department, vide letter No. SOPC (C&W)5-17/2026 (PPP) (General)

(Vol.III) dated 09 September 2026, with a request to PFAS to furnish its comments on the grievance. PFAS submitted its detailed comments vide letter dated 11 September 2026 (**Annex-C**). The GRC examined the grievance, the BOEC minutes, the RFP, the Petitioner's Technical Proposal, PFAS's comments, and the applicable provisions of the PPP Rules.

7. The Petitioner, through its grievance, raised the following six (06) grounds: (i) zero marks under General O&M Experience (Part A of Criterion 2); (ii) zero marks under Specific O&M Experience (Part B of Criterion 2); (iii) conduct of the bid opening, including separate rooms and non-admission of bidder representatives; (iv) mode of bidding, including non-implementation of electronic bidding and the PPRA Rules; (v) reserve price, traffic study, cost comparison and assessment of the Risk Management Unit; and (vi) project monitoring, contract administration and right to information regarding certified copies of public records.

8. The GRC's findings and decision on each of the grounds raised, after considering PFAS's comments thereon, are recorded in the table below:

Ground Raised by the Petitioner	Finding / Decision of the GRC
Ground I (Part A) – zero marks under General O&M Experience (Section 6.4, Criterion 2, Part A – 20 Marks)	The three (03) toll-collection contracts cited by the Petitioner in Form 3E, being the only O&M-type experience evidenced in the Technical Proposal, cumulatively span approximately two (02) years, against the mandatory minimum of five (05) years prescribed under Section 6.4, Part A of the RFP. The shortfall is one of duration and not of the characterization of the experience. Reliance placed on an unevicenced tolling history dating back to 2003/2005, not cited or supported by any completion certificate or executed contract in Form 3E, cannot be entertained at this stage, being barred under Rule 69(1) and Rule 83(6) of the PPP Rules, 2025 and Section 4.9 of the RFP, which prohibit alteration, modification or supplementation of a Bid after the Bid Submission Date. The zero marks awarded are, accordingly, upheld.
Ground I (Part B) – zero marks under Specific O&M Experience (Section 6.4, Criterion 2, Part B – 20 Marks)	The largest similar O&M project cited by the Petitioner, valued at PKR 131.835 Million, falls well short of the Rs.500 Million threshold prescribed under Section 6.4, Part B of the RFP for the base score of 15 marks. The shortfall is one of contract value and not of contract type. No single O&M project of the requisite value has been identified by the Petitioner, either in the Technical Proposal or in the Petition. The zero marks awarded are, accordingly, upheld.
Ground II – Conduct of the bid opening (separate rooms; non-admission)	Since the Petitioner's Technical Proposal was correctly declared "Not Qualified", its Financial Proposal was rightly retained unopened. This ground does not disclose any error in the marks awarded under Section 6.4 of the RFP and does not concern

Ground Raised by the Petitioner	Finding / Decision of the GRC
	the technical evaluation. No further action is warranted.
Ground III – Mode of bidding (electronic bidding / PPRA Rules)	By virtue of Section 47 of the PPPP Act, 2025, the PPPP Act and Rules prevail over any other law, including the Punjab Procurement Regulatory Authority Act, 2009 and the Punjab Procurement Rules, 2014, to the extent of Public Private Partnership projects. This ground, in any event, does not relate to the technical evaluation of the Petitioner's Technical Proposal. No further action is warranted.
Ground IV – Reserve price, traffic study, cost comparison and Risk Management Unit assessment	These grounds pertain to the structuring and financial evaluation of the Project generally, and not to the assessment of the Petitioner's Technical Proposal against Section 6.4 of the RFP. All relevant information was made available to prospective bidders through the bidding documents. No illegality on the part of the Implementing Agency or the BOEC has been shown. No further action is warranted.
Ground V – Project monitoring and contract administration (Independent Engineer, Independent Auditor, scope change, relief orders)	These are matters of contract administration arising under the PPP Contract as between the Implementing Agency and the successful Bidder, to be dealt with in accordance with that contract following its execution. They neither form part of the prequalification or technical evaluation criteria, nor bear upon the Petitioner's technical score. No further action is warranted by the GRC.
Ground VI – Right to Information (certified copies of public records)	Under Rule 88(2) of the PPPP Rules, 2025, the Implementing Agency has duly uploaded the prequalification, technical and financial evaluation reports on its website. A request for certified copies of public records under the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013 does not constitute a grievance against evaluation and falls outside the scope of Rule 112 of the PPPP Rules. The Implementing Agency may deal with such request separately, on its own merits, in accordance with applicable law.

