



# LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

## Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting  
Wednesday December 18, 2019

### Agenda Item

#### Item 6. C. - Dredge Management

#### Prepared By

Linda Loomis, Administrator

#### Summary

**i. Funding for dredge material management**

The Grant agreement was signed and uploaded to BWSR's elink system.

**ii. Vernon Avenue Dredge Material Management site**

Plans and specifications to bring the Vernon Avenue dredge management site up to industry standards were put out to bid. Staff has prepared a bid award memo which is attached to this summary. The Board should accept the bids and authorize staff to prepare a contract between the winning bidder and the LMRWD.

**iii. Private Dredge Material Placement**

No new information to report since last update

#### Attachments

Technical Memo - Dredge Site Project - Award Bid

#### Recommended Action

Motion to accept bids and award a contract to Meyer Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$384,418.50

# Technical Memorandum

**To:** Linda Loomis, Administrator  
Lower Minnesota River Watershed District

**From:** Shane Soukup, Water Resources Scientist  
Della Schall Young, CPESC, PMP

**Date:** December 14, 2019

**Re:** Dredge Site Project – Award Bid

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## Background

The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD or District) owns and manages the Cargill East River Dredge Site (Dredge Site) as required by the local sponsorship agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers (COE). The site is located off of Vernon Avenue in the City of Savage (City), between Port Richards to the west, the Minnesota River to the north and east, and County Road 13 to the south. The Dredge Site serves as a location to place dredge material from the Minnesota River to maintain a navigable 9-foot-deep river channel. In 2014, the District entered into agreements with Cargill, Inc., CHS, Inc., and Riverland Ag Corp., to provide an area at the site for temporary storage of dredge material from their slips.

In 2017, the State of Minnesota (State) appropriated \$480,000 to the District to defray the annual cost of operating and maintaining dredge material at the site to sustain state, national, and international commercial and recreational navigation on the lower Minnesota River. In 2019, the State has once again appropriated \$480,000 for the management and operation of the site. These appropriated funds will be used largely for preconstruction, construction administration, and construction of the Dredge Site Project (Project).

## Design, Permitting, and Bidding

As an in-house project, the District's technical consulting team composed of Young Environmental Consulting Group, LLC (Young Environmental) and Barr Engineering Company (Barr) completed the design, permitting, and bidding for the Project.

### Design

The Project proposes to modify the site to maintain separation between the COE's sandy dredge materials and the fine-grained materials from private facilities, optimize dewatering and consolidation of the private material, and design structurally sound berms around the storage piles.

In preparation for the Project, several studies were carried out to review the site:

- A threatened and endangered species study was conducted to determine whether any habitats will be affected. The Project was cleared with conditions, including a required nest survey for bald eagles, if the Project construction occurs between January 15 and July 31.
- A no-rise certification was completed identifying the maximum elevation of the stockpiled material to avoid affecting the floodway width or the 100-year flood elevation of the Minnesota River.
- A wetland delineation was completed to evaluate potential wetlands impacts. The wetland delineation discovered two wetlands within the study area, with a third as a low-lying area that may be a wetland. The Project was designed to avoid two wetlands. The COE and City (the local government unit) will determine whether the third low-lying wet area is a wetland.

### Permitting

The following permits are applicable to the Project:

- A conditional use permit with the City was approved as of August 5, 2019, allowing for the placement of dredge materials within the floodway.
- The COE regulates the discharge of dredge or fill material into public waters, including wetlands. Through correspondence with the COE, it has been determined that the wetland within the Project area that may be affected is under the City's regulation. Project information has been submitted to the City and is awaiting review through a technical evaluation panel. The review status is pending.
- The NPDES General Construction Stormwater Permit must be completed by the contractor and sent to the District upon receipt.

### Bidding

Upon completion of the Project's design and substantial completion of the permitting process; bid documents were prepared. The following presents the Project's bid process:

- November 7, 2019 — Bid documents were uploaded to QuestCDN, and potential bidders were able to access them.

- November 2019 — The Project was advertised in the *Star Tribune*. We are still waiting for the final invoice, which will include the dates the publication was noticed in the paper and the affidavit. The information will be forwarded to the managers upon receipt.
- November 21, 2019 — A mandatory prebid meeting was held at 10:00 a.m. at the Barr office, located at 4300 MarketPointe Dr, Minneapolis, Minnesota. District Administrator Linda Loomis and Barr Senior Project Engineer Jeff Weiss provided an overview of the Project and answered questions from potential bidders. Attached is the meeting's sign-in sheet.
- December 2, 2019 — Closed the question-and-answer period that occurred between the prebid meeting and the bid period closing. Questions received resulted in two addenda being issued:
  - November 27, 2019 — Addendum #1 was issued. This addendum addressed general requests for project files and information. The addendum also included questions and answers that were received during the prebid meeting.
  - December 2, 2019 — Addendum #2 was issued to update and clarify quantities after receiving several questions from bidders.
- December 3, 2019 — The bidding period closed, and bids received were publicly opened and read aloud. The bid opening was held at the Barr office at 10:00 a.m. and was open to the public. Each bid package was checked to ensure both addenda had been acknowledged, and the presence of the company at the prebid meeting was verified. Seven bids were received and opened in the following order:
  - Northwest Asphalt, Inc. — \$486,630.00
    - Present at prebid meeting and acknowledged only one addendum, rendering the bid invalid
  - Fratallone Companies, Inc. — \$660,591.60
    - Present at prebid meeting and acknowledged both addenda
  - Peterson Companies, Inc. — \$475,463.50
    - Present at prebid meeting and acknowledged both addenda
  - S. M. Hentges & Sons, Inc. — \$779,946.50
    - Present at prebid meeting and acknowledged both addenda
  - Minger Construction Companies, Inc. — \$399,863.00
    - Present at prebid meeting and acknowledged both addenda

- Rachel Contracting, LLC — \$450,943.00
  - Present at prebid meeting and acknowledged both addenda
- Meyer Contracting, Inc. — \$384,418.50
  - Present at prebid meeting and acknowledged both addenda

Meyer Contracting, Inc. (Meyer) was the apparent low bidder.

- December 4, 2019 — Meyer's bid was validated. The estimated quantities developed by Barr and included in the bid specifications were multiplied by the unit prices provided by each bidder. This was done to verify that calculations had been done correctly by each company when preparing their bid packages.

### **Recommendations**

Young Environmental recommends awarding the contract for the Dredge Site Project to Meyer, the validated low bidder. We further ask the board of managers to direct staff to prepare contract documents with Meyer.