



STAFF REPORT
9/8/2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Cástulo R. Estrada, Utilities Manager

SUBJECT: Approve awarding a contract for the replacement of 800 domestic consumption meters to J.C. Tuckmar Inc, in the amount of \$78,040.00 plus 10% contingency.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with J.C. Tuckmar Inc, in the amount of \$78,040.00 plus 10% contingency for the replacement of 800 domestic consumption meters.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The City of Coachella and its Coachella Water Authority (CWA) is responsible for the water service to its residents and customers within its service boundary. The Utilities Department serves a population of approximately 45,000 and a service area size of approximately 53 square miles. There are approximately 8,800 (meter) connections to the system.

The existing metering system for CWA is read through an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) and Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. Currently staff drives around with a receiver in their vehicle, which polls the meter register for customer usage data. The data is collected by the receiver. Once the staff is done for the day or week, the receiver data is uploaded to the financial system for billing purposes. It takes approximately one day for all of the meters to be read by two Water Operators with the current AMR and AMI system. However, there are meters and registers that have reached end of life and no longer transmit information to the receiver. Most of these meters need to be read by hand which requires a tremendous amount of time and manpower. It typically takes the current Water Staff approximately an entire week to complete the list of non-reads by reading meters by hand.

There are approximately 2,000 meters that need replacement. Coachella Water Authority requested bids for the replacement of 800 meters at this time and plans to replace the remainder as we purchase and receive more inventory.

On August 9th, 2021 bid proposals were received from four (6) contractors as follows:

1. JC Tuckmar Inc	\$78,040.00
2. Tri-Star Contracting II	\$95,200.00
3. Golden Meter Service Inc	\$100,00.00

4. R.E. Chaffee Construction Inc	\$102,400.00
5. Statewide Services Inc	\$187,760.00
6. Desert Concepts Construction Inc	\$192,000.00

Staff has reviewed all six (6) bids and has determined the lowest responsive bid was submitted by JC Tuckmar Inc.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Project funding allocation of \$85,844.00 is included in the Capital Improvement Program in the City's 2021/2022 approved budget under project W-47.