

BID # 13274

**Purchase of Water Meter Reading Services  
for the Lake County Department of Public Works**

VENDOR NAME Rickman Contract Services, Inc.  
 ADDRESS 608 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
 LaGrange, IL 60525

CONTACT Charles Rickman E-Mail: [crickman@ameritech.net](mailto:crickman@ameritech.net)

PHONE # 708-768-1275 CELL # FAX # 708-482-0260

AWARD AMOUNT \$ 78,500.00

BUDGETED AMOUNT

BUDGETED FUNDING Various Public Works Accounts

BOARD AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED Yes, at the 11/12/13 Board Meeting

CONTRACT AWARD DATE 11/12/13, after the Lake County Board Meeting

TERM PERIOD 2 Years, from 11/12/13 through 11/11/15.

ISSUE AWARD WITH A ONE-TIME PURCHASE ORDER No

SEND AN AWARD LETTER Yes

AWARD TO THE LOW RESPONSIVE, BIDDER Yes

**EXPLANATION:**

This Bid was advertised in the newspaper, posted on the Lake County Web-Site, and:

- Bid Notices were e-mailed to 6 contractors.
- 12 Contractors registered to download the bid documents.
- Bids from 1 contractor was received and opened on 10/24/13.
- This award recommendation is to the low, responsive, responsible bidder.

| BIDDERS                         | CITY & STATE | BASE BID AMOUNT |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Rickman Contract Services, Inc. | LaGrange, IL | \$ 78,500.00    |

This is an award recommendation to the low, responsive, responsible bidder.

Rickman Contract Services, Inc. submitted the low, responsive, responsible bid. Philip Perna, the Assistant Director of Public Works, has recommended this award to Rickman Contract Services, Inc. Rickman Contract Services, Inc. was awarded the last bid for these services and has been successfully performing the same services for the past 5 years. I concur with Phil Perna and recommend this award to Rickman Contract Services, Inc., the low, responsive, responsible bidder, in an estimated amount of \$ 78,500.00 per year.

**(Attached are e-mails, from 3 prospective bidders, indicating why they did not submit a bid.)**

Larry Wollheim

10/28/13

BID # 13274

**Purchase of Water Meter Reading Services  
for the Lake County Department of Public Works**

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**VENDOR NAME** Rickman Contract Services, Inc.  
**ADDRESS** 608 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
LaGrange, IL 60525

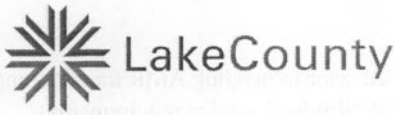
**CONTACT** Charles Rickman E-Mail: [crickman@ameritech.net](mailto:crickman@ameritech.net)

**PHONE #** 708-768-1275 **CELL #** **FAX #** 708-482-0260

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**CONTRACT AWARD ITEMS**

| Bid Item # | Description   | Qty    | Unit of Measure | Unit Price | Extension           |
|------------|---|--------|-----------------|------------|---------------------|
| 1.0        | Water Meter Reads: Outside/Remote or Inside, per all terms, conditions, and specifications of Bid #13274. | 70,000 | Each            | \$ 1.00    | \$ 70,000.00        |
| 2.0        | Water Meter Reads: Post Cards, per all terms, conditions, and specifications of Bid #13274.               | 8,500  | Each            | \$ 1.00    | \$ 8,500.00         |
|            | <b>TOTAL OF BID ITEMS 1.0 AND 2.0</b>   |        |                 |            | <b>\$ 78,500.00</b> |



Purchasing Division
18 North County St 9th Floor
Waukegan, IL 60085-4350
Phone 847 377 2929
Fax 847 984 5889

October 21, 2013

ADDENDUM #1 (Page 1 of 4)

INVITATION TO BID #13274
Water Meter Reading Services for the Lake County Department of Public Works
Bid Opening Date: Thursday, October 24, 2013; 2:00 p.m. Local Time

Please note the following clarifications, revisions, and additions to the bid documents.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

- 1. Question: (Ref: pg 6, Bid #13274 General Conditions, Item #1) Please provide the historical average number of "can't reads"/unsuccessful attempts per month (or per year) that would be considered as "non-billable" by the Contractor to the County (ref: contractor paid on a "per meter read" basis). Response: In the month of September 2013, there were a total of 7,335 meters to be read. This total was read less 24 attempted reads, 17 postcards left, and 11 unread meters. This is a typical breakdown.
2. Question: (General) Is the current meter reading route sequencing structure considered as efficient allowing for optimal in-field productivity (i.e. sequenced "door-to-door" with no skips and minimal "dead walks"/downtime)? If no, please provide associated details. Response: The routes are currently sequenced with no or few skips. However, as the AMR project progresses through an area, there will be meters that will no longer have the need for manual/walk by AMR reading resulting in "skipped" meters.
3. Question: (General) Are there currently account specific notes and codes to assist the Meter Readers to both locate the meters plus alert to potential safety related issues (e.g. bad dog on premise, key required, meter on right side, etc.)? Response: Yes. Locations and notes are transmitted to the handheld unit, when available.

