

**THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT: Public Utilities Department On-Call Engineering Services Contract Awards

DATE: June 29, 2022

BUDGET INFORMATION:

REVENUES:

EXPENSES:

ANNUAL:

CAPITAL: TBD – Based on specific capital programs

OTHER:

FUNDING SOURCE: Water & Sewer Enterprise Fund

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: August 2, 2022

PURPOSE:

To request that the Mayor and Commission:

- a. Approve the selection of Armentrout Matheny Thurmond, P.C., Hazen and Sawyer, Inc., Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., and Stantec, Inc. to provide on-call engineering services for water and wastewater related projects for the Public Utilities Department (PUD) for a period of one year with up to four annual renewals; and
- b. Authorize the Mayor and appropriate staff to execute all contract documents.

HISTORY:

1. Since 1998, several departments have utilized on-call civil engineering services contracts to assist with the design and delivery of capital infrastructure projects.
2. On December 6, 2011, the Mayor and Commission (M&C) approved contracts for design services with Armentrout, Matheny, Thurmond, P.C. and Engineering Strategies, Inc. for Group “C” SPLOST water line projects.
3. On August 7, 2012, the M&C approved the selection of three on-call master planning consultants for PUD: CH2M Hill Engineers, Inc., Black and Veatch Corporation, and mPrint Design Studio, Inc.
4. On December 20, 2016, the Purchasing Division issued RFP #00835 for On-Call Engineering Services PUD, the first instance of on-call engineering contracts utilized for design services.

5. On June 6, 2017, the M&C approved Armentrout Matheny Thurmond, P.C., Hazen and Sawyer, Inc. and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. to provide on-call engineering services for the PUD.
6. On March 25, 2022, the Purchasing Division issued RFP #01074 for Public Utilities On-Call Engineering Services.
7. On April 22, 2022, the Purchasing Division presented PUD with 13 proposals unpriced for review and evaluation.
8. On June 24, 2022, the Purchasing Division presented PUD with pricing and the four firms with the lowest bids were selected for recommendation.

FACTS & ISSUES:

1. Many of the ACCGov projects managed by SPLOST, T&PW, and Public Utilities require professional civil engineering design expertise for one or more of the following phases: surveying, permitting, environmental compliance, planning, design, right-of-way acquisition, public engagement, and/or construction management.
2. As experienced by PUD and other ACCGov departments, on-call engineering services, competitively procured, offer specific advantages:
 - *Cost Savings:* On-call services contracts establish a unit cost fee schedule for personnel assigned to the project. Application of the fee schedule for the larger contract to smaller projects results in significant savings due to economy of scale.
 - *Time Savings:* Procurement of professional services typically requires a written RFP, pre-proposal meeting, selection committee proposal review, consultant interviews, contract negotiations, and Mayor and Commission approval of the selected consultant. With an on-call services contract, staff can execute a task order in as short a time as two weeks, expediting the capital delivery process by as much as six months.
 - *Consistency:* Use of an on-call services contract provides a consistent project team for the delivery of local projects. As staff and consultants continue to work together, the consultants develop a deeper understanding of the expectations, roles, and responsibilities they serve in project delivery.
3. PUD has utilized master planning consulting firms on five-year contracts. The primary focus of the master planning contracts is PUD's Service Delivery Plan (SDP), which includes the Infrastructure Element, the Capital Improvements Element and the Financial Element. For checks and balances, master planning consultants are not generally used for detailed design of the capital projects identified in the Service Delivery Plan.
4. In the past five years, PUD utilized the on-call engineering firms to successfully design and complete several SDP projects.
 - SDP 3-309 Brooklyn Creek Interceptor Improvements
 - SDP 3-310 Upper North Oconee 2B Interceptor Improvements

