

ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING/CONSULTANT SERVICES

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 12, 2006

MINUTES

Members Present:

Acting Chairman: Louis A. DeQuattro, Jr., Esq.

Public Member: Gerry Bedrick

Agency Representative: Celeste Bilotti
>Department of Education:

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

Minutes of the A/E/CS Selection Committee meeting of March 8, 2006 and March 22, 2006 were approved by G. Bedrick and L. DeQuattro.

The following agenda items were addressed and voted upon by the Committee:

1. Department of Education (RIDE): (9:00 a.m.)

- A. RFP #B05972 – Comprehensive Adult Literacy Information System (CALIS)
Voting Members: L. DeQuattro, G. Bedrick, C. Bilotti
Cost: \$439,700 (FY2007-2010)

C. Bilotti, E. Giroux and E. Jardine represented the agency. E. Giroux, Director of the Office of Networking and Information Systems, noted that this is a participant level relational database that is a management information system. He added that the National Reporting System (NRS), the accountability system for the adult education program, requires states to report on measures of student outcomes, demographics, and program attendance and participation. E. Jardine noted that the Office of Adult Education serves about 44 programs that include 10,000 learners per year who receive services in adult basic education, GED, and English as a second language. Records have been kept in paper files and various databases.

This consolidation of information will enable educators to evaluate and plan for programs, justify spending, differentiate instructional practices, and inform interested parties including adult education students on how the system is working, and finally it will provide the measured results.

Three high quality vendors responded to the RFP. The proposals were evaluated on five criteria: experience of the company, experience of the company on a project of this type, staff experience, work plan and cost. Although all vendors scored highly, the agency is recommending

“**accessplus**” because this firm offered a live interactive demonstration of the product and excelled in demonstrating their knowledge of web-based technology. This application provides full compatibility and integration with the existing data warehouse and the agency’s current information system. The federal reporting module offered by “**accessplus**” was superior. This application is currently being used in the state of Alabama and they offered excellent testimony both for the product and the vendor. “**accessplus**” offered the lowest cost proposal.

A lengthy discussion followed concerning the scoring of the proposals. “Mean” scores were provided, rather than actual scores. The agency will provide the actual scores and will demonstrate that the ranking of the firms remains the same.

Mr. DeQuattro asked a question concerning a statement in the evaluation that reads, “All members of the Technical Review Committee completed and signed a statement indicating that they did not have a conflict of interest in reviewing any of the bids or that they fully disclosed any and all connections to any of the bidders as part of the review.”

Ms. Jardine explained that two members of the technical review subcommittee had used one of the systems. The statement refers to their disclosing they are presently using that system. Ms. Bilotti added that the agency uses a great deal of caution to ensure an objective evaluation.

Recommendation: Upon a motion made by Mr. DeQuattro, seconded by Mr. Bedrick and unanimously approved by the Committee, the Architectural/ Engineering/ Consultant Services Selection Committee (A/E/CS/SC) accepts the recommendation of the Department of Education’s Technical Review Subcommittee, as approved by the Commissioner, and sends forward to the Director of Administration for her consideration the single name of “**accessplus**,” the most responsive and responsible of the 3 firms that responded to the RFP. This approval is subject to receiving recalculations and clarification to support the recommendation. (9:34 a.m.)

Department of Education (RIDE): (9:34 a.m.)

- B. RFP #B05973 – Central Education Information Warehouse (CETW)
Voting Members: L. DeQuattro, G. Bedrick, C. Bilotti
Cost: \$1,200,000 (FY2007-2008)

C. Bilotti and S. Gausland represented the agency. S. Gausland noted that the purpose of the RFP is to consolidate educational information into a central integrated repository and to deliver that information to the appropriate decision makers throughout the state to accurately assess the condition of elementary and secondary education in the State of Rhode Island. Decision makers include superintendents, principals, teachers, parents, legislators, public officials, and non-profit researchers. The data warehouse will allow users to explore relationships between information bits previously disconnected or unknown. This CETW will assist the state in meeting the federal requirements of “No Child Left Behind” and greatly aid the department in reporting public education data to the federal government.

