

Minutes

Environment Committee



Meeting Date: July 26, 2022

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

A Chair, Peter Lindstrom D11
☒ Vice Chair, Wendy Wulff D16

☒ Raymond Zeran, District 9
☒ Susan Vento, District 11

☒ Kris Fredson, District 14
A Phillip Sterner, District 15
☒ = present, E = excused

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Wulff called the regular meeting of the Environment Committee to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Approved

The agenda was amended, with the scheduled information item being deferred to a future meeting. By consensus, the amended agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Committee Member (CM) Vento, seconded by CM Zeran to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2022 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **Motion carried.**

Consent Business

None at this time.

Non-Consent Business

- **2022-212: Full Service and Process Mechanical Plant Engineering Master Contracts (Tim Amstutz, 651-602-1221)**

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
Brown and Caldwell	21P297A	\$18,000,000
HRGreen	21P297B	\$2,500,000
Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.	21P297C	\$9,000,000
MSA Professional Services, Inc.	21P297D	\$2,500,000
Short Elliot Hendrickson Inc.	21P297E	\$3,000,000
TKDA	21P297F	\$5,000,000

It was moved by CM Zeran, seconded by CM Fredson, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contracts 21P297A-F for full service and process mechanical plant engineering services with not-to-exceed amounts as follows:

Summary of Environment Committee Discussion/Questions

CM Zeran asked a question centered on Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) and our meeting or exceeding our Small Business Inclusion goals, noting that the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation goal for these contracts is 12%. Staff from OEEO replied that all proposers met or exceeded the goal and incorporated Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) vendors for a variety of services within a 12-

26% range for DBE participation. CM Zeran also asked if any prime contractors are DBE firms. Staff from OEEEO replied that none are DBE firms. CM Zeran encouraged finding more prime contractors that are DBE firms.

Chair Wulff stated we had received an anonymous email claiming that the firms selected do not have sufficient staff within the area to fulfill the contract. Staff from Procurement replied that the proposals were evaluated based on the quality of the proposals, qualifications of the proposers, experience of the proposers and their service delivery plans. The Evaluation Panel made the determination of which proposals are the most advantageous to the Council. Staff provided further information regarding the firms which submitted proposals for Group A (more complex wastewater treatment processes), noting that they tended to be national firms which have a local presence. For specialized wastewater processes they may pull resources from their national pool of talent.

Procurement Staff agreed that the evaluation process is thorough and selects for qualified and competent proposers to carry out the work outlined in the scope of services.

ACTION: Add anonymous email at the end of the Business Item moving forward; comments in Committee Report.

Motion by CM Zeran, seconded by CM Fredson.

Motion carried.

Information

None at this time.

Reports

- **General Manager (Sam Paske, 651-602-1015)**
- **Peak Performance Awards**

Our General Manager is at a National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) conference ceremony to receive nine (9) Peak Performance awards on behalf of our staff; all of our plants are included in this year's awards. The Platinum award is the most sought.

Our treatment plants outperform our peers, by far. Of NACWA facilities being recognized for perfect performance, 34% achieve platinum level awards. For our nine plants, 77% reached this high level of performance – that's 122 cumulative years of consecutive platinum level performance for seven of our plants.

Our Hastings and St. Croix Valley treatment plants are in the top five for continuous perfect performance records. Only two utilities exceeded Hastings, by one and two years.

- **COVID-19 surveillance**

We have been testing wastewater and the viral load for COVID-19; the Minnesota Department of Health has acknowledged our role in this work of public health. We are also exploring this work with the University of Minnesota Genomic Center, Mayo Clinic and other partners around the state to advance public health goals.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Environment Committee meeting of July 28, 2022.

Council Contact:

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