

FORSYTH COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**BRIEFING
DRAFT**

MEETING DATE: MAY 9, 2019

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION SELECTING AN ENGINEERING FIRM AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING SERVICES TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY DEVELOPMENT AND OVERSIGHT OF A PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE (INTERAGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT)

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

ATTACHMENTS: YES NO

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
COUNTY MANAGER

**RESOLUTION SELECTING AN ENGINEERING FIRM AND AUTHORIZING
EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING
SERVICES TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY DEVELOPMENT AND OVERSIGHT OF
A PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE
(INTERAGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT)**

WHEREAS the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Installation, Operation, and Maintenance of an 800 MHz Trunked Radio System between the City of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County entered into during 2002 provides that the System operation and management will be employed through a County department and that operational and maintenance costs will be shared equally by the City and County for jointly owned property of the System;

WHEREAS the radio system has been in operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for more than 14 years and technical support and parts availability are increasingly limited;

WHEREAS Forsyth County staff submitted a Request for Qualifications in order to identify qualified firms to provide engineering and consulting services including the assessment, design, development and oversight of the replacement of the radio system, on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualification to provide these professional services without regard to a fee pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-64.31;

WHEREAS sixteen responses were received in response to the Request for Qualifications, and County staff reviewed and evaluated the proposals;

WHEREAS on January 24, 2019, the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners selected Federal Engineering, Inc., as the best qualified firm, but the County was unable to negotiate a contract because Federal Engineering, Inc., was not authorized to conduct business in North Carolina and withdrew its bid;

WHEREAS of the remaining bidders, Black & Veatch Corporation (Black & Veatch) is the best qualified firm; and

WHEREAS Black & Veatch will assess needs for both County and City departments for radio communications, develop the technical specifications to assist the Purchasing Department with the RFP for equipment, evaluate the technical responses to proposals for the radio system upgrade, oversee the technical installation of the hardware associated with the radio system upgrade, and assist with the overall upgrade of the Public Safety Radio Communication System that will provide modern and reliable radio communication equipment to help assure the safe and efficient operation of all of our emergency services personnel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners that Black & Veatch is hereby selected as the best qualified firm and the Chairman or County Manager and Clerk to the Board are hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of Forsyth County, a contract for engineering and consulting services with Black & Veatch Corporation, at a cost of \$248,674.00, split between two fiscal years, beginning upon execution

of the agreement and ending upon completion of specified contracted consulting tasks, which cost will be equally shared by the City and the County, subject to a pre-audit certificate thereon by the County Chief Financial Officer, where applicable, and approval as to form and legality by the County Attorney; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners that the County Manager and the Clerk to the Board are hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of Forsyth County, subsequent contracts for these services and amendments thereto within budgeted appropriations in the current and future fiscal years, if these services remain necessary to the County.

Adopted this the 9th day of May 2019.