



Item: Water Meter Equipment Purchases for FY14
From: Utilities Division
Initiated By: Public Works Department
Presented By: Jim Rearden, Public Works Director
Action Requested: Approve Purchase

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission (approve/deny) the purchase of water meter equipment for the 2014 Fiscal Year from Dana Kepner Co. of Billings in an amount not to exceed \$270,000.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, public comment, and calls for the vote.

Staff Recommendation: Approve purchase.

Background:

Significant Impacts

There are approximately 21,500 water meters within the City Water Distribution System. Over the last 10 years, the City Water Distribution Division has been converting old TTR water meters, which are now obsolete, to ECR meters. There are approximately 100 TTR meters left to replace. There are also approximately 600 ECR meters in the system which are not compatible with the radio read equipment and will need to be changed out. The remaining ECR meters are compatible with our new radio read equipment, which makes reading meters easier and less time consuming. Currently, there are approximately 5,000 radio reads installed in the city.

Purpose

To approve purchase of water meter equipment for FY14.

Project Work Scope

In Fiscal Year 2013, staff purchased \$269,179 worth of radio read equipment, new meters and meter parts and installation equipment from Dana Kepner Co. In Fiscal Year 2014, staff proposes to purchase radio read equipment, new meters and meter parts and installation equipment from Dana Kepner Co. totaling approximately \$270,000.

Evaluation and Selection Process

Dana Kepner Co. of Billings is the sole source distributor for compatible parts and equipment for the City's metering system. Due to compatibility issues with different equipment, supplies, and suppliers, staff proposes to continue to purchase equipment from Dana Kepner Co.

Fiscal Impact:

Water meter equipment and supply purchases are budgeted for on a yearly basis by the Public Works Water Distribution Division.

Alternatives:

The City Commission could vote to deny purchases.

Attachments/Exhibits:

None.