



Commission Meeting

Meeting Date: January 7, 2025

AO RFP #25-300 State Lobbying

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| Department: | Administrator's Office |
| Presenter: | Tameka Allen, Administrator |
| Caption: | Motion to approve award of RFP #25-300, State Lobbying and Legislative Representation Services, to Holland & Knight LLP, pending final contract negotiations. |
| Background: | Augusta has engaged lobbying firms to advocate for Augusta's interests at the State and Federal levels. The State lobbyist is responsible for assisting the County in drafting local legislation, developing and pursuing an annual legislative policy agenda, and monitoring emerging legislation that may impact Augusta. The term of Augusta's current State lobbying contract ended on December 31, 2024. |
| Analysis: | <p>The Procurement Department issued RFP #25-300 for State Lobbying and Legislative Representation Services. Two complete proposals were received. After evaluation, Holland & Knight LLP was determined to be the best, most responsive proposer.</p> <p>The proposed contract would be awarded for a term of three years. Staff are currently working with Holland & Knight LLP to develop a contract under the attached Terms of Engagement.</p> |
| Financial Impact: | Holland & Knight LLP's fee is \$96,000.00 per year. This is a slight cost savings over the 2022-2024 contract amount of \$102,000.00 per year. Funds are budgeted in the Administrator's Office budget. |
| Alternatives: | Cancel RFP #25-300 and proceed without a State lobbyist for the 2025 session. |
| Recommendation: | Approve award of RFP #25-300, State Lobbying and Legislative Representation Services, to Holland & Knight LLP, pending final contract negotiations. |
| Funds are available in the following accounts: | 101013210-5211120 |
| <u>REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:</u> | N/A |