



Memo

To: Paula Trigg **File:** Pulaski Dr Culvert
From: Mike Zemaitis **Sect:** 14-00196-09-DR
Subj: Justification of Bid – 8/16/16 Letting **Date:** 8/19/16

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 Please Process Note and Return OK'd by Paula Trigg Date 8/23/16

We received five bids for the Pulaski Drive Culvert Replacement project. All of the bids exceeded the Engineer's Estimate. The low bid was \$296,847 over the estimate.

This type of culvert replacement in a bridge overpass embankment is not a common project for the County to undertake. We do not have a history of bid prices associated with constructing this type of project. Unit prices for the project were secured by the design consultant based on discussions with contractors and limited unit price information from an IDOT project that was constructed in 2011.

An analysis of the bid tabulation shows that a large portion of the cost increase over the estimate is due to the prices received for STORM SEWERS JACKED IN PLACE, 60". This work is done by a specialty contractor, and the low bidder was \$115,200 over the estimated price. The other three bidders exceed the price by up to \$339,200.

Unit prices for other items exceeded the estimated prices. This is likely due to the small quantities for some of the pay items that are included on this project, and also because MOBILIZATION was not included as a separate pay item on this project.

In addition to the installation of a 60" culvert, this project also includes abandoning an existing 96" corrugated metal culvert that previously functioned as a cattle pass through the roadway embankment. The culvert is in poor condition, and has temporary bracing installed inside to assist in maintaining the structural integrity of the metal walls. Because of the condition of this culvert, it should be abandoned and filled in 2016.

As there were five bids received, it is not anticipated that re-letting this project would result in lower bid prices. Based on the above, I recommend that the County award the contract to the low bidder, Lake County Grading Company, at the bid price of \$819,289.00. I further recommend the low bidder submit Value Engineering concepts outlining alternatives to lower the construction cost for approval by the County.

Approved by:

Michael G. Zemaitis, P.E.
Engineer of Design

Philip Ruiz, P.E.
Project Engineer