

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Consideration of Procurement Determination Declaring Initial Proposal Non-Responsive and Award of Contract to Cowart Electric

DATE OF MEETING: April 28, 2026

Work
Session/Regular
Session

BUDGET IMPACT: \$1,845,280.00 - Lowndes County to receive 100% reimbursement

FUNDING SOURCE:

- (X) FEMA Funding - \$1,088,903
- (X) GEMA Funding - \$145,187
- (X) Pruitt Health - \$611,190
- () SPLOST
- () TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Declaring Initial Proposal Non-Responsive and Award of Contract to Cowart Electric

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES:

On February 10, 2026, the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners awarded a contract to Current Edge Solutions for the installation of emergency backup generators on five Pruitt Health facilities in Lowndes County. This award was based on the proposal submitted by Current Edge in response to a Request for Proposals for the project, which is to be funded through Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding awarded to Lowndes County on behalf of Pruitt Health.

Following receipt of proposals and subsequent review of contractor submittals for the above-referenced project, staff conducted a detailed comparison of the selected proposer's proposed equipment and materials against the minimum requirements established in the solicitation and the Engineer's Drawings and Specifications.

This review identified multiple material deviations from the required specifications, including but not limited to:

- Substitution of a steel enclosure in lieu of the specified aluminum enclosure
- Use of enamel paint in lieu of the specified powder-coated finish

These deviations constitute a failure to meet the minimum technical requirements and are considered material, not minor or informal. The contractor has subsequently confirmed in writing that they are unable to provide equipment meeting the specified requirements within their proposed price or schedule.

In accordance with federal procurement standards under 2 CFR §200.320(d), competitive proposal procurement requires that contracts be awarded to the responsible firm whose proposal is most