



Minutes - Draft

PWI-Public Works & Infrastructure Committee

Tuesday, May 4, 2021

3:30 PM

This meeting will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Simultaneous public access to the meeting will be available

(1) via live stream on DCTV's webpage,

(2) on DCTVChannel23.TV

Meeting Started At: 3:31pm

Attendees: Commissioners Cochran-Johnson, Terry, Patrick, Bradshaw

Present 3 - Commissioner Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Robert Patrick, and Commissioner Ted Terry

I. MINUTES

2021-2512 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the April 20, 2021 Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Meeting
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

II. STATUS UPDATE

CIP Definition and Funding

-presentation from Director Wells, Lee Judd on revenue optimization

-Question LCJ: at any point will be discussing the commercial meter audit work the county is doing with a third party?

R Wells: We are touching on that briefly today, but have not gone into broad detail on that at this moment.

Topics in presentation included: efforts to reduce costs of lost water, reducing cost of debt, lifting the disconnection moratorium and communication strategy.

-Question LCJ: Regarding the lift of the moratorium, we have drastically limited our complaints from residents. Does this letter in your presentation only go to customers that are not in compliance?

M Houser: the letter is scheduled to go out to residents this Friday 5/7. This will give rate payers an opportunity to have an installment plan, and will go out to everyone at first. There will also be targeted letters that will go to customers that have balances as well.

-Question JR: will a third party arbitration process be provided to ratepayers to address residents that believe their bills are unresolved, and is separate from a solely county decision/resolution?

M Houser: we now have a dispute resolution process in place; to this point 2 customers have expressed interest in arbitration

V Ernstes: arbitration is like a mini-trial, and used as an alternative to a lawsuit. The current process has been more of a mediation process, where a mediator makes decisions/recommendations in a more informal manner. Thus far, through this process, we have not needed to use that mediator process. We are trying to reach a reasonable mediation with our constituents.

-Question RP: what is the process to address resident concerns? Is this information that can be provided on the website?

M Houser: we have customer service specialists that we are training to ensure we provide optimal customer service; before any disconnection takes place there are 2 layers of consistent communication from different staff.

III. AGENDA ITEM

New Agenda Items:

2021-2402

Commission District(s): All

LB - Invitation No. 20-101297 Valve and Wet Tap Installation Services (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of the installation of valves and wet taps for fire hydrant repairs. One (1) bid was received.

Recommend award to the sole, responsive and responsible bidder: Georgia Hydrant Services, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$706,635.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

-no additional information requested

[2021-2439](#)

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1102179 for Sanitary Sewer Chemical Root Control (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of sanitary sewer chemical root control. Awarded to Duke's Root Control, Inc. Amount Not to Exceed: \$900,000.00

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

-no additional information requested

[2021-2440](#)

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract Nos: 1103755 and 1103756 for Sanitary Sewer Easement Clearing (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew) for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). These contracts consist of providing easement clearing on the sanitary sewer system as part of the Consent Decree. Awarded to Georgia Power Company and Casey Tree Expert, Inc. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$900,000.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

-no additional information requested

[2021-2445](#)

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1172163 for Water Meters and Parts (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of the purchase of water meters and parts. Awarded to Kendall Supply, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$6,000,000.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

-item is currently in OIIA audit

-R Wells: this item is time sensitive due to the fact that production has increased regarding water meters, as we are looking to replenish our stock. We are not far from having the audit completed.

-Question LCJ: How many replacements are happening per week?

R Wells: We are spending about \$1M/month when it comes to meter parts and installments. About 2000 replacements per week across the county.

-J Greene: we are working on that audit and should have a draft ready by Thursday/Friday, so that commissioners can review by Tuesday's BOC meeting on 5/11

-LCJ believes that in the interest of time and meter changes this item be moved forward, pending audit

-Motion to approve RP, subject to OIIA audit

Second TT

Vote: yes unanimous

[2021-2448](#)

Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 20-101321 Disaster Recovery and Sewage Cleaning Services (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Departments of Watershed Management (DWM) and Facilities Management (FM). Consists of providing disaster recovery cleaning services of water and sewage and supplementary services for repair to systems affected by spills from heating, ventilation, air conditioning and plumbing. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidders: Bell Restoration Services, Inc. dba SERVPRO of Stone Mountain/Clarkston, Full Circle Restoration, and Belfor USA Group. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$800,000.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

-Question TT: how often is this service being used?

