

## **EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request**

*For Contract Awards, Renewals, and Increases*

The Board is being asked to approve a contract with **ESA** for FEMA benefit cost analysis and environmental impact assessment services.

Board Meeting Date: August 2, 2021

Project Name/Contract #: FEMA BCA and NEPA EA / 21-051-PSC

Primary Contact: Rod Price Ext. 7122

### **Contract Amount:**

Original Contract Amount: \$370,000 (over 5 years)

Additional \$ Previously Approved: \$0

Invoices over last approval: \$0

Percentage over last approval: 0%

Amount this Request: \$370,000

**Resulting Cumulative Total: \$370,000 (over 5 years)**

### **Contracting Method:**

Method of Solicitation: Formal Request for Proposals – Personal Services

If applicable, basis for exemption: N/A

Term of Agreement: Up to 5 years

Option to Renew? No

Approval for purchases “as needed” for the life of the Contract Yes  No

Proposals Received (Range): 2 (\$369,061-\$388,500 over five years)

Selection Basis: Highest scoring response for overall quality and price

### **Narrative:**

#### Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

The McKenzie River is the sole source of drinking water for nearly 200,000 people in the City of Eugene. In September 2020, the Holiday Farm Fire burned over 170,000 acres (over 20%) of the McKenzie River Watershed and destroyed over 400 homes. EWEB and the Pure Water Partners are focusing on implementing large scale floodplain restoration projects in key areas of the watershed to mitigate and buffer the impacts of upstream fire impacted landscapes on water quality. These projects are part of multiple FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding requests and as a result need to follow FEMA policies for restoration work. Acceptance of grant funds requires a benefit cost analysis (BCA) and environmental impacts assessment (EA) to demonstrate the projects will not have a significant impact on natural resources during construction.

Contracted Goods or Services

The Consultant will provide BCA and EA services required to support planning and implementation of various FEMA funded floodplain restoration projects in response to the Holiday Farm Fire impacts to the McKenzie Watershed. Benefit cost analysis calculates the value of the proposed actions (as compared to no action or alternative options) with regard to reducing flooding impacts to downstream homes/infrastructure, water quality, economic benefits (e.g., recreation fishing industry), and other environmental benefits and compares against project costs to determine if the benefits outweigh the costs.

The total fee estimate is \$370,000, which includes conducting up to 3 benefit cost analysis and environmental assessments on large scale floodplain areas and providing documentation and reports per FEMA guidance and federal and State laws. The contract amounts are based upon pricing negotiated for the first Task Order (Finn Rock Reach and Quartz Creek), with estimates created for the remaining two tasks. These additional task orders will be assigned on an as-needed basis. EWEB and the Contractor will negotiate each Scope of Work, staffing plan, delivery schedule, and compensation for each Task Order prior to the work being performed.

Prior Contract Activities

None

Purchasing Process

In May 2021, Purchasing initiated a formal Request for Proposals (RFP) process for benefit cost analysis services and NEPA Environmental Assessments. Proposals were received from two firms. All firms were responsive and responsible.

The proposals were evaluated by an EWEB evaluation team. The maximum number of possible points was 100, using the following criteria: Minimum Qualifications (Pass / No Pass – Not scored), Project Understanding & Approach (20 points), Staff Resources/Project Management (30 points), Key Staff Qualifications (20 points), and Pricing (30 points).

ESA was selected as the highest rated proposer and staff have issued an intent to award the contract. ESA’s proposal was found to be responsive and responsible. Since EWEB has no prior contract history with ESA, references were called and all three gave highly favorable recommendations. Staff reviewed ESA billing rates and determined they are consistent with competing firms in the Pacific Northwest and as compared to other firms currently doing similar work for EWEB.

Vendor Name	City, State	Ranking (for Request For Proposals)
ESA	Portland, OR	1
Tidal Basin	Utica, NY	2

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Management requests the Board approve a contract with ESA for benefit cost analysis and environmental assessment services. Approximately \$370,000 was planned for these goods or services in the Holiday Farm Fire Restoration 2021 budget of \$3.9 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.