

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

DATE: January 13, 2025

TO: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
Kristin Daniels, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Sean Lieske, Director, Department of Utility Services

FROM: Jennifer Hyde, Purchasing Manager

SUBJECT: Award of Bid 2025013 North County Wastewater Treatment Facility
24-inch Force Main Replacement

BACKGROUND:

On February 21, 2023, the Board authorized Work Order 14 to Bowman Consulting Group, LTD (Bowman) for design services to replace the existing 24-inch sanitary force main running west from Old Dixie Highway, crossing the Redstick Golf Course, and leading to the North County WWTF, which is operating as a large wet well. During previous repairs, the pipe was found to be significantly corroded with a high likelihood of failure, deeming this project critical.

Surveying, testing, permitting and design were completed by Bowman, and an invitation to bid was issued by the Purchasing Division.

BID RESULTS:

Advertising Date: October 22, 2024
Bid Opening Date: November 22, 2024
DemandStar Broadcast to: 871 Subscribers
Bid Documents Requested by: 38 Firms
Replies: 9 Firms

Bidder	Location	Total Bid
Cacique Utilities, LLC	West Palm Beach	\$1,359,300.00
Timothy Rose Contracting, Inc.	Vero Beach	\$1,424,281.50
CK Contractors and Development, LLC	West Palm Beach	\$1,551,256.00
Accurate Drilling Systems, Inc.	LaBelle	\$1,573,850.00
Hinterland Group, Inc.	Riviera Beach	\$1,624,300.00
EZ Contracting LLC	Tampa	\$1,679,922.39
Centerline, Inc.	Palm City	\$1,687,315.14
Quality Enterprises USA, Inc.	Naples	\$1,924,312.00
Firethorn, Inc.	Fort Pierce	DQ*

*Firethorn, Inc. failed to sign their submitted bid

DISCUSSION:

The invitation to bid listed a requirement for a minimum of five years of experience in related work. The low bidder, Cacique Utilities, LLC (Cacique) has been in operation for three years. During the review of bids, Bowman completed qualification and reference checks for Cacique, with positive responses. In order to assess the contractor’s capabilities, a discussion was held among the Department, Contractor, and Purchasing Division, with the recording of that meeting available in the Purchasing Division.

During the discussion, staff was satisfied the contractor’s primary project team has extensive utility experience in central Florida, and as a unit while working at other contractors, and currently has sufficient resources to complete the project. Therefore, staff recommends the Board waive the technicality for the firm to be in business for five years.

Staff proposes an additional 20%, or \$271,860.00, reserve, to cover potential scope variability (contingency for unforeseen circumstances) or owner directed change (value engineering or design improvements) be approved by the Board for work/expenses, which may become necessary to complete the project. The reserve will be retained by IRCDUS for the sole purpose of covering such costs over and above the vendor’s contracted bid price. With the reserve, the total budget for the 24” FM Replacement project is \$1,631,160.00.

The agreement requires final completion of the replacement within 150 days of notice to proceed, which will be issued after the contract documents and public construction bond have been executed.

FUNDING:

The project was anticipated in the Water & Sewer Capital Improvement Element of the Comprehensive Plan, with funds for the work to come from the Utilities Operating Fund, Utilities Work In Progress, North WWTF 24” FM Replacement account, 471-169000-23503. Operating funds are derived from water and sewer sales.

Account Description	GL	Amount
Utilities/ Work in Progress/North WWTF 24” FM Replacement	471-169000-23503	\$1,631,160.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board waive the technicality of five years of required firm experience and award bid 2025013 to Cacique Utilities, LLC, approve the sample agreement, and authorize the Chairman to execute it, after review and approval by the County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency, and review and approval of the required public construction bond and insurance, and after the contractor has become actively registered with the Building Division. So long as there are no increases to the dollar amount under the agreement, upon adequate completion of the work set forth in the agreement, staff is directed to make final payment and release any retainage to Cacique Utilities, LLC, after review and approval by the Purchasing Manager and the County Attorney’s Office.

ATTACHMENT:

Sample Agreement