

EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request

For Contract Awards, Renewals, and Increases

The Board is being asked to approve a new contract with **GE Grid Solutions LLC** for **JMUX Replacement Equipment**.

Board Meeting Date: June 7, 2022
Project Name/Contract #: JMUX Replacement Equipment / 22-116-G
Primary Contact: Karen Kelley Ext. 7153

Contract Amount:

Original Contract Amount: \$226,500
Additional \$ Previously Approved: \$0
Invoices over last approval: \$0
Amount this Request: \$226,500
Percentage over last approval: NA
Resulting Cumulative Total: **\$226,500**

Contracting Method:

Method of Solicitation: Direct Negotiation
If applicable, basis for exemption: EWEB Rule 3-0275 Sole Source Procurements
Term of Agreement: One time purchase
Option to Renew? No
Approval for purchases *"as needed"*
for the life of the Contract: Yes No
Proposals/Bids Received (Range): NA
Selection Basis: Sole Source Supplier
Narrative:

Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

EWEB currently uses GE Multilin JungleMUX SONET Multiplexers (JMUX) throughout EWEB substations as the data transport median between substations. The JMUX system is installed at a variety of EWEB locations, but the HQ building has a central role in the system operation. Currently 90+% of the fiber interconnections between the different parts of JMUX network are installed in the HQ fourth floor server room. As part of the HQ relocate project to prepare the property for sale, all the existing JMUX equipment needs to be installed in a different location with access to the fiber in the same riverfront area. The nearby Willamette substation control house was chosen for this reason. This purchase will facilitate keeping the existing system online while new equipment is purchased and installed in the Willamette substation control house.

Contracted Goods or Services

Purchase of seven new JMUX Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) multiplex nodes.

Purchasing Process

EWEB currently has over 40 nodes of JMUX equipment in use, each with several media cards that vary by site depending on required communications. JMUX does not license their design to other vendors and other products are not directly compatible due to the nature of the system. EWEB is heavily invested in JMUX and it has provided superior performance since it was installed in 2000. Engineers and technicians are familiar with the programming, design, trouble-shooting, and maintenance of this equipment. Staff's ability to quickly and effectively evaluate and remedy substation communications problems and crews understanding of installation and performance can be critical to EWEB's provision of services. For these reasons, Staff has deemed GE Grid Solutions LLC to be a sole source provider for this equipment.

Bids Received

NA

Competitive Fair Price

NA –Sole source agreement

Prior Contract Activities

EWEB has previously purchased and continues to use the JMUX Sonet Multiplex node equipment across our substations and has found their products to be satisfactory and meet EWEB's product quality requirements.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Management requests the Board approve a new contract with GE Grid Solutions LLC for JMUX Replacement Equipment. Approximately \$227,000 was planned for these goods in the 2022 Electric Capital budget of \$55 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.