

Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: August 2, 2010

Date Submitted: July 16, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator
Cleve Fleming, Public Works Project Director

Subject: Request Board Consideration and Approval to Expend Budgeted Capital Improvement Plan Funds to Purchase a Portable Back-Up Generator to Assist in the Wastewater Department

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item requests Board consideration and approval to expend budgeted Capital Improvement Plan funds to purchase a portable back-up generator for \$54,060 to assist in the Wastewater Department.

Background:

There are currently 73 lift stations used through out the County to move raw sewage from its source through miles of pipe to the waste water treatment plant near Sopchoppy. When there is an interruption of power to a lift station, it can no longer pump the waste it collects to the next station in line. If power remains off, the lift station will back up, necessitating a pump truck to be called to pump the station down. If a truck is not available or it cannot keep up with the flow, sewage begins to back-up and can spill into homes and businesses connected to the main or over flow the lift station causing raw sewage to spill on the ground.

The current portable back up generator is a 1995 Kohler 25kW. It is only capable of running small lift stations that are 230V *single phase* powered. This has proven effective for isolated power interruptions, but when there are wide spread outages, it is necessary to pump from one of the three main lift stations, Hickory Park #35, Medart #26 or Panacea#8. These stations have two *-three phase* 230v motors from 20HP to 30 HP each. Pumping from these main stations allows entire sections of the system to be pumped down without having to power each smaller station on the line.

The new unit is 175kW 230V 3phase, capable of running both pump motors of any of these main stations simultaneously. This will allow pumping down an entire section of the system and then relocating to the next main station to complete that section until power can be restored.

Ring Power of Tallahassee has completed a load analysis of start up and running loads in order to provide us with a system to reliably provide back-up power wherever and whenever it is needed. This power system consists of a 175kW generator mounted in a sound attenuating enclosure on a tandem axle trailer. It has an onboard fuel tank that allows for 24 hours of continuous operation between refueling and can be refueled on site if long term power is needed such as post hurricane or other catastrophic event.

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Analysis:

This generator will be purchased off the Florida Sheriff's Assoc., Florida Assoc. of Counties, & Florida Fire Chief's Association - Bid 09-17-0908- Specifications #84, effective from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. This purchase is being made pursuant to the Cooperative Purchasing provisions of the County's Purchasing Policy and Tallahassee's Ring Power has agreed to honor the bid price as awarded by the Sheriff's bid. The generator was budgeted for in the Capital Improvement Plan and the County Attorney has reviewed this item.

Options:

1. Approve the expenditure of budgeted CIP funds to purchase a portable back-up generator to assist in the Wastewater Department.
2. Do not approve the expenditure of budgeted CIP funds to purchase a portable back-up generator to assist in the Wastewater Department.
3. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Option #1

Attachments:

1. Quote from Ring Power
2. Bid 09-17-0908