

Staff Report

Subject: Engineering Services Agreement with Goodwyn Mills Cawood (GMC) for Countywide Water and Wastewater Modeling

Author: Danielle Carver, Procurement and Contracts Manager; Presented by Tre Wilkins

Department: Procurement / Engineering

Meeting Date: November 4, 2025

Item Description: Consideration to approve an agreement with Goodwyn Mills Cawood, LLC (GMC) for professional engineering services to develop and maintain comprehensive hydraulic models of the County's water distribution and wastewater collection systems.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the agreement with GMC to provide critical water and sewer modeling services and authorization for the Chairman to execute all necessary documents.

Executive Summary/Background:

Effingham County has identified the need to update and expand its understanding of the existing and future capacity of its water and wastewater infrastructure. This agreement with GMC will deliver detailed modeling and capital planning support to guide infrastructure investment, regulatory compliance, and growth-related decision-making.

The project scope includes the following tasks:

- Task 1: Kickoff & System Review – Review existing data, GIS, and infrastructure
- Task 2: Demand & Loading Analysis – Evaluate historic billing, plant capacity, and usage patterns
- Task 3: Treatment Facility Overview – Summarize existing water and wastewater plant operations and capacity
- Task 4: Hydraulic Modeling – Update and calibrate water and sewer models to current conditions
- Task 5: Capital Planning – Identify needed improvements and provide cost estimates
- Task 6: Final Reporting – Deliver a comprehensive summary with maps, infographics, and findings

The modeling effort will incorporate planned developments, assess level-of-service (LoS) targets, and help prioritize capital projects. A summary infographic will be prepared to support public communication or future presentations to the Board.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the agreement with GMC in the amount of \$172,000.
2. Do not approve the agreement and provide staff with direction.
3. Request modifications to the scope or budget.

Recommended Alternative: 1

Other Alternatives: 2, 3

Department Review: Procurement and Engineering

Funding Source: SPLOST

Attachments: GMC – County-wide Water and Sewer Agreement