

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

DATE: September 13, 2024

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: Award of Bid 2024049 for Oslo Water Treatment Plant Improvements – Sand Strainer Replacement

BACKGROUND:

On behalf of the Department of Utility Services (Department), a solicitation was issued for the construction of a new sand strainer system at the Oslo Water Treatment Plant.

BID RESULTS:

Advertising Date: July 2, 2024
Bid Opening Date: August 20, 2024
DemandStar Broadcast to: 963 Subscribers
Bid Documents Requested by: 26 Firms
Replies: 5 Firms

The Department of Utility Services requested that electronic copies, in addition to paper copies, be required, as part of Addendum 1. Five bids were received prior to the due date and time: two in both printed and electronic format, two in hard copy only, and one electronic only. In the public bid opening, only the two bids received both printed and electronic were opened, determined to be initially responsive, and read aloud.

Bidder	Location	Total Bid
Close Construction Services, LLC	Okeechobee	\$920,056*
Hinterland Group, Inc.	Riviera Beach	\$957,000

*Denotes mathematical error

The Purchasing Division subsequently received a protest from Lawrence Lee Construction Services, Inc. (Lawrence Lee) relating to their bid's designation as non-responsive. In the protest, Lawrence Lee stated the content of Addendum 1 was not clear, relating to delivery of bids, and asked that all bids received prior to the deadline be considered. After review, the Purchasing Manager agreed the instructions in Addendum 1 were not clear, and the protest was upheld. The three previously

disqualified bids were opened in an advertised public meeting on August 26, 2024, and subsequently determined to be responsive.

Bidder	Location	Base Bid
Lawrence Lee Construction Services, Inc.	Stuart	\$907,000
Florida Design Drilling, Inc.	West Palm Beach	\$916,000
Close Construction Services, LLC	Okeechobee	\$920,056*
Hinterland Group, Inc.	Riviera Beach	\$957,000
Razorback, LLC	Tarpon Springs	\$1,036,161

*Denotes mathematical error corrected

DISCUSSION:

The Department’s design consultant, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (“KHA”), reviewed the bids, and has recommended award to Lawrence Lee, as the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder. The engineer’s opinion of probable cost for the base bid, including contingency was \$885,800.

Lawrence Lee Construction Services, Inc. has completed several water and wastewater plant related projects, including a county project for the replacement of the sulfuric acid and sodium hydroxide storage tanks at the Hobart Water Treatment Plant. Staff concurs with KHA’s recommendation of award to Lawrence Lee Construction Services, Inc.

The agreement requires final completion in 360 days of notice to proceed, which will be issued after Contractor’s receipt of the necessary permits from the Building Division.

FUNDING:

Funds for the work, in the amount of \$907,000, will come from the Utilities/WIP/South R/O Membranes & Retrofit account, number 471-169000-19503. Since this is an operating capital project, the funds will come from fund balance. Operating funds are derived from water and sewer sales.

Account Description	GL	Amount
Utilities/WIP/South R/O Membranes & Retrofit	471-169000-19503	\$907,000

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board award bid 2024049 to Lawrence Lee Construction Services, Inc., approve the sample agreement, and authorize the Chairman to execute it after review and approval of the agreement and required Public Construction Bond as to form and legal sufficiency by the Assistant County Attorney, and after review and approval of the required insurance by the Risk Manager. So long as there are no changes in 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 the contractor after review and approval by the Purchasing Manager and the County Attorney’s Office.

ATTACHMENT:

Sample Agreement