

**Indian River County, Florida
Solid Waste Disposal District
Board Memorandum**

Date: January 21, 2022

To: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

From: Matthew Jordan, Interim Director of Utility Services

Prepared By: Himanshu H. Mehta, PE, Managing Director, Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD)

Subject: Rejection of Bids for the Landfill Household Hazardous Waste and Recycling Transfer Facility (Bid No. 2022011)

Descriptions and Conditions:

The Indian River County (IRC) Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) requested the solicitation of bids for the Landfill Household Hazardous Waste and Recycling Transfer Facility. SWDD utilized Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (KHA) to provide the design, permitting, and bidding assistance for this project in accordance with the approved Work Order (WO) No. 32 dated April 7, 2020, Amendment No. 1 to WO No. 32 dated July 7, 2020, and Amendment No. 2 to WO No. 32 dated October 20, 2020. The total authorized to KHA, to date, is \$273,810. The conceptual budget for this project was \$3.8 million.

Bid Results:

Advertising Date: October 6, 2021
 Bid Opening Date: December 17, 2021
 Demandstar Broadcast to: 573 Subscribers
 Specifications/Plans Downloaded by: 34 Plan Holders
 Replies: 2 Vendors

Bidder	Location	Total Bid
W&J Construction Corporation	Rockledge, Florida	\$5,290,790.00
Ahrens Enterprises, Inc.	Lake Park, Florida	\$6,008,101.00

Analysis:

SWDD is required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) rules to provide safe collection and disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW). The current HHW facility is over twenty years old, undersized, and creating traffic flow issues. The Recycling Transfer Facility (RTF) was built seven years ago, and the recycling materials are exceeding storage capacity. A temporary RTF was built in 2021 to accommodate the new construction.

ENGINEER’S ESTIMATES:

In July 2020, a conceptual level costs for these improvements was presented to the SWDD Board in the \$2.5 to \$3.2 million-dollar range. Per a revised conceptual layout, KHA updated the conceptual level budget for the project from \$3.2 million to \$3.5 million-dollar range; however, staff obtained SWDD Board approval on October 20, 2020 to increase the overall conceptual budget to \$3.8 million dollars.

PERMITTING STATUS:

The site plan is conditionally released, and KHA has also obtained preliminary review from the County’s Building Department. SWDD staff has also been coordinating with Florida Power and Light (FPL) for some aboveground to underground electrical changes needed for the project.

ENGINEER’S BID EVALUATION:

On December 17 2021, the Indian River County Purchasing Division provided a summary of the bid tabulation confirming that each of the bidders was responsive in submitting all of the required information in the bid documents.

On January 20, 2022, KHA provided the evaluation of bids for this project, as summarized below and included in Attachment 2.

Bidder	Base Bid (w/ contingency)	Base Bid (w/ contingency & alternates)
W&J Construction Corporation	\$5,263,790	\$5,290,790
Ahrens Enterprises, Inc.	\$5,948,101	\$6,008,101

The low bidder’s base bid (with contingency, excluding alternates) was approximately 12 percent over the Engineer’s Opinion of Probable Costs (OPC). KHA further stated that given the disparity in numerous line items between the two bidders, the non-response by the low bidder on key line items, and the SWDD’s overall budget vs. low bid total, that they recommend SWDD consider rejecting both bids at this time.

Staff concurs with KHA’s recommendation to reject both bids. Staff proposes, upon SWDD Board approval to reject the bids, to return at a future meeting with a request to re-design the facility so that the HHW along with the site improvements are built first with a bid alternate option to build the RTF concurrently or in the future.

Funding:

No funding is requested for this agenda item.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that its Board reject the two bids for Bid No. 2022011 as both bids were over the total budget for this project, the low bidder was determined to be non-responsive, and there were numerous disparities between the low and high bidder.

Attachments:

1. KHA Evaluation of Bids