Four vendors responded to the RFP. Three of the four respondents scored highly enough in the technical evaluation to present their software application to the committee. The software application proposed by ESP Solutions/Tetra Data was far superior to those proposed by the other vendors. The software was easy to use, the analysis tool and dashboard was far more

sophisticated, the application is built using modular components which can be added to in the future, developers in-house have experience with the same software tools that the vendor is providing, the security construct is very sophisticated, their ETL mechanism allows for automated data collection throughout the districts, the vendor's staff have vast experience and in-depth knowledge building K-12 educational data warehouses, and excellent references were received. ESP/Solutions/Tetra Data offered the lowest cost proposal by \$100,000.

Mr. DeQuattro cautioned the agency concerning the fact that this contract would be entered into between the Department of Education and a joint venture. He suggested that the Department of Education Legal Dept. contact the Fiscal Fitness Legal Dept. to discuss proper language for the contract.

A discussion followed concerning the scoring of the proposals and, again, "mean" scores were provided rather than actual scores. The agency will provide the actual scores and will demonstrate that the ranking of the firms remains the same.

Recommendation: Upon a motion made by Mr. DeQuattro, seconded by Mr. Bedrick and unanimously approved by the Committee, the Architectural/ Engineering/ Consultant Services Selection Committee (A/E/CS/SC) accepts the recommendation of the Department of Education's Technical Review Subcommittee, as approved by the Commissioner, and sends forward to the Director of Administration for her consideration the single name of ESP Solutions/Tetra Data, the most responsive and responsible of the 4 firms that responded to the RFP. This approval is subject to receiving recalculations and clarification to support the recommendation.
(10:00 a.m.)

2. Department of Health (DOH): (10:00 a.m.)

RFP #B06024 – Child Care Support Network (CCSN)
Voting Members: L. DeQuattro, G. Bedrick, D. Reavey
Cost: The Providence Center \$214,000
Bradley Hospital \$139,400

D. Reavey and B. Berger represented the agency. B. Berger noted that the Child Care Support Network is a project to provide technical assistance to licensed child care centers to increase quality, train staff, and to improve the overall child care environment. This program has existed for almost a decade and was initially funded by a grant from the CDC. This project consists of three components: Health Information and Consultation, Mental Health Consultation and On-Site Technical Assistance and Mentoring.

Six proposals were received, two of which were disqualified. The two highest scoring proposals are being recommended as follows: The Mental Health component be awarded to The Providence Center and Bradley Hospital Childhood Clinical Research Center. The quality of the proposals received addressing the Health Information and Consultation and the Technical Assistance/Mentoring were inadequate to address the requirements of the RFP; therefore, these components are not recommended for funding at this time. The evaluation committee is also recommending that the agency be allowed to negotiate with The Providence Center to include the coordinator position which had been included within the Technical Assistance/Mentoring component.

The amount of \$139,400 being recommended for award to Bradley Hospital is slightly lower than requested because Bradley Hospital submitted an evaluation plan that surpassed the needs of the project. The department would like to negotiate a less intensive evaluation plan.

Recommendation: Upon a motion made by Mr. DeQuattro, seconded by Mr. Bedrick and unanimously approved by the Committee, the Architectural/ Engineering/ Consultant Services Selection Committee (A/E/CS/SC) accepts the recommendation of the Department of Health's Technical Review Subcommittee, as approved by the Director, and sends forward to the Director of Administration for her consideration the names of The Providence Center to include negotiation for the coordinator position, and Bradley Hospital Childhood Clinical Research Center, the most responsive and responsible of the 6 firms that responded to the RFP. (10:10 a.m.)

Upon a motion made by Mr. DeQuattro, seconded by Mr. Bedrick and unanimously approved by the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Supporting documentation is on file at the Division of Purchases.