



# MEMORANDUM

To: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

Subject: Western Douglas County Trails Project – Contract with EGA

Date: September 3, 2008

From: Gerry Bowen

In March, 2006, the Board approved the funding agreement with the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) for the Western Douglas County Trails Project. The NRD is partnering with the City of Omaha (Elkhorn), Village of Waterloo, City of Valley, and Douglas County on the project.

In July, 2006, the District entered into a professional services contract with Ehrhart Griffin and Associates in the amount of \$324,892 (NRD portion \$65,000). The remainder is provided by the Transportation Enhancement Program (80%) and the governmental entities listed above according to a formula in an interlocal agreement executed for the project (20% local share split as follows; 40% - Douglas County, 40% - NRD; remaining 20% by the zoning jurisdiction covering the trail segment).

This first contract covered the following scope of services:

1. Preliminary engineering (route evaluation) for the entire project in these phase;
  - a. Phase 1 – Valley to Waterloo
  - b. Phase 2 – Waterloo Elkhorn River Bridge
  - c. Phase 3 - Valley to YMCA
  - d. Phase 4 – Valley to Platte River Landing
  - e. Phase 5 – Waterloo to Omaha (Elkhorn area)
2. Prepare preliminary bid documents for Phase 1 and 2, above.

These duties are now complete and engineering services for the next stage of the project need to be approved by the Board. This next stage will provide the following scope of services:

1. Final design, bidding, and construction observation services for Phase 1 and 2,
2. Preliminary and final design, and construction observation for Phase 3, and
3. Preliminary design (routing and cost estimating) for Phase 4 (Valley to Platte River Landing).

These services will be provided with a “not to exceed” amount of \$587,747.00. As before, the existing agreement with the Transportation Enhancement Program will provide 80% of the costs, with the remainder being paid according to a formula above. In this case, the next stage will be predominantly Valley. The NRD’s share of these fees will be \$47,020.

This scope of services requires NDOR concurrence prior to executing a contract.

- **It is recommended that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute a professional services agreement with Ehrhart Griffin and Associates, Inc. for the Stage 2 of the Western Douglas County Trails Project in the amount of \$587,747.00, subject to NDOR concurrence, and changes deemed necessary by the General Manager, and approved as to form by District Legal Counsel.**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

**FROM:** Jim Becic

**DATE:** September 3, 2008

**RE:** Green Hearts Institute for Nature In Childhood Nature Center at Rumsey Station – Project Development and Management Agreement.

The Rumsey Station Wetland is a high quality, urban wetland - located approximately one mile east of the City of Papillion and ½ mile north of Highway 370, between 54<sup>th</sup> and 66<sup>th</sup> Street. In 1993, as a part of the West Branch Papillion Creek channelization project, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District purchased a 52 acre tract that includes the majority of the wetland along with a section of abandoned railroad right-of-way. In early 1995, an additional 4.4 acres of springs that feed the wetland were acquired with a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund. In May, 2008 an additional 26 acres were acquired to extend the site west to 66<sup>th</sup> street. The site now totals nearly 83 acres.

The primary environmental element of the Rumsey Station Wetland project is to restore and preserve this significant wetland within the urban environs of Sarpy County. Past channelization projects and urbanization have destroyed the majority of wetlands in the Papillion Creek watershed. Restoration and management of the remaining wetlands, wet prairie and upland vegetation will contribute to the maintenance of the site's diversity of habitat types and provide significant surface water quality benefits. This wetland preservation focus, coupled with a significant, environmental education element to include trails and interpretive signage, will enable individuals to learn about critical habitats, observe the area plants and wildlife or simply enjoy the site's solitude.

In 1995, a Concept Plan was developed for the Rumsey Station Wetland area (attached). A key element in this Concept Plan has been the need to identify an "organization" willing to locate to the site and implement a majority of the elements in the Concept Plan.

An additional role for any "organization" locating to the site will be that of a "caretaker". The site has historically been used by some of the public as a "gathering point". Certainly before the site is open to the general public, and until a "presence" is established by this organization, the area's relative remoteness will continue to attract this type of use.

The District has been approached or has attempted to secure a number of organizations in the past to fill this "caretaker" role, none of which have resulted in a compatible partnership.

The non-profit **Green Hearts Institute for Nature in Childhood** has approached the District with a unique proposal that appears to fulfill all of the goals of the Concept Plan for the Rumsey Station Wetland site. Their proposal (attached) combines all of the elements the District has included their Concept Plan and adds a number of unique and

exciting possibilities. An 8,000 square foot education and visitors' center is planned to provide a focal point for the site.

