



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 12, 2019

**DATE:** January 28, 2019

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Alan Jones, Sr. Licensed Engineer,  
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**THROUGH:** Dwayne Smith, P.E., Division Director, Engineering and Capital Projects  
Community Services Department, 328-2043, [desmith@washoecounty.us](mailto:desmith@washoecounty.us)

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to: 1) approve the use of Design-Build as the project delivery method for the Huffaker Reservoir Lining Phase 3 Project as identified in NRS 338.1711(2); 2) to approve an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and AECOM Technical Services, Inc. to act as the agent for the County for the development and implementation of the Design-Build process for the Huffaker Reservoir Lining Phase 3 Project [\$250,095]. (Commission District 2.)

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### **SUMMARY**

Washoe County's Huffaker Hills Effluent Storage Reservoir was completed in 1991 and initially included a soil liner system. Due to failures of the soil-liner system it was determined that the reservoir should be rehabilitated with an impervious liner made from high-density polyethylene (HDPE). The rehabilitation of the reservoir lining system was divided into three phases and Phase 2 was completed in 2016. Phase 3 will include approximately 1 million square feet of HDPE liner, and when complete, the reservoir will be fully lined to its current maximum storage volume of 4,000 acre feet. The total Phase 3 cost is anticipated to be between 8 and 10 million.

The construction of Huffaker Reservoir Phase 3 Lining Project (Project) will be challenging due to the limited space and the steep slopes at the project site. To manage and reduce the potential risks including schedule and total project costs, Utility staff has determined that utilizing a Design-Build delivery method would be most appropriate. The Design-Build project delivery method, defined in NRS 338, utilizes a qualification and price-based selection process to select a Design-Build team consisting of an engineering consultant and contractor to develop the design and build the project under one contract.

While Washoe County Utility has extensive experience in project delivery including traditional design-bid-build, the Utility has not delivered a project using a Design-Build project delivery method. Therefore it is recommended to contract with AECOM to act as Washoe County's agent by providing the professional guidance and assistance required to implement the Design-Build process for the Project by developing all planning and contract documents and to assist in the selection and contract negotiation process.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

On May 22, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved the Capital Improvements Plan for Fiscal Years 2019-2023.

On July 12, 2016, the Board approved a change order for \$30,188.85 to the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and NewFields Companies, LLC that provided inspection and material testing services during construction of the Huffaker Hills Effluent Storage Reservoir – Phase 2 Liner Expansion Project.

On August 11, 2015, the Board approved an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and NewFields Companies, LLC, for a six month term, to provide inspection and material testing services during construction of the Huffaker Hills Effluent Storage Reservoir – Phase 2 Liner Expansion Project.

On July 14, 2015, the Board awarded a bid and approved the Agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Huffaker Hills Effluent Storage Reservoir – Phase 2 Liner Expansion Project, A&K Earth Movers, Inc. in the amount of \$4,060,000.

On January 30, 2015, the Purchasing and Contracts Manager approved a consulting services contract with NewFields Companies, LLC in the amount of \$80,900 for the Phase 2 design of the project.

On July 22, 2014, the Director of the Community Services Department approved a consulting services contract with NewFields Companies, LLC in the amount of \$49,500 for professional services for engineering consulting in support of the Seepage Evaluation & Preliminary Lining Alternatives Study

On October 16, 2007, the Board awarded a bid and approved the Contract to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Huffaker Hills Reservoir Phase 1 Liner Improvements Project, A&K Earth Movers, Inc. in the amount of \$1,988,316.

On January 23, 2007, the Board approved a professional services contract in the amount of \$387,519 for the design of improvements to the Huffaker Hills Reservoir.

On May 13, 2003, the Board accepted receipt of a status report on a request that Washoe County received from the Cities of Reno and Sparks to begin a dialogue relative to storing Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility effluent at Washoe County's Huffaker Hills Reservoir.

On August 20, 2002, the Board adopted the *South Truckee Meadows Water and Wastewater Facility Plan*.

### **BACKGROUND**

Washoe County's Huffaker Hills Effluent Storage Reservoir is used to store treated effluent from the South Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (STMWRF). Construction of the reservoir was completed in 1991, which included a soil liner system. Historically, this liner has proved ineffective resulting in water loss. Consequently, it was decided that the facility should be rehabilitated with a liner system.

The rehabilitation of the reservoir lining system has been divided into phases. The first phase included lining the bottom 25% of the reservoir with a HDPE liner (approximately 1.0 million square feet) and was completed in 2007. The second phase lined the reservoir to approximately 68% of the reservoir with HDPE liner (approximately 1.3 million square feet) and was completed in 2016. The final phase will line the remaining reservoir, which is anticipated to be approximately 1.0 million square feet of HDPE liner, for a total of 3.3 million square feet of HDPE liner.

The construction of Phase 3 will be challenging due to the limited space and the steep slopes at the project site. Utilizing a Design, Bid and Build delivery method for the project poses significant risks, both financial and schedule. To manage these risks, staff determined that utilizing a Design Build delivery method would be most appropriate. The Design-Build system utilizes a qualification and price based selection process to select a Design-Build team consisting of an engineering consultant and contractor to develop the design and build the project under one contract.

AECOM Technical Services, Inc. scope of work is to provide Washoe County with guidance and assistance during the Design-Build process and act as the County's agent during the process. Nevada Revised Statutes allows a public agency to contract with a consultant to act as its agent.

The scope of work for this professional services contract includes providing planning and industry outreach, RFQ/RFP document development, draft Design-Build contract preparation, RFQ/RFP proposal preparation, review, evaluation and selection assistance and negotiations and award assistance. Some assistance will also be provided during construction.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Sufficient funds and budget authority for the Huffaker Hills Reservoir Lining Improvements Phase 3 Project exist in Utilities Fund (566) in project WR495130 account 710100 (Professional Services). Revenues in support of this project are provided from monthly sewer rate charges.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended the Board of County Commissioners: 1) approve the use of Design-Build as the project delivery method for the Huffaker Reservoir Lining Phase 3 Project as identified in NRS 338.1711(2); 2) to approve an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and AECOM Technical Services, Inc. to act as the agent for the County for the development and implementation of the Design-Build process for the Huffaker Reservoir Lining Phase 3 Project [\$250,095].

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to 1) approve the use of Design-Build as the project delivery method for the Huffaker Reservoir Lining Phase 3 Project as identified in NRS 338.1711(2); 2) to approve an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and AECOM Technical Services, Inc. to act as the agent for the County for the development and implementation of the Design-Build process for the Huffaker Reservoir Lining Phase 3 Project [\$250,095]."