



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 14, 2020

**DATE:** December 5, 2019

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

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

**THROUGH:** Dave Solaro, Assistant County Manager

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to award a bid and approve the agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Liquid Distribution System Retro Project (Fiberglass Scope) [staff recommends: Brycon Construction in the amount of \$79,610] for Fiberglass work [for a current total project amount of \$151,260]. (Commission District 3.)

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### SUMMARY

In support of the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District (CTMRD) program, staff is requesting authorization to award separate contracts to the lowest responsive, responsible bidders for work at the Mill Street PCE Water Treatment Plant (WTP).

Associated work includes minor electrical trenching and conduit, piping, valves, and flow meters. With a focus on safe, secure and healthy drinking water, the goal of this project is to eliminate a PCE (tetrachloroethylene) treatment performance deficiency at this WTP and increase the overall PCE removal efficiency. In an effort to reduce overall costs for the project while still delivering the necessary improvements, staff determined that performing the project management function and individually contracting with each trade would reduce overall costs. Subsequently, staff informally bid each trade (electrical, plumbing, fiberglass) obtaining bids from licensed contractors. Recognizing the overall project would likely exceed \$100,000, the threshold for public work projects under NRS 338.020 pursuant to Assembly Bill 136 passed during the 2019 Legislative Session, each contractor submitting bids was required to include prevailing wage rates and during the work to pay prevailing wage rates for each trade. The application and payment of prevailing rates by each contractor will be managed and verified by Washoe County.

Fiberglass Scope Contractor	Informal Bid Amount
Brycon Construction	\$79,610
Gardner Engineering, Inc.*	N/A

\* Solicited contractor having an active license for the work required for the fiberglass scope informed us they would not be submitting a bid for this work.

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

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

## **PREVIOUS ACTION**

On May 21, 2019, the Board approved the FY20 final budget for Washoe County which included the Central Truckee Meadows Remediation District annual budget.

On October 8, 2019, the Board rejected the single bid for the Mill St. Liquid Distribution System Retro Project pursuant to NRS 338.1385(6) (d).

On December 10, 2019, the Board Approved multiple bids totaling \$71,650 from electrical and plumbing trades for the Mill St. Liquid Distribution System Retro Project.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Mill Street Water Treatment Plant includes a Packed Tower Aeration (PTA) Facility that is used to treat well water from the Mill Street and Corbett wells. The Mill Street well is located on the same property as the PTA facility which can be found at the southwest corner of Market Street and Harvard Way in Reno, Nevada. The Corbett well is located on Villanova Drive, just west of the Market Street and Villanova Drive intersection. Both supply streams are treated in a single PTA tower to remove PCE. This facility has been in operation since 1998. In 2015, an assessment report (phase 1 report) on the packed tower efficiency by CDM Smith indicated a decrease in performance. Additional testing showed the existing inlet pipes allow too high of an inlet water velocity which overwhelms the internal distribution troughs. This results in uneven water distribution and air/water mixing (and PCE removal) in the PTA. In 2017, an operations evaluation (phase 2 report) confirmed and recommended installing a center influent pipe that penetrates the PTA and connects to the existing center manifold pipe. The combined (2 existing and 1 new) exterior influent pipes would connect prior to penetrating the PTA and allow for reduced inlet velocity and equally distributed flow between the three influent pipes and the distribution manifold and troughs inside the PTA. This work requires relocation of the existing flow meter and replacement and relocation of existing control valves on the Mill Street well influent piping. In addition, motor control valves and flow meters on each influent pipe will be utilized to ensure uniform flow distribution between the three influent pipes and into the water distribution manifold inside the PTA. A structural evaluation of the PTA was conducted to determine the adequacy of existing pipe supports located on the side wall of the PTA to support this new influent pipe.

This restoration of system performance is being proactively pursued in anticipation of a possible change in the PCE drinking water standard by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Due to winter temperatures and constructability challenges, fiberglass piping and fitting was to be separately bid and presented to the Board for consideration in the first of the new year with construction to be performed in the spring. The bid requirements for the fiberglass piping and fitting portion of the project also includes the requirement to bid and pay prevailing wage rates per NRS 338.020.

The original engineer's estimate for the project was \$95,000 and under the requirements of NRS 338, the project was bid with a single bid received in the amount of \$310,837. Due to the significant difference between the estimate and the single bid received, on October 8, 2019 staff requested the Board of County Commissioners (Board) reject the

bid and allow for the time to develop an alternative strategy for delivering the project. Approval was received from the Board.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Sufficient funds and budget authority for the Mill St. Liquid Distribution System Retro Project fiberglass work totaling \$79,610 exist in the CTMRD Fund (266), Wellhead Treatment Evaluation (206102), Non-capital Land Improvements (711501). Combined with the plumbing and electrical work awarded December 10, 2019, for \$71,650, the cumulative project cost is now \$151,260. Revenues in support of this project are provided from remediation fees assessed to parcels within the CTMRD service area boundary.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended the Board of County Commissioners award a bid and approve the agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Liquid Distribution System Retro Project (Fiberglass Scope) [staff recommends: Brycon Construction in the amount of \$79,610] for Fiberglass work [for a current total project amount of \$151,260].

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to award a bid and approve the agreement to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the Liquid Distribution System Retro Project, staff recommends: Brycon Construction in the amount of \$79,610.00 for fiberglass work [for a current total project amount of \$151,260]."