



Le Sueur County, MN

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Board Meeting

Item 5

9:30 am Darrell Pettis, Administrator (5 min)

RE: Award Bid

RE: State Government Finance Letter

Staff Contact:



TABULATION OF BIDS SP 040-070-003 Minn Proj No. HSIP 4015(2833)

HSIP Curve Signing Improvements Le Sueur County, Minnesota SEH No.: LESUR 128502 Bid Date: 1:00 p.m., Friday, September 11, 2015				Engineer's Estimate \$70,615.00		A & H Co., Inc. 22400 Iverson Road Ironton, MN 56455 \$33,400.00		JAKK LLC 31774 356th Street Le Sueur, MN 56058 \$33,545.60	
Item No.	Item	Unit	Est. Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price
2021.501	Mobilization	LS	1	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
2104.523	Salvage Sign Type C	Each	29	45.00	1,305.00	15.00	435.00	10.00	290.00
2563.601	Traffic Control	LS	1	3,000.00	3,000.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
2564.531	Sign Panels Type C	SF	1704	35.00	59,640.00	17.25	29,394.00	18.90	32,205.60
2564.537	Install Sign Type C	Each	1	170.00	170.00	71.00	71.00	50.00	50.00
TOTAL BID PRICE				\$70,615.00		\$33,400.00		\$33,545.60	



TABULATION OF BIDS

HSIP Curve Signing Improvements Le Sueur County, Minnesota SEH No.: LESUR 128502 Bid Date: 1:00 p.m., Friday, September 11, 2015				Warning Lites of Minnesota, Inc. 4700 Lyndale Avenue North Minneapolis, MN 55430 \$48,584.00		H & R Const. Co. PO Box 756 Dalton, MN 56324 \$57,919.00		Safety Signs LLC 19784 Kenrick Avenue Lakeville, MN 55044 \$62,033.00	
Item No.	Item	Unit	Est. Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price
2021.501	Mobilization	LS	1	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
2104.523	Salvage Sign Type C	Each	29	10.00	290.00	66.00	1,914.00	45.00	1,305.00
2563.601	Traffic Control	LS	1	5,000.00	5,000.00	7,600.00	7,600.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
2564.531	Sign Panels Type C	SF	1704	23.50	40,044.00	26.25	44,730.00	32.00	54,528.00
2564.537	Install Sign Type C	Each	1	250.00	250.00	575.00	575.00	200.00	200.00
TOTAL BID PRICE				\$48,584.00		\$57,919.00		\$62,033.00	

Sarah Anderson
State Representative
District 44A
Plymouth



Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES:
CHAIR, STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCE
COMMERCE AND REGULATORY REFORM
TAXES
WAYS AND MEANS

September 17, 2015

Pam Simonette
88 S Park Avenue
Le Center, MN 56057

County Auditors and County Board Chairs:

It has come to my attention that the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) has sent out another letter requesting counties to sign engagement letters agreeing to three years of auditing services by the end of September.

As I have previously written to you in July, no county is under a legal obligation to sign a three-year agreement with the OSA due to recent changes in state law. Additionally, the OSA has requested that counties provide written responses as to why they are choosing not to sign the engagement letter. Counties are again under no legal obligation to provide the OSA with their reasoning in writing. Beginning on August 1, 2016, counties will have the option of selecting the OSA or choosing a CPA firm that meets all the requirements and standards of the OSA.

I understand that there has been much confusion with the OSA changing the length of the agreements set out in their engagement letters. To help clarify the many uncertainties surrounding this policy change from the OSA, I called a meeting of the Minnesota House's State Government Finance Committee on August 18th to listen to county concerns and have the State Auditor or her staff answer the numerous questions that have gone unanswered.

Despite two written invitations well in advance of the committee meeting, the State Auditor declined to attend or to send any members of her staff. Our committee appreciated the input that was provided to us by several county officials, but we left that hearing with more questions than answers. Unfortunately, the letter the State Auditor sent to the committee after we had adjourned did not answer the outstanding questions from that hearing.

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583 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1298

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E-mail update: www.house.mn/44a

Blog: repsarahanderson.wordpress.com

As a result, the State Government Finance Committee sent a letter on August 19th to the State Auditor requesting responses to eleven questions pertaining to the changes in county audit agreements that were left unanswered during that public hearing. As of today, I have yet to receive a response to any of those questions.

I understand the frustration that has come with the confusing demands from the OSA, but I would like to emphasize again that you are under no legal obligation to sign the three-year engagement letters or to respond in writing with your reasoning for not signing. I've also enclosed a memo from our non-partisan House Research staff that should help clarify the recent changes to state law concerning county audits.

I appreciate the work you do on behalf of Minnesota taxpayers, and I share your interest in making sure our government is transparent and accountable. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

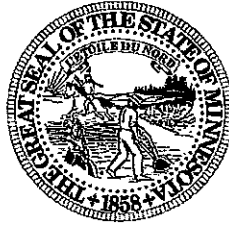
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sarah" being more prominent than the last name "Anderson".

Sarah Anderson
Chair, State Government Finance Committee

Research Department

Patrick J. McCormack, Director

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Minnesota House of Representatives

September 17, 2015

TO: Interested Legislators

FROM: Mark Shepard, Legislative Analyst

RE: New Law Governing County Audits

I have received a number of questions about a new law enacted by the 2015 legislature governing county audits. The new law is codified as Minnesota Statutes, section 6.481, and is available on the legislature's web site:

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=6.481>

Key points of the law are:

- A county must have an annual financial audit. Under the new law, a county may choose to have the audit performed by the State Auditor, or may choose to have the audit performed by a CPA firm.
- A county that plans to change to or from the State Auditor and a CPA firm must notify the State Auditor of this change by August 1 of an even-numbered year. A county that changes to or from the State Auditor must have two annual audits done by the new agency.
- The new law is effective August 1, 2016. If a county currently audited by the State Auditor gives notice by August 1, 2016 of intent to use a CPA firm, 2017 will be the first year's records that will be subject to audit by the CPA firm.

Please let me know if you have questions.

MS/sk