R Wells: we have about a handful a month in Watershed; it depends on the need for the service, and applies for water main breaks more than other services in our experiences

-Question RP: what is the turnaround time on the dispute process?

R Wells: we try to have the contractor address the issue within hours/as soon as possible. At that time, the vendor then notifies our department of the specific issue and we communicate to the homeowner what they need to do to rectify the situation if it involves a home item such as an HVAC system, where they will reach out to their provider.

2021-2469

Commission District(s): 5

LB - Invitation No. 20-101278 for Application of Herbicides at Pole Bridge Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant (Multiyear Contract): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM).

Consists of the purchase of services for application of herbicides at Pole Bridge Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder: NaturChem, Inc. Amount Not to Exceed \$224,784.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

-Question RP: There was such a disparity between NatureChem and Absolute Quality Services in the evaluation or with unit price that they were referencing. Does that just mean for Absolute Quality this is their area of expertise or desire, or is there other factors that play into such a disparity? It goes from just over \$62/unit price to \$325/unit price.

R Wells: Because during the process we can't necessarily reach out to a vendor, we weren't able to ascertain a rationale, but it wasn't aligned with what we paid for, so we knew that there was an issue.

CPO Horner: Purchasing did take a look into this, we've looked at past contracts to see if we had anything comparable and we really don't. We try the conversion of miles to feet for both of those and compared it against one of sanitation contracts and they're somewhat close. But in our research, we did find that prices for these services can vary. There are a lot of factors involved in the pricing, it depends on the size of the area, the topography, type of vegetation in the area, and how the pesticide is going to be applied. We came to the conclusion that, as best we know, the services can be done for this price.

-Question LCJ: This leads one to wonder where or how the number was derived between the two bids, with the huge disparity.

[2021-2470](#)

Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 20-101310 for Diving Services (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of the diving services for the removal of blockages that inhibit proper flow of water in various raw water pump stations. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidders: Underwater Construction Corporation and Zion Marine, Inc. Total Amount Not to Exceed: \$1,350,000.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

-Question LCJ: is this a new solicitation?

R Wells: Yes it is, and is a low bid

-Question LCJ: with the 1.35M, is this in line with what is a reasonable expectation of costs?

R Wells: Yes, the previous contract we were around \$1M, and this contract consists of two vendors

[2021-2491](#)

Commission District(s): ALL
CO 5 - Purchase of Trailers (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew) Contract No. 1109393 for Public Works - Sanitation: for use by Public Works Road & Drainage (R&D). This contract consists of providing mobile office trailers. Awarded to McGrath Rentcorp dba Modular Management Corporation. Amount Not To Exceed: \$101,383.00.

MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

-no additional information requested

[2021-2499](#) Commission District(s): 2 &6
Georgia Department of Transportation Contract Item Agreement -
Water and Sewer Facilities Project PI M006145 resurface State Route
155 from State Route 10 to State Route 13 in DeKalb County -
Resurfacing

**MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Ted Terry,
that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board
of Commissioners, due back on 5/11/2021. The motion carried by
the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Cochran-Johnson, Commissioner Patrick, and
Commissioner Terry**

-no additional information requested

[2021-2514](#) Commission District(s): ALL
CO - Change Order No. 3 for Contract Nos.: 1063844 and 1063841
and Change Order No. 4 for Contract Nos.: 1063831 and 1068774
Annual Water & Sewer Construction (Annual Contract with 2 Options
to Renew): for use by the Department of Watershed Management
(DWM). These contracts consist of primarily providing installation and
repair of water and sewer pipes in various sizes. This request is to
increase the contract term through September 30, 2021 to Contract
Nos.: 1063844 and 1063841 as well as increase funding and the
contract term through December 31, 2021 to Contract Nos.: 1063831
and 1068774. Awarded to GS Construction, Inc., SD&C, Inc., Granite
Inliner, LLC and The Renee Group/CamKen Consulting
(RGI/CamKen JV). Total Amount Not to Exceed: \$2,919,395.00.

This agenda item was no official recommendation

-item not heard in committee

-COO Williams (5/4/21 COW): hold for 2 weeks. We are in the process of evaluating another ITB. We want to ensure with a new ITB that we are avoiding the issues from 2016. We will also ensure no linkages between the work in this contract and a federal indictment of one of the contractors on a federal PPP loan. This work is part of the consent decree, and we have spoken with Director Wells to ensure this is completed in a timely manner, and eliminate any possibility of impropriety.

Meeting Ended At:

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC