

STAFF REPORT

Operations Committee, July 7, 2011

Construction Management, Administration and Engineering Services for the Western Wake Regional Wastewater Management Facilities (EN12-005)

Consideration of Consultant Selection for Western Wake Regional Wastewater Management Facilities Construction Management Services

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Executive Summary

Staff received proposals on May 19, 2011 for Construction Management, Administration and Engineering Services for the Western Wake Regional Wastewater Management Facilities (WWRWMF). Proposals were received from seven firms: ARCADIS, Black & Veatch, Brown and Caldwell, Gilbane/CDM, Hazen & Sawyer, Jacobs, and URS. After extensive consideration and discussion, the selection committee recommends selecting Hazen & Sawyer for this project.

Discussion

Staff received proposals on May 19, 2011 for Construction Management, Administration and Engineering Services for the Western Wake Regional Wastewater Management Facilities (WWRWMF). The services requested include providing a constructability review and master scheduling for all WWRWMF construction projects, providing construction administration and full-time inspection services for the Western Wake Regional Water Reclamation Facility (WWRWRF), conducting monthly coordination meetings for all WWRWMF projects, and creating a startup and commissioning plan for the new WWRWMF.

The Town of Cary has exempted this project from the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 143-64.31 as it is in the best interests of its citizens to procure these services through a process of open competition. Therefore, cost proposals were considered in making the final selection.

The RFP indicated that the key factors used to evaluate the proposals would be:

- Firm experience/reputation/workload;
- Experience of personnel assigned to the project team;
- Response to objectives outlined in the RFP;
- Schedule;
- Price proposal; and
- In-person interview.

Proposals were received from seven firms: ARCADIS Malcom Pirnie, Black & Veatch, Brown and Caldwell, Gilbane/CDM, Hazen & Sawyer, Jacobs, and URS. A nine-member selection committee of staff from the Towns of Apex and Cary was assembled to review all the proposals and conduct interviews with select firms.

Members of the committee have previous experience with most of the firms and personnel proposed to be responsible for the work. The committee placed a high value on the firm's and personnel's past experience on similar wastewater projects as well as the understanding for and vision of the WWRWMF projects as stated in the proposal. The committee also placed a high value on the firm's approach to dealing with multiple contractors on complicated projects, as demonstrated in their proposals and during the interviews. The overall value stated in the cost proposal for the scope of services provided was also considered.

The selection committee reached consensus in its deliberations that the Brown and Caldwell and Hazen & Sawyer proposals demonstrated a more complete understanding of the aspects of the project most important to the committee, and these two firms were invited to a follow up interview. The interview was formatted to evaluate and compare how the proposed project teams worked together to complete a specific task and to observe the role of the Construction Manager in that effort. The committee used observations from these interviews along with the overall proposal and committee members' past experience with each of the firms to make a final evaluation. Cost was also considered in the evaluation.

The Town of Cary has had very good past experiences with both Hazen & Sawyer and Brown and Caldwell. While both firms demonstrated an excellent understanding of the WWRWMF project and proposed a very similar level of service with an almost identical number of hours, Hazen & Sawyer's proposed cost (\$5,339,210) was significantly less than Brown and Caldwell's (\$6,738,300), even after accounting for slight differences in the proposed approach to the project (approximately \$300,000, leaving an approximately \$1,000,000 price difference). After extensive consideration and discussion, the selection committee reached a consensus to recommend awarding the contract to Hazen & Sawyer.

Timely selection of the consultant is needed to provide services for the Western Wake Regional Water Reclamation Facility Contract 1, which is anticipated to begin construction in September 2011. Separate approval from the Towns of Apex and Morrisville is not needed per the Western Wake Partners Interlocal Agreement, but the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) is scheduled to consider the consultant selection on July 13, 2011. Before award of contracts, the PAC advises the Lead Agency on selection of outside consultants and contractors.

Fiscal Impact

A total of \$152,983,000 has been appropriated to date to the Western Wake Regional Water Reclamation Facility, Project SW1123 by the Western Wake Partners (Town of Cary share of appropriations to date is \$99,501,509). A total of \$8,005,578 has been encumbered/expended to date; the remaining balance of \$144,977,422 is adequate to cover the proposed price of \$5,339,210 and any value-added services which may be added during construction or startup of the WWRWMF. It is anticipated that the remaining balance will also cover the three construction contracts which are part of the ongoing Western Wake Regional Wastewater Management Facilities construction under SW1123.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that Council approve the selection committee's recommendation to negotiate an engineering services contract with Hazen & Sawyer for Construction Management, Administration and Engineering Services for the Western Wake Regional Wastewater Management Facilities, with an option for staff to authorize additional value-added services during construction and startup at a later date as a contract amendment. This award represents a preliminary determination as to the qualifications of this consulting firm and no legally binding acceptance of this award occurs until the Town of Cary has executed a written agreement.