

**Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District
Board of Directors Meeting**

May 11, 2015

**Consultant Selection for Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services
For Fiscal Year 2016**

Synopsis

The Board of Directors is requested to approve the consultant selection ranking for Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services and direct staff to negotiate an acceptable geotechnical services contract agreement with the selected consultant.

Background

Since November 1995, the District has maintained a Geotechnical & Material Testing Services agreement with local engineering consultants. In that time, the Engineering and Utility Teams have each utilized geotechnical services for numerous construction and design projects. The primary function of these services is to verify soil compaction and concrete strength for work conducted within public right-of-ways and District facility sites. In addition, services provided by this contract have included soil analysis for construction and well drilling, soil borings and specialized hydrogeological tests.

In June 2012, the Board of Directors awarded Western Technologies, Inc. the Fiscal Year 2013 Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services contract. Subsequently, the Board of Directors extended the contract with Western Technologies for two additional years as allowed in the original contract agreement. The existing contract is set to expire on June 30, 2015.

Issues

Based on the anticipated design and construction activities over the next three years, staff concluded that the upcoming design and construction activities can be facilitated by one consultant.

The District published a request for Statements of Qualification (SOQ) for Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Materials Testing Services in the Daily Territorial on March 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6, 2015. Six consultants requested the proposal package and four responded with an SOQ. The four firms that submitted proposals are Conformata Tech, Inc.; Ninyo & Moore; Smith & Annala Engineering, Co.; and Western Technologies, Inc. A committee comprised of three District Engineering Division staff members evaluated each proposal.

Western Technologies, Inc. received the highest average score from the reviewers. Western Technologies, Inc., is a nationally recognized firm that got its start in Phoenix, Arizona in 1955 with a Tucson office opening in 1960. Of the firms that submitted a Statement of Qualifications, Western Technologies has the largest local staff and laboratory capabilities. Western Technologies is the current Miscellaneous Geotechnical consultant for the District. The selection of professional services is based upon demonstrated competence and qualifications only as presented in the respective company's statement of qualifications. Statutory requirements regarding the procurement of professional services prohibit the use of cost information associated with professional fees and services in the selection process.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Directors select Western Technologies, Inc. and direct District staff to proceed with developing an acceptable contract agreement (contract and salary rates) with Western Technologies, Inc. for Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services. If staff is unable to negotiate an acceptable contract agreement with Western Technologies, Inc., then staff has the authorization to negotiate with the next highest ranked firm until an acceptable contract agreement is obtained. Staff shall submit the final negotiated Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing contract agreement to the Board of Directors for approval.

Suggested Motion

I move to approve the selection of Western Technologies, Inc. and to direct District staff to proceed with developing an acceptable contract agreement (contract and salary rates) with Western Technologies, Inc., for Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services. If staff is unable to negotiate an acceptable contract agreement with Western Technologies, Inc., then staff has the authorization to negotiate with the next highest ranked firm until an acceptable contract agreement is obtained. Staff shall submit the final negotiated Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing contract agreement to the Board of Directors for approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie A. Maish, P.E., R.L.S.
District Engineer

I concur with staff's recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Olsen, P.E.
General Manager