



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF UTILITY SERVICES

Date: November 22, 2017
To: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
From: Vincent Burke, P.E., Director of Utility Services
Prepared By: Cindy Corrente, Utilities Finance Manager
Subject: Request for Additional Hours for Task 4 for Automated Meter Reading (AMR)/Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS:

On August 19, 2014, the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved the award of RFP #2014-043 to Langham Consultants for Automated Meter Reading (AMR) and Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) consulting services. On June 14, 2016, the BCC authorized staff to proceed with Tasks 4 and 5 of the project. Task 4 consisted of developing an RFP for AMI system acquisition and assisting with the evaluation and scoring of proposals. This task consisted of four hundred and eighteen (418) hours for a cost of \$81,510. Task 5 will consist of contract negotiations. One hundred and sixty-four (164) hours are budgeted at a cost of \$31,980 for task 5.

On October 24, 2017, the BCC rejected all proposals received in response to RFP 2017-041 and authorized staff to revise the scope of work and selection criteria in order to reissue a new solicitation that will afford solutions more in line with the needs of the Indian River County Department of Utility Services (IRCDUS). Staff is currently working on the revision. The intention was to complete this process in-house and thus avoid incurring any additional consulting costs affiliated with development of the RFP.

ANALYSIS:

Staff worked with Langham Consultants to develop the initial RFP for services. As the process evolved, staff began to get a better understanding of AMI systems and the powerful data that is obtained through use of such a system. As staff realized that moving to a countywide AMI solution would greatly impact the volume of meter data points that would be gathered monthly, they realized that there was a missing component in the RFP.

Under the current business practice, each meter is read once a month. This means that we obtain one data point for each account per month. This data is stored in the utility billing software and used strictly for billing purposes. With an AMI system comes the ability to gather unlimited data points each month. Some of the benefits of an AMI system include the ability to gather and track usage data throughout the system in order to monitor per capita usage, track water loss, and encourage conservation. A typical system may be programmed to gather reads on an hourly basis. If IRCDUS were to choose such a typical system, we would increase from gathering approximately 50,000 data points a month to 36,000,000 data points a month. With all of the additional data comes a need to have a system that can manage as well as store and analyze the data. Therefore, it became apparent that moving forward with an AMI system should also include a Meter Data Management (MDM) system as well. Thus, the consultant was

advised to include this component within the RFP. At the time that it was recommended to include the MDM component in the RFP, staff did not anticipate that inclusion of this component would cause the need for additional hours. However, in the end, an additional ninety (90) hours consulting time was required to incorporate the MDM component into the RFP. Normally, staff would reconcile hours and fees at the time of final payment to the consultant. However, since there will be a significant time delay before proceeding with Task 5, staff is requesting approval to reimburse the consultant now for the additional ninety (90) hours incurred as a result of inclusion of the MDM component in the RFP. It is unknown at this time whether the entire one hundred and sixty-four (164) hours will be needed for tasks.

FUNDING:

Funding for the additional hours is available in the meter replacement account in the operating fund. Operating funds are generated from water and sewer sales.

Description	Account Number	Amount
Countywide Meter Replacement Program	471-169000-16506	\$17,550

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners authorize the payment of ninety additional hours for work on Task 4, which covered the work affiliated with the inclusion of the Meter Data Management Systems component in RFP 2017-041 for a total cost of \$17,550.