



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 01/10/2023

REQUESTER: Rachel Croft, Staff Engineer

PRESENTER: Rachel Croft, Staff Engineer

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF AWARDING, APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF BID 2225-35 AND CONTRACT K-2223-12: BY AND BETWEEN THE NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND CIMARRON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, L.L.C., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$584,950 FOR THE BLENDING OF WELLS 5, 6, AND 52 AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT, PERFORMANCE BOND B-2223-13, STATUTORY BOND B-2223-14, MAINTENANCE BOND MB-2223-6 AND BUDGET TRANSFER AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

BACKGROUND:

Each groundwater well utilized by the City of Norman is required to be analyzed for multiple parameters each month before entering the distribution system. In order to mitigate time and money used for collecting and analyzing tests, the City has started to combine multiple wells before entering the mined water into the distribution system. Combining wells allows for recovered capacity, as well as lowering cost associated with sampling each well and the time needed for personnel to collect multiple samples each month from every well. The City currently has three locations that serve as blending points for other wells in the system. Based on their proximity, this project will combine untreated water from Wells 5, 6, and 52 at the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) before entering the mined water into the distribution system.

Well 5 is currently connected directly and blended into the treatment processes at the WTP. However, Well 5 can only be utilized when the high-pressure pumps turn on periodically, based on the level of the water tower across the street. In addition, this well is only run sparingly to not dilute the beneficial chlorine being produced in the treated water from the WTP. Wells 6 and 52 are not currently utilized by the system at all, due to water quality issues. They must be blended with other waters in order to provide water to the system that meets water quality service levels.

This proposed project will recover groundwater from wells that are currently not being utilized or not being utilized to their full capacity. Approximately 0.53 million gallons per day will be recovered, which is critical during peak demand periods. The location for this blending point would be on the west side of the WTP on Robinson Street where Well 6 is already connected. Groundwater mined from Wells 5 and 52 would be combined at the intersection of Robinson Street and 36th Ave NE before combining with Well 6 at the WTP.

This project would require approximately 2,200 linear feet of 8-inch waterline from well 52 on 36th Ave NE to the intersection at Robinson Street. An existing 12-inch waterline will then be converted to a groundwater line as it moves west on Robinson Street before it combines with Well 6 and the distribution system. In addition, two lines consisting of approximately 260 linear feet of 8-inch and 6-inch waterline under Robinson Street will be required to connect the neighborhoods on the north side of Robinson Street with the existing high-pressure line. An existing 10-inch waterline and an old 24-inch concrete line at the WTP will be abandoned as part of this project.

DISCUSSION:

The Invitation to Bid for Bid 2223-35 for Blending of Wells 5, 6, and 52 at the Water Treatment Plant Project (WA0369) was published in the *Norman Transcript* on November 3, 2022 and November 10, 2022 and contained a Base Bid for the entire project.

Three (3) contractors attended an optional pre-bid meeting held on November 18, 2022. Bids were opened on December 1, 2022, and three (3) contractors submitted bids. The bids ranged from \$584,950 to \$748,939. Cimarron Construction Company, LLC was the low bidder with a total bid of \$584,950 (the bid results are shown in the attached bid summary). There was an error on the bid for Southwest Water Works, but this does not affect the outcome of the low bidder. Staff and Freese and Nichols, Inc. (letter attached) recommend awarding the bid to Cimarron Construction Company, LLC. As shown in the Bid Summary and the Engineer's Recommendation to Award, the low bid was higher than the Engineer's Estimate of \$548,939. However, due to fluctuations in the pricing and availability of materials in the current market, the Engineer considers the estimate, approximately 6 percent below the lowest bid, to be within the margin of error.

This project was envisioned under the larger WTP Well Field Blending project (WA0214). However, for record keeping purposes, a new project for Blending of Wells 5, 6, and 52 (WA0369) was established. WTP Well Field Blending, Construction (Account 31993398-46101; Project WA0214) has \$730,469.11 in available funds; therefore, it is proposed that \$625,000 from the WTP Well Field Blending, Construction account (31993398-46101) be transferred into Blending of Wells 5, 6, and 52, Construction (Account 31993345-46101; Project WA0369). This would provide sufficient funds for the design of this project plus approximately 6.8 percent for contract modifications.

Work on this project will commence after NUA approval of the contract and will end in September 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the NUA approve Contract K-2223-12 in the amount of \$584,950 with Cimarron Construction Company, LLC for the Blending of Wells 5, 6, and 52 at the Water Treatment Plant Project; Performance Bond B-2223-13, Statutory Bond B-2223-14, and Maintenance Bond MB-2223-6; and authorize a transfer in the amount of \$625,000 from WTP Well Field Blending into Blending of Wells 5,6 and 52.