



DATE: February 1, 2021

MEMO TO: Jessica Vealitzek, Chair
Operations Committee

Julie Simpson, Chair
Finance Committee

FROM: James L. Anderson
Director of Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding Contracts for District-Wide Invasive Plant Management for (a) East Invasive Plant Management Project to Liberty Prairie Restorations in the Contract Price of \$91,560.00 and (b) Sun Lake Teasel Management Project and West Invasive Plant Management Project to Red Buffalo Nursery in the Contract Price of \$106,875.00.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Conservation

FINANCIAL DATA: The District’s adopted FY 2021 Budget provides funding for the Projects (defined below). Funding accounts for some of these Projects (the Farm Management Fund (28644000), Wetlands Management Fund (24614100), and the Land Development Levy (20104100)), are listed in the table below. The table also identifies the “Actual Low Bid Amount,” which is the recommended lowest responsible bid received for the corresponding Project listed in the table. The Projects were estimated to cost \$200,000.00 in total. Total bids for the Projects came in at \$11,203.00 (5.6%) over that estimate. Funds are available to cover this cost from the Farm Management Fund.

PROJECT	ACTUAL LOW BID AMOUNT	ACCOUNT	ESTIMATE
East Invasive Plant Management (Multiple Preserves)	\$91,560.00	24614100-803200-62404 (\$7,500.00) 28644000-705100-62806 (\$84,060.00)	\$92,000.00
West Invasive Plant Management (Multiple Preserves)	\$93,195.00	28644000-705100-62806 (\$93,195.00)	\$98,000.00
Sun Lake Teasel Management	\$13,680.00	28644000-705100-62806 (\$13,680.00)	

A third contract for the Buffalo Creek Teasel Management Project has already been awarded to McGinty Brothers, which submitted a low bid of \$12,768.00. That work was estimated at \$10,000.00.

BACKGROUND: Invasive plant management includes the removal of invasive plants from District lands to improve and conserve natural communities and biodiversity. Invasive plant species compete with native plant and animal species and degrade the natural communities they are dependent upon. Invasive species include European buckthorn, reed canary grass, common reed, cut-leaved tease and many more species. Invasive plant management is the most time-consuming task faced by District natural restoration crews, and is a significant challenge to habitat conservation. Management of invasive plants is necessary to improve healthy landscapes, which is one of the District’s five-year objectives. To more efficiently accomplish this work, each year, the District hires contractors on an hourly basis to complete several projects to manage herbaceous invasive plants.

The District advertised for bids for multiple invasive plant management projects throughout the District (the “Projects”). The work within each of these Projects includes all labor, equipment and materials to control select invasive plants, including, but not limited to: Reed Canary Grass, Teasel, Cattails, Common Reed, Japanese Knotweed, Leafy spurge, Fig Buttercup, Crown vetch, Common Goldenrod, and Oriental Bittersweet.

The Projects include (without limitation) the following work at the following District sites:

- Sun Lake Forest Preserve Teasel Management
- Buffalo Creek Forest Preserve Teasel Management
- East Invasive Plant Management:
Ryerson Conservation Area, Grainger Woods, MacArthur Woods, Captain Daniel Wright Woods & Stevenson Home , Greenbelt, Wadsworth Savanna, Lake Carina, Pine Dunes, Oriole Grove, Lyons Woods, Old School, Fort Sheridan, Prairie Wolf Slough, Fourth Lake, Independence Grove, Almond Marsh , Van Patten Woods, and Waukegan Savanna.
- West Invasive Plant Management:
Lakewood, Rollins Savanna, Gander Mountain, Ray Lake, Raven Glen, Nippersink, Singing Hills, Heron Creek, Kettle Grove , Cuba Marsh, Grassy Lake, Tanager Kames, and Bluebird Meadow

The Projects were advertised on November 19, 2020 and bids were received from eight bidders. Work is anticipated to begin April 15, 2021 and be completed by October 25, 2021. A summary of the bids received is listed below, with each low bid highlighted:

VENDOR	Sun Lake Teasel Mgmt	Buffalo Creek Teasel Mgmt	East IPM	West IPM
Liberty Prairie Restorations	No Bid	\$13,440.00	\$91,560.00	No Bid
Integrated Lakes Management	\$22,400.00	\$22,400.00	\$152,600.00	\$152,600.00
CARDNO	\$17,818.00	\$17,818.00	\$128,620.00	\$128,620.00
Tallgrass Restorations	\$16,640.00	\$16,640.00	\$113,360.00	\$113,360.00
Baxter Woodman Natural Resources	\$14,800.00	\$14,800.00	No Bid	\$100,825.00
Red Buffalo Nursery	\$13,680.00	No Bid	No Bid	\$93,195.00
V3 Companies	\$15,200.00	\$15,200.00	\$103,550.00	\$103,550.00
McGinty Brothers	No Bid	\$12,768.00	No Bid	\$ 95,702.00

Staff recommends that the following bidders be awarded contracts as the lowest responsible bidders.