PLEASE SIGN THIS FORM AND E-MAIL TO purchasing@lakecountyil.gov or FAX TO 847-984-5889 WITHIN 24 BUSINESS HOURS. RETURN ORIGINAL WITH BID.

I will be submitting a bid \_\_\_\_\_ or I will not be submitting a bid because \_\_\_\_\_ Please see following page.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature of RuthAnne Hall]


RuthAnne Hall
Lake County Purchasing Agent

Acknowledged and Accepted 13274-01:

[Handwritten signature]

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
Company: Olameter Corporation
\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for providing the opportunity to participate in this solicitation. Olameter will not be responding to the RFP as based on the following:

1. No service volume guarantees during the term of the contract. 
2. No contractual term guarantee (e.g. up to a maximum of 2 years but could be concluded prior to pending AMR transitioning).
3. No in-field service requirement guarantees (e.g. pre-AMR "walking" versus post-AMR "driving" service requirements).
4. Inherent difficulties in staff retention based on AMR transitioning schedule/forecast.
5. No provision for escalation/revision to pricing regarding AMR transitioning and the direct impact to on-going in-field service requirements (ref: pre-AMR "walking" versus post-AMR "driving" service requirements).
6. Inherent difficulties in providing accurate, fair pricing to the County, as based on current versus future AMR transitioning impact to in-field service requirement.
7. General concerns with predicting/recovery of fixed costs throughout the contract period (e.g. recruitment/training costs, IT costs, uniforms, miscellaneous tools, etc.).


**From:** Wollheim, Larry A.  
**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2013 4:27 PM  
**To:** Wollheim, Larry A.  
**Subject:** Pease Service phone response.

10/25/13

Don Pease called and gave me a long explanation why he did not bid.

Basically he thought that we were happy with our current contractor and we were only issuing a bid because we had reached the 5-year requirement and we were forced to issue a new bid.

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LakeCounty  
Purchasing Division

**Larry Wollheim**  
18 North County Street - 9th Floor  
Waukegan, IL 60085-4334  
Direct: 847-377-2171 | Fax: 847-984-5992  
[lwollheim@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:lwollheim@lakecountyil.gov)

BUY LOCAL  
BUILD LOCAL  
WORK LOCAL  
Doingbusiness.lakecountyil.gov



**From:** Rex Van Wert [mailto:rex@vanwertinc.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2013 4:26 PM  
**To:** Wollheim, Larry A.  
**Subject:** RE: Lake County's Bid #13274 for Water Meter Reading Services opened on 10/24/13.

I was unable to download the bidding documents and as I think this project was a little out of our market area I decided not pursue it further.

Rex Van Wert  
319-825-3841  
319-240-4906 Cell  
319-825-3345 Fax



*Van Wert Inc.*

**From:** Wollheim, Larry A. [mailto:LWollheim@lakecountyil.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2013 4:03 PM  
**To:** [rex@vanwertinc.com](mailto:rex@vanwertinc.com)  
**Subject:** Lake County's Bid #13274 for Water Meter Reading Services opened on 10/24/13.

We are hoping that you would please take a minute to let us know why you did not submit a bid on this project. Please e-mail me with a brief explanation.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Thank you.



**Larry Wollheim**  
18 North County Street - 9th Floor  
Waukegan, IL 60085-4334  
Direct: 847-377-2171 | Fax: 847-984-5992  
[lwollheim@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:lwollheim@lakecountyil.gov)



**From:** Perna, Philip M.  
**Sent:** Monday, October 28, 2013 10:30 AM  
**To:** Wollheim, Larry A.  
**Cc:** Kolb, Peter; Dalessandro, Kathleen P.; Faircloth, Mike R.  
**Subject:** Water Meter Reading Services - Bid #13274

The Public Works Department has reviewed the bid opening results for the Water Meter Reading Services, Bid Opening #13274.

We recommend award of the contract to Rickman Contract Services, Inc. in the amount of \$78,500.

Rickman has been our meter reading services contractor over the last five years and during that time they have performed very well.

Phil Perna  
Assistant Director of Public Works  
847.377.7124  
[pperna@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:pperna@lakecountyil.gov)

