DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Division of Water

Request for Legislation

An ordinance authorizing the Division of Water to enter into a direct award contract with the Cleveland Water Alliance (CWA) to provide data from the operation and maintenance of four buoys in Lake Erie equipped with state-of-the-art water quality detection equipment, with an option to purchase the equipment.

Background/Purpose:

Recent water treatment challenges in Lake Erie include Harmful Algal Blooms and Dead Zone (low oxygen) water. The Division of Water relies on data from monitoring equipment to determine how best to treat lake water. Having advance warning of water quality conditions in the lake via buoys is important to make adjustments at the treatment plants. Most Lake Erie water plants in Ohio make use of buoys for similar advance warning. Collectively, these buoys provide an extensive network of lake monitoring used by many groups, including Cleveland Water.

Previously, the Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS), a non-profit based in Ann Arbor, Michigan, was the vendor providing this service to CWD. Recently, GLOS has indicated they do not wish to provide this service any longer. After a canvas, Cleveland Water determined that the Cleveland Water Alliance (CWA) is the only viable entity that can provide this service. CWA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit based in Cleveland, and is an active organization locally and across the region in water-related initiatives.

Scope of Work/Commodities/Services:

In addition to the two previous buoys, one near the Morgan / Baldwin intakes and one further out in the lake, Cleveland Water wishes to now add two more monitoring buoys, one near its Crown intake and one near the Nottingham intake. This contract will provide these four buoys with high tech monitoring and cell phone equipment. Sensors will measure air temperature, wind speed and direction, wave height, algal blooms, oxygen levels, water temperature and other parameters.

The first buoy will be located approximately four miles from shore near the Morgan Plant submerged intake crib. A second buoy will be located approximately 3-1/2 miles from shore near the Nottingham Plant intake crib. The third buoy will be located approximately 3 miles from shore near the Crown Plant intake crib. The fourth buoy will be located fifteen miles due north of Cleveland to monitor and focus on Dead Zone water.

These buoys shall provide real time water quality data stored on a website provided by CWA.

Justification/Urgency:

Algae season is in the summer. Dead Zone season is late summer and early fall. We will work to have this contract in place by May 15th to facilitate the buoys being placed in a timely way.

Schedule or Term of Contract:

The professional services contract shall be for a period of three years. There shall be an option to purchase the equipment any time after the first year.

Anticipated Costs and funding source:

The contract will cost \$195,040 in 2021 and \$154,560 in each of 2022 and 2023. This cost will be paid for by CWD's General Operating Fund.

Current Contract(s):

Vendor Name Address	Services/Work performed	Contract Info	CSB Participation Goal 20% (OEO Actual %'s)
Great Lakes Observing System 4840 S. State Road Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108	Deployed two buoys - leased three sondes for water quality parameters.	Contract #: CT PS2019- 076 Awarded Amt: \$ 98,000.00 Contract Exp. Date: 3/12/2021	Waived

Previous Contracts:

Vendor Name Address	Services/Work performed	Contract Info Provide all contract data as listed below	CSB Participation (OEO Actual 0 %'s)
Great Lakes Observing System 4840 S. State Road Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108	Deployed two buoys - leased three sondes for water quality parameters.	Contract #: CT PS2017- 161 Awarded Amt: \$ 98,000.00 Contract Exp. Date: 4/1/2019	Waived
Great Lakes Observing System 4840 S. State Road Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108	Deployed two buoys - leased three sondes for water quality parameters.	Contract #: CT 2002 PS2016000000041 Awarded Amt: \$49,000 Contract Exp. Date: 12/31/2016	Waived