

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: William V. McKinstry, Chief, Office of Land Management
THRU: Tom Mirti, Deputy Executive Director, Water and Land Resources
DATE: July 31, 2020
RE: Contract Renewals for Prescribed Fire/Vegetation Management Services for Fiscal Year 2020-2021

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to renew four contracts for Prescribed Fire/Vegetation Management Services for a total amount not to exceed \$990,000: 18/19-014 B&B Dugger, Inc., 18/19-011 Natural Resource Planning Services, 18/19-012 Schmidt Reforestation Services, and 18/19-010 Wildlands Service, Inc.

BACKGROUND

Prescribed burning and mechanical vegetation management are important tools needed to help meet the vegetation management and natural plant community restoration goals identified in the District's Land Management Plan. This work is also an essential component used to help protect District resources against the damaging effects of wildfire.

The District advertised Request for Proposals (RFP) 17/18-029 WLR for Prescribed Fire/Vegetation Management Services on July 11, 2018. After evaluating and ranking submittals, and with approval from the Governing Board, contracts were developed with the following four firms:

NAME OF FIRM	FIRM'S LOCATION
B&B Dugger, Inc.	Crawfordville, Florida
Natural Resource Planning Services	Lake City, Florida
Schmidt Reforestation Services	Perry, Florida
Wildlands Service, Inc.	Tallahassee, Florida

The contracts contains a provision that upon satisfactory performance and pending approval by the District's Governing Board, the contracts may be extended up to two years upon the same terms and conditions or upon terms more favorable to the District. The performance of the contractors has been satisfactory and were effective in helping the District meet its Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (FY 2020) prescribed fire and vegetation management goals. The renewal of these contracts will represent the second and final renewal.

Based on their pre-qualified status, contractors will be issued work orders that identify assigned work areas and completion date requirements. Staff uses the submitted bid rates as a factor when developing work orders and will base work assignments on the lowest bid rate when possible. However, work assignments may also be based on 1) capacity to complete multiple projects at one time in a region, 2) short versus long term availability to conduct work, 3) productivity in completing assigned projects, 4) weather-related issues that may require