9. The GRC noted that Rule 69(1) of the PPPP Rules, 2025 prohibits any alteration or modification of a Bid after the closing of the submission time, Rule 69(2) permits only such clarifications as do not change the substance of a Bid, and Rule 83(6) provides that no amendment or alteration shall be allowed during the evaluation of technical proposals. The Petitioner's reliance on experience and history not cited or evidenced in its Technical Proposal as submitted, cannot, therefore, be considered at the grievance stage.

10. The GRC observed that, unlike grievances arising from ambiguity or inconsistency in the RFP affecting bidders generally, the shortfall in the Petitioner's case is confined to its own submitted experience not meeting the minimum duration and value thresholds prescribed under Section 6.4 of the RFP. No infirmity, ambiguity

or error has been found in the RFP criteria or in the manner of their application by PFAS/BOEC. The GRC is, therefore, of the view that the decision of the BOEC declaring the Petitioner's Technical Proposal "Not Qualified" does not warrant interference.

11. In view of the foregoing, the GRC resolved as follows:

- a) The grievance of the Petitioner against the technical evaluation of its Technical Proposal for Group 7 (Raiwind–Changa Manga & Gujjumatta–Kasur Road) is rejected, and the decision of the BOEC declaring the Petitioner's Technical Proposal as "Not Qualified" is upheld.
- b) The grounds raised at Sr. No. (iii) to (vi) above, not relating to the technical evaluation criteria under Section 6.4 of the RFP, are disposed of in the manner recorded against each in the table at para 8 above. The Implementing Agency may deal with the Petitioner's request for certified copies of public records separately, on its own merits, in accordance with the Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act, 2013.
- c) The Implementing Agency may proceed further with the bid process for Group 7 in accordance with the RFP and the PPP Rules, 2025.

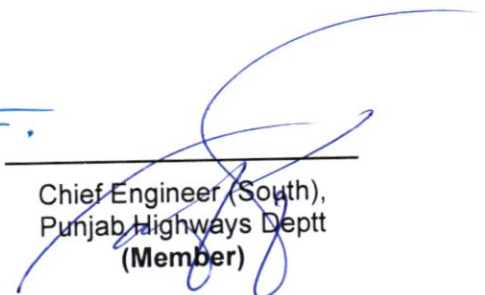
12. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the Chair.



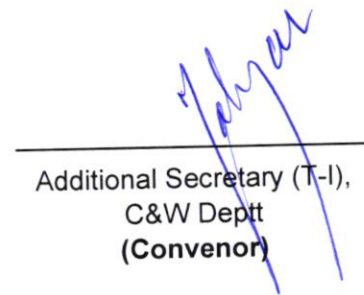
Chief Engineer (North),
Punjab Highways Deptt
(Member)



Chief Engineer (Centre),
Punjab Highways Deptt
(Member)



Chief Engineer (South),
Punjab Highways Deptt
(Member)



Additional Secretary (T-I),
C&W Deptt
(Convenor)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

GRC for PPP MEETING HELD ON 16/09/2026 AT 1130 HOURS

SR. NO.	NAME OF OFFICER	DESIGNATION
1.	Jahangeer Siddique	Additional Secretary (Technical-I) (Convener)
2.	Muhammad Nawaz	Chief Engineer Highways (Central) (Member)
3.	Mansoor Arshad	Chief Engineer Highways (North) (Member)
4.	Naveed Ghumman	Chief Engineer Highways (South) (Member)
5.	Umair Ahmad	Deputy Secretary (Highways-I) (Secretary/Member)
6.	Syeda Zarwa Javed	Section Officer (H-IV)

SR. NO.	NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
7.	MUSTAFA JAFRI M. ISMAIL CONSTCO-SMC	MANAGER/ ATTORNEY'S REPRESENT ATIVE	
8.	Mansoor Arshad	CEHC(N)	
9.	Naveed Ghumman	CEHS	
10.	M. NAWAZ	CEHC	
11.			
12.			
13.			