

Minutes  
February 3, 2010  
E & O Meeting

Those attending: Angelo, Eason, Herrick, Hietpas, Penley, and Priddy

Some discussion of the bids received for the WCID #17 16-inch Interconnect Project was held. Different bid items varied considerably in price between bidders, as well as bid totals. The bid item's costs probably varied most because different contractors break out their purchase and construction costs differently, even though the categories were specified by the District. The total bid numbers reflect overhead cost differences, work in-house, and either need or desire for this particular project. The high bidder was almost 22% over the low bidder. Boretex, LLC was low bidder at \$536,764 and has done satisfactory work for both the District and WCID #17 in the past, with the 2 MG tank project just completed for the District.

The Committee recommends the Board award the project to Boretex and require the same job superintendant be used as on the project just completed.

The approximate costs split between the districts is WCID#17, \$222,055 and the District \$314,619. The split between the District and WCID #17 proposed by Balcones Engineering for the project does not include about \$89,000 of WCID #17 share of the engineering and preliminary work. The District will pay more, but this is fair as some of the work is to benefit District operations only. The cost of the District's share is well within the capital budget for the project. This job, together with the large water storage tank on-line, will improve operations, improve reliability of our water system, and turn possible emergencies into inconveniences.

W-3 Operations Building: Hill Country Ecobuilders (Nick Ryza) was selected as the lowest bid contractor for this project. Their bid of \$421,000 did not include the cost for bonding of \$27,365 which was added into their bid via a change order to bring the total to \$443,365. The bonding costs for construction of the W-3 operations building when added to the bid of the lowest bidder results in a cost still less than the next lowest bidder. A very detailed construction schedule with 123 tasks, duration of each and suppliers/subcontractors responsible for each spelled out. Completion is scheduled now in August, 2010 after delays to resolve bonding issues. The Committee recommends the contract be awarded to the low bidder.

Design and layout drawings are done for the new Maintenance Building at S-4 Wastewater Treatment Facility. The proposal is for a new slab with a pre-engineered metal building for expensive mobile equipment and parts storage; the cost is expected to be less than anticipated when the Capital Improvements Plan was made several years ago. The original scope envisioned modifications to the existing shop, but that is no longer in the scope. Roll up doors will not be installed initially in the new shelter; however, the design will be such they can be installed at a later date.

Design for the Odor Control facilities at the L-1 lift station near the Lakeway resort and Spa, and at the Nautilus/Tallstar area, are about 50% complete. The scope has grown from one to two odor locations, and will likely be more than the original budget. Each installation will solve a long-standing nuisance and customer relations situation. Health and safety have not been real risks, but public perception is reality.

Approved funds in the amount of \$5,792,905.59 are available at this time to fund the first nine construction projects. The projection is that if these were completed, we would be under budget. For all projects funded, the amount of undesignated funds available at this time are \$190,658.91. The Sludge Collector project is still in preliminary design considerations and S-5 Fine Bubble project now appears to not have the payback as originally hoped for, and unless something changes, may not move forward. Richard mentioned reevaluating the capital improvement spending schedule and budget in light of today's information.