

EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request

For Contract Awards, Renewals, and Increases

The Board is being asked to approve a new contract with **Western Utility Telecom Inc.** for **Tubular Steel Pole Structures for use in EWEB's Thurston to McKenzie River Crossing Transmission Line.**

Board Meeting Date: November 7, 2023
Project Name/Contract #: Tubular Steel Pole Structures / 23-180-G
Manager: Tyler Nice Ext. 7388
Executive Officer: Karen Kelley/Rod Price Ext. 7153/7122

Contract Amount:

Original Contract Amount: \$725,000
Additional \$ Previously Approved: \$0
Spend over last approval: \$0
Amount this Request: \$725,000
% Increase over last approval: NA
Resulting Cumulative Total: **\$725,000 (over 5 years)**

Contracting Method:

Method of Solicitation: Formal Invitation to Bid
If applicable, basis for exemption: NA
Term of Agreement: 5 years
Option to Renew? Yes, annually up to five (5) years total
Approval for purchases "as needed": Yes No
Bids Received: 5 (\$453,721.92 – 862,811.69)
Selection Basis: Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder

Narrative:

Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

The rebuild of Thurston to BPA tap transmission line will require eight (8) tubular steel transmission structures. The existing transmission line is 54 years old and the laminated wood structures are deteriorating. These structures support three circuits and cross the McKenzie River, passing through an area that is inaccessible for much of the year. Should one of these deteriorating structures fail it could be months before we could repair the circuits, depending on the time of year. The new structures won't be susceptible to rot and replacing these wooden structures with steel presents increased resiliency in case of a wildfire. The steel poles are necessary to rebuild these transmission lines.

Contracted Goods or Services

The initial order will consist of eight (8) tubular steel structures comprised of fourteen (14) tubular steel poles, with associated crossarms and braces. This contract covers the design, fabrication, and delivery of these structures. No field services are included with this contract. There are two (2) additional structures that are pending BPA approval and the contract includes the funds for this purchase. Additional funds have been allocated to include any potential future orders of poles for other projects or pole replacements.

Purchasing Process

In September 2023, EWEB issued a formal Invitation to Bid (ITB) for tubular steel pole structures and advertised in the State of Oregon’s website, OregonBuys. Five (5) bids were received, and Western Utility Telecom Inc. was deemed to be the lowest bidder that was responsive and responsible. At the time of the bid opening, the lowest two bids and the highest bid did not provide the required documentation to be determined responsive.

Bids Received

Vendor Name	City, State	Offered Price
Continental Poles – Skipper Limited	Kolkata, India	\$494,776
Klute Steel	York, Nebraska	\$862,912
MVA Power Inc.	Montreal, Quebec	\$453,722
Valmont Utility	Omaha, Nebraska	\$804,066
Western Utility / Telecom Inc.	Salem, OR	\$565,944

Prior Contract Activities

EWEB Contract	Project Name (Description)	Board Approved Date	Project Duration (Start to Close)	Original Amount	Final Amount	Reason Code
22-105-G	Deadend Structures for Currin Substation	8/2/2022	8/11/22 – 8/31/23	\$288,430	\$310,887	AM
22-171-G	Steel Transmission Pole	N/A	8/31/22 -11/15/22	\$43,036	\$43,036	

Reason Code: AM = Additional Materials, AW = Additional Work, EW= Emergency Work, SD = Staff Directed, UC = Unforeseen Conditions, Other

ACTION REQUESTED:

Management requests the Board approve a contract with Western Utility Telecom Inc. for tubular steel pole structures. Funds for these structures are planned for in the 2024 Electric Capital budget of \$69.9 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.