

MANATEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT SOURCE SELECTION

SUBJECT	RFP #10-3448FL – Exotic Plant Eradication Services	DATE POSTED	March 15, 2010
PURCHASING REPRESENTATIVE	Frank Lambertson, 749-3042	DATE CONTRACT SHALL BE AWARDED	N/A
DEPARTMENT	Financial Management Dept./Purchasing Div.	CONSEQUENCES IF DEFERRED	N/A
SOURCE RECOMMENDATION	E Co Consultants, Inc.	AUTHORIZED BY DATE	Rob Cuthbert March 15, 2010

ACTION DESIRED

Approval to enter into negotiations with E Co Consultants, Inc., Palmetto, FL for services of Exotic Plant Eradication on an as needed basis for an estimated annual cost of \$50,000.

ENABLING/REGULATING AUTHORITY

Federal/State law(s), administrative ruling(s), Manatee County Comp Plan/Land Development Code, ordinances, resolutions, policy.)

Manatee County Code of Laws, Chapter 2-26 Manatee County Purchasing Ordinance, Section 2-26-40 and the Standards and Procedures approved by the County Administrator.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

- Manatee County Natural Resources and Parks & Recreation Department's have the need to acquire Exotic Plant Eradication Services on an as needed basis.
- Funding Source: Phosphate Severance Tax
- **MANATEE COUNTY** firms that were directly contacted and made aware of this Request for Proposal were, and took the following actions in response to the RFP:

Applied Ecological Services, LLC, Bradenton, FL (submitted proposal)
 Crosscreek Environmental, Inc., Bradenton, FL (submitted proposal)
 E Co Consultants, Inc., Palmetto, FL (submitted proposal)
 Rick Richards, Inc., Myakka City, FL (submitted proposal)
 Suncoast Environmental Group, Bradenton, FL (submitted proposal)
 WilsonMiller, Palmetto, FL (submitted proposal)

There were no other Manatee County firms found that would provide the products and services required by the RFP.

- Proposals were received from the following firms:

(continued on page 2)

SUMMARY	Recommend negotiations with E Co Consultants, Inc.		
ATTACHMENTS: (List in order as attached)	INSTRUCTIONS TO BOARD RECORDS:		
1. Approval Email Rob Cuthbert	N/A		
COST	\$50,000	SOURCE (ACCT# & NAME)	Phosphate Severance Tax
COMMENTS	N/A	AMT./FREQ. OF RECURRING COSTS (ATTACH FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT)	N/A

Manatee County firms:

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Crosscreek Environmental, Inc., Bradenton, FL
E Co Consultants, Inc., Palmetto, FL
Rick Richards, Inc., Myakka City, FL
Suncoast Environmental Group, Bradenton, FL
WilsonMiller, Palmetto, FL

Local firms:

EarthBalance, North Port, FL
Habitat Restoration Resources, Nokomis, FL

Other firms:

Applied Aquatic Management, Inc., Eagle Lake, FL
Aquatic Plant Management, Inc., Venus, FL
Arazoza Brothers, Corp., Homestead, FL
Bio-Tech Consulting Inc., Orlando, FL
Ecosystem Technologies, Inc., Ft. Myers, FL
Exotic Vegetation Management, Inc., Jupiter, FL
Florida Vegetation Management, Inc., Wauchula, FL
Ground Level, Inc., Mullberry, FL
Native Technologies, Deerfield Beach, FL
NaturChem Inc., Fort Meade, FL
Progressive Solutions, LLC, Marshall, AR

- 10/13/09 – 3/4/10 the appropriate proposal procedures were followed. The Request for Proposal (RFP) was broadcast via DemandStar to ninety (92) firms who provide this service; thirty three (33) firms down loaded the RFP and nineteen (19) firms' submitted proposals.
- The RFP was advertized locally in the Bradenton Herald, posted on the County's website and provided to the Manatee County Chamber of Commerce for release to members.
- The Selection Committee consisted of:

Keith Bettcher, Natural Resources Department
Frank Lambertson, Financial Management Department
Candie Pedersen, Parks and Recreation Department
- The Selection Committee convened 3/4/10 and short listed the following firms:

Suncoast Environmental Group, Bradenton, FL
E Co Consultants, Inc., Palmetto, FL
WilsonMiller, Palmetto, FL
- The Selection Committee then ranked the firms as follows for the purpose of negotiating a contract with the top ranked firm:

Ranked #1, E Co Consultants, Inc., Palmetto, FL – The top ranked firm demonstrated exceptional qualifications via their proposal. Of particular importance its understanding of the County's requirements; successful past performance and familiarity with the County's properties; a reasonable pricing structure and a willingness to work with the County.

Ranked #2, WilsonMiller, Palmetto, FL – The firm presented its professional capabilities in a clear and concise manner via their proposal response. It has successfully provided similar services as required in the Scope of Service of the Request for Proposal and provided acceptable references. However, was ranked second by the Selection Committee due to a presumed higher cost to the County.

Ranked #3, Applied Ecological Services, LLC, Bradenton, FL – Applied Ecological Services submitted an informative proposal detailing their qualifications and knowledge of the eradication of exotic plants. The firm was ranked #3 when compared to the higher ranked firms due a perception of the Selection Committee of lesser overall capabilities to meet the County's requirement.

- The remaining proposal respondents were not ranked, although well qualified they were not selected based on a comparison of capabilities of the selected firm.

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Applied Ecological Services, LLC, Bradenton, FL
Aquatic Plant Management, Inc., Venus, FL
Arazoza Brothers, Corp., Homestead, FL
Bio-Tech Consulting Inc., Orlando, FL
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Native Technologies, Deerfield Beach, FL
NuturChem Inc., Fort Meade, FL
Progressive Solutions, LLC, Marshall, AR
Rick Richards, Inc., Myakka City, FL



Selection for Negotiations Exotic Plant Eradication Services

Rob Cuthbert to: Frank Lambertson

03/12/2010 11:20 AM

Cc: Melissa Assha

This selection is for a contract less than \$1,000,000 and therefore, please proceed with a selection the written source selection for posting. This will be treated as the high category purchase due to the process chosen.

Thanks, Rob Cuthbert

Background:

Approval to enter into negotiations with the top ranked firm E Co Consultants, Inc., Palmetto, FL for services of Exotic Plant Eradication on an as needed basis for an estimated annual cost of \$50,000.

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Rick Richards, Inc., Myakka City, FL

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