

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

**January 14, 2013**

**Award of the Construction Contract for the  
Riverside Well Site Improvements**

**Synopsis**

The Board of Directors is requested to award a construction contract to The Ashton Company in the amount of \$608,500.00 for the construction of the Riverside Well Site Improvements.

**Background**

The 1994 Water System Management Plan (WSMP) identified the need for new water supply wells to replace existing aged wells. A new well on the site was drilled and completed by AZCA Drilling and Pump, Inc. in October 2007. To place this new well in service, it is required to equip it with a pump and motor, appurtenant control and security equipment, and gates. This project is included in the 2005 5-year Capital Improvement Program, which was approved by the District voters in March 2005. The well is designed to deliver groundwater to the “A” Zone Transmission Main system.

**Issues**

The District conducted a call for bids for the construction of the Riverside Well Site Improvements on November 19, 2012. The Notice of Bid was published in the Daily Territorial on November 19, 20, 21, 26 and 27, 2012. A public bid opening was held on December 19, 2012.

Six (6) contractors obtained the bid documents with **two (2)** contractors submitting actual bids. The results of the submitted bids are as follows:

**Submitted Bids**

<b><u>Contractor</u></b>	<b><u>Total Bid Amount</u></b>
The Ashton Company, Inc.	\$608,500.00
Innova Engineering, LLC	\$722,770.00
Engineer’s Estimate	\$572,625.00

Copies of the Project Plans, Specifications, and bid tabulation summary sheets are available in the Board office.

The low bidder was The Ashton Company. This company is a heavy civil general engineering contractor that has been in business since 1946. The Ashton Company has a current A General Engineering Arizona Contractor License (issued in 1987). There are no complaints on file with the Registrar of Contractors. An inquiry with OSHA for the last 5 years reveals that there have been two inspections conducted. An inspection in February 2009 was due to an accident that resulted in a fatality. In this accident an employee was installing a street light pole that contacted a high voltage overhead power line, electrocuting the employee. This incident has been resolved with OSHA. Previously The Ashton Company satisfactorily completed the Herb Johnson Reservoir, the Magee/La Cholla Site Improvements, the Shannon Well Treatment System, and is currently closing out the Old Magee Trail Well Site Improvements for the District.

The second low bidder was Innova Engineering. This company is a local contractor with several years of experience in the Tucson area. Innova Engineering has a current KA Dual Engineering Arizona Contractor License (issued in May 2009) for commercial construction work which allows the scope of work permitted by the commercial A-General Engineering license required for this underground construction work (general engineering). There are no complaints on file with the Registrar of Contractors. An inquiry with OSHA for the last 10 years reveals that there was one complaint with 5 violations reported in March 2010 that occurred on the MDWID's La Cañada Waterline Relocation and Transmission Main project. Recently Innova Engineering satisfactorily completed several projects for the District and is currently working on Cortaro Farms Road/Magee Road, Shannon Road (South) to Thornydale Road, Waterline Relocations and Shannon Road Transmission Main, Phase I, Cortaro Farms Road/Magee Road Reclaimed Water Line project, and the Orange Grove Road/Magee Road, La Canada Drive to Oracle Road project.

This project will be funded through the recently approved loan from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA). Completion of this project is anticipated in June 2013.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Directors award the construction contract for the Riverside Well Site Improvements to The Ashton Company in the amount of \$608,500.00 contingent upon the closing of the WIFA loan.

It is also recommended that the General Manager be authorized to approve the following changes to the construction contract: 1) allocate additional funding a cumulative amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 (approximately 5% of bid) and 2) increase the original construction contract term a cumulative amount not to exceed sixty (60) calendar days. Approval of this authorization will allow work to proceed promptly should any unforeseen conditions be encountered during construction. Any changes in excess of the above limits will be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

### **Suggested Motion**

I move to award the construction contract for the Riverside Well Site Improvements to The Ashton Company in the amount of \$608,500.00, contingent upon the closing of the WIFA loan for this

project, and to authorize the General Manager to approve the following changes to the construction contract: 1) allocate additional funding a cumulative amount not to exceed \$30,000 and 2) increase the original construction contract term a cumulative amount not to exceed sixty (60) calendar days. Any changes in excess of the above limits will be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

Respectfully submitted,

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

I concur with the above-noted recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Stratton, P.E.  
General Manager