- SDP 3-311 Upper North Oconee 2C Interceptor Improvements
 - SDP 3-302 Water Transmission Redundancy Connections
 - SDP 3-303 Water Line Rehabilitation and Replacement
 - SDP 4-303 Water Supply Resiliency
 - SDP 1-302 North Oconee WRF – Phosphorus Polishing
 - SDP 1-303 Middle Oconee WRF – Phosphorus Polishing
 - SDP 3-320 North Oconee WRF - Thermal Dryer
5. Work accomplished under on-call consulting contracts is determined by task orders with negotiated scope and hours.
6. The scope of services outlined in RFP #01074 included the following:
- Facility design: all aspects of building, equipment, and machine design
 - Water and sewer design, including sewer rehabilitation: infrastructure, right-of-way acquisition services, environmental assessments and studies, and bid documents for capital projects
 - Watershed management and planning services: data collection, analysis and reporting on local watersheds, as well as coordination with State and Federal regulatory officials
 - Surveying and geotechnical services: perform surveys as requested in support of the project issued under a particular service category
 - Services during construction: inspection of construction activities to ensure quality performance and compliance with local, State and Federal regulations as required
 - Public involvement and agency coordination: outreach and coordination with the general public, as well as other local, State and Federal entities
7. Based on numerical scoring of the proposals, including technical abilities, experiences, resources, interviews and pricing, with the lowest cost scoring the highest points, the Selection Committee recommends the following firms to provide on-call engineering services:
- a. Armentrout Matheny Thurmond, P.C., Athens, GA
 - b. Hazen and Sawyer, Inc., Athens, GA
 - c. Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., Atlanta, GA
 - d. Stantec, Inc., Atlanta, GA
8. The four firms and their sub-consultants provide a mix of expertise and experience in public engagement, treatment plant processes and equipment selection, water and reuse lines, sewer rehabilitation techniques, pumping, instrumentation, architecture (including LEED design), geotechnical, biosolids treatment and reuse, water quality, water supply, energy sustainability, odor control, water recycling, reservoir planning and implementation, land acquisition and construction management. The recommended firms will also facilitate interdepartmental and outside agency coordination as needed on capital programs.

9. PUD's goal of task order assignment is to balance a) the value of cumulative task orders over the course of the contract term between the four firms with b) consideration of any particular firm's expertise relative to a given task order scope. Staff believes that the number of capital projects that require engineering services warrants the selection of these on-call engineering firms.
10. The contract duration will be for a one-year term with the possibility of four additional one-year renewals based upon performance. Hourly rates specified in the initial contract will be adjusted annually according to any increases in the Consumer Price Index.
11. Each of the firms selected have various combinations of sub-consultants that are part of their teams. As such, these local sub-consultants may be used on any of the projects as their services are needed. Location of each firm, and additional local sub-consultants within a 30 mile radius included in this award are:

<u>Engineering Firm, Location</u>	<u>Local Sub-consultants</u>
Armentrout Matheny Thurmond, Athens, GA	Hall Consulting
Hazen & Sawyer, Athens, GA	Gaskins Survey Company
Jacobs Engineering, Atlanta, GA	GeoHydro Engineers, Inc.
Stantec Engineering, Atlanta, GA	

12. This recommendation supports the following ACCGov Strategic Plan Goal & Strategy:
 - Organizational Improvement Goal, Strategy C: *Improve programs, processes, policies and communication, external and internal, assess how resources are allocated to meet existing and future needs for better service delivery and what we deliver*

OPTIONS:

1. Mayor and Commission:
 - a. Approve the selection of Armentrout Matheny Thurmond, P.C., Hazen and Sawyer, Inc., Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., and Stantec, Inc. to provide on-call engineering services for water and wastewater related projects for the Public Utilities Department (PUD) for a period of one year with up to four annual renewals; and
 - b. Authorize the Mayor and appropriate staff to execute all contract documents.
2. Mayor and Commission deny the request.
3. Mayor and Commission defined option.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED ACTION: Option 1 a & b

DEPARTMENT: Public Utilities

Prepared by: Hollis Terry IV

Hollis Terry IV

June 29, 2022

Hollis Terry IV

Date:

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: Option 1 a & b

John H. Wilf

July 14, 2022

Manager

Date: