

June 1, 2026

Mr. Randy Myrum
Columbus Utilities
950 Maple Ave.
Columbus, WI 53925

RE: Water Plant 2 Reliability Improvements

Dear Mr. Myrum:

Bids for the above project were opened on May 14, 2026, via virtually online at Quest and were as follows:

	BIDDER	BASE BID
1.	<u>Sabel Mechanical, LLC</u>	<u>\$905,950.00</u>
2.	<u>Rohde Brothers, Inc.</u>	<u>\$965,300.00</u>
3.	<u>August Winter & Sons, Inc.</u>	<u>\$970,300.00</u>

We reviewed the documentation submitted by the apparent low bidder and found that:

1. The Bid Form has been appropriately completed.
2. We have no objections to the low bidder,
3. Low bidder has successfully completed similar projects over the last five years based on past experience with previous Ruekert & Mielke, Inc. projects.

On these bases, we recommend that Sabel Mechanical be awarded the Water Plant 2 Reliability Improvements contract, in the amount of \$905,950.00. This amount is based on the bid unit prices and estimated quantities. On all construction projects, and especially complex ones like this, unpredictable factors may increase the final contract amount. For this reason, we recommend that the Columbus Utilities include a 10 percent contingency when preparing the financial plan for this work.

Our review did not include an evaluation of bidder's current financial condition nor of their permanent safety program.

Should you decide to accept our recommendation, we have prepared the enclosed Notice of Award for your use. Please have the appropriate official sign where indicated and forward a signed copy of the Notice of Award to our office. We will then fill in the date at the top of page one and forward it, with contracts for execution, to the Contractor. One fully completed Notice of Award will be returned to you for your records.

Bids remain subject to acceptance until July 13, 2026, unless Bidder agrees to an extension. Please advise us of your award decision or call if there are any questions.

Mr. Myrum
Recommendation of Award
June 1, 2026
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Respectfully,

RUEKERT & MIELKE, INC.

Donald J Heikkila

Digitally signed by Donald J Heikkila
DN: C=US,
E=dheikkila@ruekert-mielke.com,
O=Ruekert & Mielke, CN=Donald J
Heikkila
Date: 2026.06.01 10:49:38-05'00'

Donald J. Heikkila, P.E. (WI, PA)
Project Manager
dheikkila@ruekert-mielke.com

DJH:alc

Encl: Notice of Award
Bid Tabulation

cc: Jacob Tanner, Lead Water Operator Columbus Utilities

COST COMPARISON OF BIDDERS

OWNER: Columbus Utilities
PROJECT: Water Plant 2 Reliability Improvements
BID OPENING DATE: May 14, 2026

BASE BID				Sabel Mechanical, LLC		Rohde Brothers, Inc.		August Winter & Sons, Inc	
ITEM #	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QTY.	UNIT \$	TOTAL	UNIT \$	TOTAL	UNIT \$	TOTAL
1	Softener Equipment Reconditioning	LS	1	\$606,800.00	\$606,800.00	\$691,100.00	\$691,100.00	\$680,300.00	\$680,300.00
2	Electrical Work	LS	1	\$299,150.00	\$299,150.00	\$274,200.00	\$274,200.00	\$290,000.00	\$290,000.00
TOTAL OF ALL ESTIMATED PRICES (ITEMS 1 - 2)					\$905,950.00		\$965,300.00		\$970,300.00