The attached proposed Development and Management Agreement and associated 50 year Lease Agreement to develop and manage the Rumsey Station Wetland in partnership with Green Hearts Institute for Nature in Childhood would be similar to that developed for the Nebraska Wildlife Rehab., Inc. or the highly successful relationship the District has enjoyed with the Audubon Society of Omaha at the Heron Haven Wetland.

The agreement calls for the District's retention of Big Muddy Workshop to prepare a Master Plan for the site along with Green Hearts. The NRD would pay the first \$60,000 necessary for Big Muddy Workshop's preparation of the Plan. Once detailed plans commissioned by Green Hearts have been approved by the NRD, the lease will be executed and Green Hearts will have 120 days to commence and 275 days to complete construction of all facilities. Operation and Maintenance of the facilities will be performed by Green Hearts.

- **Management recommends that the Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors, that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Develop and Management Agreement with the Green Hearts Institute For Nature In Childhood for the Green Heart's Children's Nature Center at Rumsey Station Wetlands Project, including the District's compensation of up to \$60,000.00 to Big Muddy Workshop for a site Master Plan, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approved as to form by District Legal Council.**

## Memorandum

**To:** Programs, Projects, and Operations Subcommittee  
**From:** Amanda Grint, Water Resources Engineer  
**Date:** September 2, 2008  
**Re:** Interlocal Agreement for Crystal Creek Improvements

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In the enclosed Interlocal Agreement with Sarpy County SID #236 and McCune Development Company, the District would agree to cost share for the design and construction of improvements to Crystal Creek located southeast of Hwy 31 and Cornhusker Road near Gretna. An attached map describes the project location.

Crystal Creek has recently experienced severe flash flooding which impacted several residents on the southeast side of the development. Photographs are attached showing flooding that occurred during the June 19, 2008 rain event. Property was damaged during this and other storms this summer.

The creek has accumulated a large amount of sediment and is not functioning properly. The improvements proposed include reshaping the drainageway, removing accumulated sediment and providing a berm and swale along the south Crystal Creek properties to direct flows east toward the channel and away from the subdivision.

All land rights and easements would be provided by the SID and developer as well as operation and maintenance. The District would provide 1/3 of the cost to design and construct the improvements up to a maximum of \$10,000.00. The total cost of the project is expected to be approximately \$30,000.

- **Management recommends that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the General Manager be authorized to execute the proposed Interlocal Agreement with the Sarpy County SID #236 and McCune Development Company for the Crystal Creek Improvement Project, subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Council.**

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

**FROM:** Dick Sklenar, Projects Manager

**SUBJECT:** Dakota County Rural Water Contract Award for Waterline Extension

**DATE:** August 29, 2008

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Bids were opened on August 25, 2008, with regards to constructing a 6 inch water line for about 1 ¾ miles. The proposed route (see attached map) would parallel a portion of HWY 20. Permits from the Nebraska Department of Roads, and the Dakota County Highway Department have been acquired for this project.

The project is necessary to enhance the capability of serving future customers in the western portion of the service area. The project is to be funded by the Dakota County Rural Water system. The Engineer's estimate for this work is \$109,638.

The following bids were received:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
M. Albenisius Inc.	\$79,752.00
S. Jans Contracting LLC	\$186,010.00
Albenisius Contracting Inc.	\$84,718.00

- **It is recommended that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the contract for the 6 inch waterline extension for the Dakota County Rural Water system be awarded to M. Albenisius Inc. in the amount of \$79,752.00.**

# Memorandum

**To:** Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

**From:** John Winkler, General Manager

**Date:** September 3, 2008

**Re:** Updated Recreation Area Rules and Regulations and Law Enforcement Resolution

The following rules and regulations have been amended and revised to cover all NRD managed recreation areas. In addition, due to incidents of vandalism, destruction of District property, consumption of alcohol and other illegal activity the following resolution is proposed to assist management in coordinating with local and state law enforcement to enlist their support in addressing this unlawful behavior and to make the Districts recreation areas safe for all citizens.

- **Management recommends that the subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the law enforcement resolution and the updated recreation area rules and regulations be adopted and that the General Manager be authorized to execute the necessary steps in order to ensure the enforcement of said adopted rules and regulations.**