VENDOR	AMOUNT
Red Buffalo Nursery (Sun Lake Teasel Management and West Invasive Plant Management)	\$ 106,875.00
Liberty Prairie Restorations (East Invasive Plant Management)	\$ 91,560.00

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance, Purchasing Manager, Corporate Counsel

**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACTS FOR
DISTRICT-WIDE INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has advertised in The News Sun for sealed bids for the purchase of District-Wide Invasive Plant Management at multiple District preserves (the “Work”); and

WHEREAS, all sealed bids were received and opened by the District at its General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois on December 17, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. local time and such bids are summarized on Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the District’s staff, the Purchasing Manager, the Director of Natural Resources, and the Operations Committee and Finance Committee have reviewed the bids and recommend that the Board of Commissioners (i) find that each highlighted bid listed on Exhibit A (collectively, the “Low Bids”) is the lowest responsible bid for each corresponding Work Location identified in Exhibit A and (ii) award a contract for the portion of the Work at each of the Work Locations to each such low bidder for such Work (collectively the “Bidders”) in the amount of the Bidder’s Low Bid (collectively, the “Contract Prices”), as follows: for (a) East Invasive Plant Management Work to Liberty Prairie Restorations in the Contract Price of \$91,560.00 and (b) Sun Lake Teasel Management Work and West Invasive Plant Management Work to Red Buffalo Nursery in the Contract Price of \$106,875.00 (the Contracts”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that Liberty Prairie Restorations LLC and Red Buffalo Nursery are the lowest responsible bidders for the Work, as set forth in the previous clause;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois, **THAT**:

Section 1: Recitals. The recitals set forth above are incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2: Acceptance of Bids. The Low Bids in the amounts listed on Exhibit A are hereby accepted and a Contract for a portion of the Work is hereby awarded to each Bidder in the amount of the Bidder’s Low Bid.

Section 3: Execution of Contracts. The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contracts for the Work in the amounts of the Contract Prices.

Section 4: Payments. The Treasurer shall make payments under the Contracts only pursuant to and in accordance with the Contracts’ terms.

Section 5: Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2021

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2021

Angelo D. Kyle, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gragnani, Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. _____

EXHIBIT A

Invasive Plant Management 2021 District Wide Bid 21004

			LIBERTY PRAIRIE RESTORATIONS		INTEGRATED LAKES MANAGEMENT		CARDNO		TALLGRASS RESTORATION LLC		BAXTER & WOODMAN NATURAL RESOURCES		RED BUFFALO NURSERY		V3 COMPANIES		MCGINTY BROS.	
PROJECTS			UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION PRICE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION PRICE
LOCATION	QTY	UOM																
SUN LAKE TEASEL	320	HOURS	NO BID	N/A	\$70.00	\$22,400.00	\$59.00	\$18,880.00	\$52.00	\$16,640.00	\$46.25	\$14,800.00	\$42.75	\$13,680.00	\$47.50	\$15,200.00	NO BID	N/A
BUFFALO CREEK TEASEL	320	HOURS	\$42.00	\$13,440.00	\$70.00	\$22,400.00	\$59.00	\$18,880.00	\$52.00	\$16,640.00	\$46.25	\$14,800.00	NO BID	N/A	\$47.50	\$15,200.00	\$39.90	\$12,768.00
EAST INVASIVE PLANT	2,180	HOURS	\$42.00	\$91,560.00	\$70.00	\$152,600.00	\$59.00	\$128,620.00	\$52.00	\$113,360.00	NO BID	N/A	NO BID	N/A	\$47.50	\$103,550.00	NO BID	N/A
WEST INVASIVE PLANT	2,180	HOURS	NO BID	N/A	\$70.00	\$152,600.00	\$59.00	\$128,620.00	\$52.00	\$113,360.00	\$46.25	\$100,825.00	\$42.75	\$93,195.00	\$47.50	\$103,550.00	\$43.90	\$95,702.00