

Authority Meeting Minutes
335th Meeting
August 7, 2018

Members Present: James M. Irvin
Rhody Holthaus
Steven A. Walsh
Michael G. Marschner
Guillermo Wainer
Jeffrey Castonguay
Joseph J. Siemek

Other Participants: Beth Wojton, Deputy Director, MES
Steve Tomczewski, MES
Christopher W. Skaggs
Andrew Kays
M. Catherine Coble

Chairman Jim Irvin opened the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

ACTION ITEM NO. 2018-5-1 – Selection of Vendor for Frederick County Solar Project: A motion was made by Mike Marschner and seconded by Rhody Holthaus to approve this item. Frederick County applied for and was awarded a grant under the Maryland Department of the Environment's Energy Water Infrastructure Program at the end of FY 17. The County requested that the Authority assist in the development of the project. The Authority used one of its on-call consultants to prepare the specifications for the larger procurement. Andrew Kays explained that on behalf of Frederick County the Authority issued the Request for Proposals for qualified Firms to Design, Fabricate, Permit, Deliver, Install, and Operate a Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic System. The array is to be built at the County owned site adjacent to the Ballenger-McKinney Wastewater Treatment Plant. On June 14th, proposals were received from the following five firms:

- Ameresco, Inc. (Ameresco)
- Bithenergy, Inc. (Bithenergy)
- Core Development (Core)
- Standard Solar, Inc. (Standard Solar)
- Vanguard Energy Partners LLC (Vanguard)

One firm, Core Development, was determined to have not met the requirements of the RFP and was removed from further consideration. After clarifications and a request for Best and Final Offers, it was shown that the per-unit cost (\$/W) for the solar installation is the most competitive



for Ameresco under the base scenario and under each of the additional options that Ameresco provided in their Best and Final Offer response (when compared to the base option provided by the other firms). The review team views the proposed rate and strength of the proposed Ameresco team, the local staffing capabilities and larger corporate strength, and the general flexibility in options, as overall positives for the project. Ameresco has demonstrated local, relevant experience that will be a plus for the project. Frederick County is committed to the project and is willing to use its own funds for the installation of storage capacity at the waste water treatment plant. The Authority recommends award to Ameresco for the above reasons, subject to the final grant award by the Maryland Department of the Environment. The final contract terms (e.g., array size and storage options) will be dictated by the amount of the grant award and direction by Frederick County. The not to exceed amount of the approval is \$3,500,000 (sum of the largest array and the largest storage capacity). The exact amount will depend on the final approval of the grant funds from the State Board of Public Works. The FY2019 Budget included \$2 million and staff is also requesting that the FY2019 Budget be increased based on the final project parameters. Jim Irvin asked if there were any questions or comments. Mike Marschner reported that the Authority did an excellent job and noted that it was due to the Authority's extra effort that MDE allowed an extension of its grant award timeline. Jim Irvin asked if there were any additional comments or questions and there being none a vote was taken and the item was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEM NO. 2018-5-2 – Contract Amendment for Baltimore City Solid Waste Master Plan Study: A motion was made by Jeff Castonguay and seconded by Steve Walsh to approve this item. Chris Skaggs explained that the Authority requested proposals from the Authority's qualified on-call engineering firms to provide consulting services to Baltimore City for this study. The City is in the process of reviewing proposals received from four of the Authority's on-call engineering firms, SCS Engineers, Geosyntec, Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, and MSW Consultants. Selection is expected in the next couple of weeks. Staff is requesting approval to increase the contract of the selected vendor by an amount not to exceed \$500,000, which is the amount in the approved Fiscal Year 2019 Budget. Jim Irvin asked if there were any questions or comments. Steve Walsh asked if the Authority is involved in the proposal review process. Chris Skaggs responded that the Authority is not assisting the City in the review, at the City's direction. Jim Irvin asked if there were any additional questions or comments and there being none a vote was taken and the item was approved unanimously.

Jim Irvin asked if there were any additional topics to be discussed. There being no additional comments or discussion items, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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Chris Skaggs, Executive Director