

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
PURCHASING DIVISION**

DATE: March 2, 2022

TO: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
Kristin Daniels, Budget Director

FROM: Jennifer Hyde, Purchasing Manager

SUBJECT: Award of Bid 2022019 for Hallstrom Farmstead Parking Lot, Trail and Restroom Construction

BACKGROUND:

On behalf of the Parks and Conservation Resources Division, an Invitation to Bid was issued for the construction of a parking lot, restroom, walking paths, and two picnic pavilions at the Hallstrom Farmstead Conservation Area (“Hallstrom CA”). The Farmstead is located on Old Dixie Highway, south of Oslo Road. St. John’s River Water Management District has issued a permit for the construction of the boardwalk. The work represents a portion of anticipated improvements to public access and amenities at the Hallstrom CA.

BID RESULTS:

Advertising Date: October 30, 2021
 Bid Opening Date: February 9, 2022
 Solicitation Broadcast to: 695 Subscribers
 Bid Documents Requested by: 34 Firms
 Pre-Bid Attendance: 2 Firms
 Replies: 1 Firm

Proposing Firm	Location	Total Bid
Jobear Contracting, Inc.	Palm Bay	\$912,614.90

ANALYSIS:

The Certification Regarding Lobbying Form included in the invitation to bid, necessary for solicitations eligible for federal funding, stated it must be submitted with each bid or offer exceeding \$100,000. This form was not included in the bid submitted by Jobear, however, since there was only a single bidder, staff noted on the public record that the form was not submitted, and proceeded to announce the total bid price. Jobear Contracting provided the completed form that afternoon.

Staff confirmed with the grant funding agency that acceptance of the form after the bid opening is acceptable, as long as the County’s purchasing procedures are followed. Therefore, staff recommends the Board waive the technicality in the delayed submission of the Certification Regarding Lobbying Form, as it does no harm to any other prospective bidder, and does not provide Jobear with an undue advantage.

FUNDING:

Indian River County has been awarded a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant (12-00695) to construct public access improvements at the Hallstrom CA in the amount of \$148,500 from the FDEP with the County providing an equal cash match. Funding for the site improvements was approved in the 2021 Capital Improvements Element in the Optional Sales Tax/Parks/Hallstrom Farmstead Conservation Area, Account Number 31521072-066510-19027 in the amount of \$696,656.00.

The Engineer and Architects of Record provided the County with Opinions of Probable Cost (OPC) totaling \$550,308.74 in the fall of 2021. These costs do not include other project associated costs such as direct purchase and construction of the pavilions, public amenities, tortoise permitting and on-site relocation, the boardwalk (awarded under separate bid), or the additional sidewalk which will be required as part of the County’s site plan approval. Utilizing the OPCs estimates, the bid amount from the sole bidder’s response has exceeded the OPC by \$287,306.16 with an additional force account of \$75,000.00 leaving a total funding deficit of \$362,306.16. The additional monies needed can be funded with a budget amendment from Optional Sales Tax/Cash Forward-Oct 1st.

Account Name	Account Number	Amount
Optional Sales Tax/Parks/Hallstrom Farmstead Conservation Area	31521072-066510-19027	\$550,309.00
Future Cash Balance Budget Amendment		\$362,307.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board waive the technicality in the late submittal of the Certification Regarding Lobbying Form, and award the bid to Jobear Contracting, Inc. Staff also recommends the Board approve the sample agreement, and authorize the Chairman to execute it after the County Attorney has approved it and the Public Construction Bond as to form and legal sufficiency, and after receipt and approval of the required insurance by the Risk Manager. Finally, staff recommends the board authorize the Budget Office to make up any difference in funding needed for the project through a future cash forward budget amendment.

ATTACHMENT

Sample Agreement