

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
NICOLLET COUNTY DRAINAGE AUTHORITY  
February 23, 2021

The Nicollet County Drainage Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 9:06 a.m. with Chair Terry Morrow presiding. Commissioners Marie Dranttel, John Luepke, Jack Kolars, Denny Kemp and Terry Morrow were present. Also present were County Administrator Ryan Krosch, Recording Secretary Abigail Lewis and County Attorney Michelle Zehnder Fischer.

The meeting was held via teleconference pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.021 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Zoom meeting technology was used to conduct the meeting.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Kolars and seconded by Commissioner Kemp to approve the agenda. Motion carried with all voting in favor on a roll call vote.

**Consent Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Kemp and seconded by Commissioner Dranttel to approve the consent agenda items as follows: approval of the February 9, 2021 Drainage Authority minutes. Motion carried with all voting in favor on a roll call vote.

**CD 77 Lateral 2 Re-Bid Recommendation**

Chuck Brandel, Engineer with ISG, provided an overview of the CD 77 Lateral 2 project. Engineer Brandel described the tile that will be installed during the project, the depth of the project, and the extent of private tile in the surrounding agricultural land. Engineer Brandel noted the challenges of this project and the importance of timely project completion.

This project was originally bid in October of 2020. The bids at that time were rejected due to the two lowest bidders not meeting specified requirements set forth by ISG. The project was advertised again for bids.

On January 13, 2021, six bids were received for CD 77 ranging from \$285,023.72 to \$419,700.79. The engineer's estimate was \$293,771.52. The bid requirements included:

- 5% Bid Bond
- Prime Contractor Response Form
- First-Tier Subcontractor List
- Available Equipment List
- Reference List of similar work within the past five years

Molnau Trucking LLC came in as the low bidder at \$285,023.72, but it is the recommendation of ISG to reject this bid. Engineer Brandel's recommendation is based upon the complexity of the project, Molnau Trucking LLC's lack of agricultural tile experience, and Molnau Trucking LLC's poor performance on a prior drainage project completed for Nicollet County. Nicollet County and ISG previously worked with Molnau Trucking LLC on the CD 79 project. During that project, Molnau Trucking LLC had poor communication with ISG when on site, Molnau Trucking LLC needed to re-do and repair areas of the project, and the project was not completed on time even though there was favorable weather conditions. Additionally, the reference list provided by Molnau Trucking LLC to ISG with the bid did not satisfy the requirements outlined for the project. There were no references for agricultural tile included in the bid proposal until ISG requested them twice. Once provided, the references included less than 2,000 linear feet of agricultural tile experience. Engineer Brandel noted the differences in the installation of a private tile and the tile installed in an agricultural tile project.

Nate Henry, Nicollet County Ditch Inspector, stated the improvement on CD 77

involves a lot of complexities and challenges. It will be necessary to have an experienced contractor complete the project. Inspector Henry noted the timeliness issues experienced with Molnau Trucking LLC in addition to the problems with overall project completion on CD 79.

Public Works Director Greenwood further outlined issues Molnau Trucking LLC had completing CD 79. He noted that during the pre-construction meeting for CD 79 with Molnau Trucking LLC it was explicitly stated that Molnau Trucking LLC should not use a private access road for this project. Molnau Trucking LLC used this private access and caused damage to the access point that Molnau Trucking LLC needed fix. Molnau Trucking LLC also had difficulty meeting pollution control permit requirements for the project due to timely completion of the project.

ISG is recommending awarding the bid to the second lowest bidder, Jensen Excavating & Trucking LLC. ISG has worked with Jensen Excavating & Trucking LLC on other projects and had good experiences with them in the past. Their references were also favorable.

Inspector Henry and Director Greenwood both indicated they agreed with ISG's recommendation to proceed with the second lowest bidder, Jensen Excavating & Trucking LLC.

Motion by Commissioner Luepke and seconded by Commissioner Kemp to accept the second lowest bid by Jensen Excavating & Trucking LLC in the amount of \$287,906.38 for CD 77 Lateral 2. Motion carried with all voting in favor on a roll call vote.

Chair Morrow adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

  
TERRY MORROW, CHAIR  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

  
RYAN KROSCH  
CLERK TO THE BOARD