

Functional Family Therapy services. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the grant application as presented, seconded by Commissioner Marshall. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Renewal of Disaster Related Debris Contracts

EMA Director, Ashley Tye, stated on June 25, 2024, the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners awarded pre-event contracts for disaster-related debris removal services. Contracts were executed with Ashbritt Environmental, DRC Emergency Services, and Southern Disaster Recovery (SDR). The initial contracts were for one-year terms with the option to renew for up to an additional four (4) years. This will be the second renewal, so the third year of the contract. The Board of Commissioners exercised that option in 2025, renewing the contracts for all three vendors through June 24, 2026. As part of that renewal process, the Board of Commissioners approved a 1.9% price increase for Ashbritt, based on the Consumer Price Index in effect at the time of renewal and consistent with the terms of the initial contract. Neither DRC nor SDR requested a price increase. All three vendors have expressed their desire to renew their contracts with Lowndes County for an additional one-year term, effective from June 25, 2026, through June 24, 2027. None of the vendors are requesting a price increase as part of this renewal. Mr. Tye did ask regarding a price reduction and stated there would be no decrease. Commissioner Marshall asked regarding assistance from the state, do they pay the same rate. Mr. Tye responded no they do not pay the same rate. Additionally, Mr. Tye stated it is the intent of the Army Corps to engage earlier and more often in future disasters. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if all vendors were used. Mr. Tye stated no, only Ashbritt was used. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the renewal of disaster-related debris contracts with Ashbritt Environmental, DRC Emergency Services and Southern Disaster Recovery (SDR), seconded by Commissioner Wisenbaker. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

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

EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the item. Mr. Tye stated that in February, sealed bids were brought before the Board as part of a request for proposals for generators for five nursing home facilities in Lowndes County. The bid was awarded to the lowest responsive bidder that met the requirements of Lowndes County. However, after additional research was completed and shop drawings were provided, it was determined that the proposed pricing could not meet the required specifications. As a result, the award was made in error. Staff worked with the Lowndes County Finance Department to ensure local policies were followed as well as with GEMA and FEMA to ensure compliance with all applicable state and federal policies. Mr. Tye stated the request is to declare the original proposal, which was awarded to Current Edge Solutions, non-responsive and award the contract to Cowart Electric as the next vendor. Commissioner Smith asked if Cowart Electric could complete installation by the end of the year. Mr. Tye responded yes. Commissioner Smith also asked if there were approximately 500 residents between all of the facilities. Mr. Tye responded yes. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to declare the initial proposal from Current Edge Solutions non-responsive and award the contract to Cowart Electric, seconded by Commissioner Smith. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

VAWA Continuation Grant Application

Chairman Slaughter presented the item stating the Commission heard from Ms. Karen Hayes with the Solicitor General's Office during the work session. No further discussion took place. Commissioner Smith made a motion to accept the Solicitor General's VAWA Continuation Grant Award AW-VAWA-