

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

DATE: July 28, 2023

TO: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
Kristin Daniels, Director, Office of Management and Budget

FROM: Jennifer Hyde, Purchasing Manager

SUBJECT: Rejection of Bid 2023030 for Upper Floridian Aquifer South Well No. 1 Replacement

BACKGROUND:

On behalf of the Department of Utility Services, sealed bids were solicited for the replacement of the Upper Floridian Aquifer production well, S-1R, to be located at the South County (Oslo) Water Treatment Plant. Base bids were solicited for the construction of the well to a depth of approximately 835 feet below surface, and an additive alternate option to complete exploratory borehole drilling and testing to 1,500 feet below surface.

BID RESULTS:

Advertising Date: May 15, 2023
Bid Opening Date: June 23, 2023
DemandStar Broadcast to: 115 Subscribers
Bid Documents Requested by: 15 Firms
Replies: 2 Firms

Bidder	Location	Base Bid	Alternate
Layne Christensen Company	Fort Myers	\$1,798,719.67	\$524,947.56
All Webbs Enterprises, Inc.	Jupiter	\$2,007,000.00	\$566,750.00

DISCUSSION:

The Department's design consultant, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. ("KHA"), reviewed the bids, which were approximately 50% higher than the opinion of probable cost, which included a 25% contingency. KHA suggests the higher costs may be caused by the compressed timeline in the contract to avoid conflict with Scrub Jay mating season (March through June), and overall saturation of ongoing construction work leading to limited availability. KHA has recommended, and the Department concurs, the bids be rejected and re-advertised in the fall. This will facilitate an award after the beginning of the year, and afford the contractor sufficient time to prepare for

commencement of work on July 1, 2024. This is anticipated to result in more response, and potentially lower bid prices.

If the bids are rejected, Section 119.071(1)(b)3, Florida Statute, enables staff and its consultant to hold the unit prices submitted by both bidders exempt from public record. This ensures the two responsive bidders are not negatively impacted by the rejection, and does not give advantage to any current or prospective bidder.

FUNDING:

The cost to re-advertise the project in the newspaper is approximately \$214, and will come from the Utilities/Work in Progress/South WTP Well S1 account, number 471-169000-22503.

Account Description	GL	Amount
Utilities/ Work in Progress/ South WTP Well S1	471-169000-22503	\$214

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board reject the responses to Bid 2023030, and authorize staff to re-advertise the work, as described.