


**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA  
MEMORANDUM**

**CONSENT**

**TO:** Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

**THROUGH:** Richard B. Szpyrka P.E., Public Works Director

**FROM:** Keith McCully, P.E., Stormwater Engineer 

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation of Award of Construction Contract for Osprey Acres Floway and Nature Preserve (Bid #2017051)

**DATE:** July 10, 2017

**DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS**

On April 5, 2016, the Board of County Commissioners directed Public Works Stormwater Division to begin grant applications and project design tasks for Osprey Acres Floway and Nature Preserve, located on approximately 83.14 acres of County property. Design and permitting is complete and three construction grants were obtained.

The project was bid for construction on May 5, 2017 and bids were received on June 23, 2017. Four potential bidders attended a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting and Demandstar listed over twenty-two potential contractors as plan holders. However, only two bids were submitted. This low response is most likely attributable to the abundance of construction activity available for potential bidders our area. Similar low bid responses have been experienced on recent County Utility Department projects.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount of Base Bid</u>
West Construction, Inc.	\$7,443,433.35*
Timothy Rose Construction	\$8,678,257.93*

\* There were math errors in each base bid. The amounts shown above are the corrected bid amounts.

The West Construction base bid is approximately 35% higher than staff's May 4, 2017 project construction cost estimate of \$5,515,576. This estimate was obtained using the latest similar construction costs available to staff at the time, but the information obviously did not accurately reflect the area's current very active construction market, which tends to inflate normally expected bid prices. Numerous recent projects by the County Utility Department and FDOT have recently returned bids exceeding initial construction cost estimates by 30% to 100%.

The Bid Form had several alternate bid items. West Construction, Inc.'s (West) prices for each are:

1. Alternate "A" – Asphalt Entrance Road and Parking Area in place of cemented coquina shell surface = \$36,612.24.
2. Millings Turnaround at Site Entrance in place of cemented coquina surface = \$0.00.

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3. Construct Timber Bridge in place of culverted earth crossing at Floway Crossing No. 2 = (\$6,512.00) deduct.

### **FUNDING**

The following construction grants have been secured for this project:

1. \$1,200,250 SJRWMD Cost-Share Grant (Contract #28730);
2. \$1,200,000 FDEP TMDL Grant (FDEP is preparing the grant contract); and
3. \$1,234,286 Florida House Appropriations Grant (the Florida House is preparing the grant contract).

The total of all grants is \$3,634,536. The remaining funds (\$3,808,898) are budgeted and available from Optional Sales Tax/Stormwater/Osprey Acres (account number 31524338-066510-16022)

Funding of this project will be provided by a budget amendment from Optional Sales Tax/Cash Forward to Optional Sales Tax/Public Works/Osprey Acres Stormwater – Account # 31524338-066510-16022

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board:

1. Approve award to the lowest apparent responsive and responsible bidder, West Construction, Inc. for the base bid of \$7,443,433.35 plus Alternate "B" (millings entrance turnaround at no additional cost) and Alternate "C" (timber bridge at a \$6,512.00 deduct) for a total contract amount of \$7,436,921.35;
2. Authorize the Chairman to execute the agreement upon review and approval of both the agreement and required public construction bond by the County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency, and the receipt and approval of required insurance by the Risk Manager.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Sample Agreement

### **DISTRIBUTION**

Jennifer Hyde, Purchasing Division  
Michael Smykowski, Budget Division  
William K. DeBaal, Deputy County Attorney

### **APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR JULY 18, 2017**