

## AGENDA REPORT

DATE: July 16, 2002

**ITEM:** POSTPONE AWARD: WATER TREATMENT PLANT BACKWASH  
CLARIFIER AND MISC. IMPROVEMENTS, (O.F. 1199.9)

**INITIATED BY:** PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT/ENGINEERING DIVISION

**ACTION REQUESTED:** POSTPONE CONTRACT AWARD

**PRESENTED BY:** JIM REARDEN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that award of a contract for the Water Treatment Plant Backwash Clarifier and Misc. Improvements, (O.F. 1199.9) be postponed until the next City Commission meeting on August 6, 2002.

**MOTION:**

"I move the City Commission postpone the award of a contract for the Water Treatment Plant Backwash Clarifier and Misc. Improvements, (O.F. 1199.9)".

**SYNOPSIS:**

Bids were opened on July 1, 2002 with two contractors submitting bids. Dick Anderson Construction, Inc. submitted a bid of \$1,022,900 while Sletten Construction Company submitted a bid of \$1,494,800. The engineer's estimate for the project was \$1,200,000.

Due to an error in their submitted bid price, Dick Anderson chose to withdraw their bid from consideration. Therefore, the only bidder on the project is Sletten Construction. It is the opinion of TD&H and City staff that because Sletten's bid is much higher than the engineer's estimate and allocated funding, additional time is necessary to evaluate the bid.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Water Treatment Plant Backwash Clarifier and Misc. Improvements, (O.F. 1199.9) is part of a series of Water Treatment Plant infrastructure upgrades. The purpose of this project is to design a backwash water clarification system. The system will include a conventional clarifier and settling basin with sludge removal equipment, pumps, piping, electrical and an associated building necessary to house equipment. In addition, electronic gates will be added for security and a number of maintenance items will be upgraded.

The City of Great Falls' WTP is currently having difficulty meeting Montana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) discharge permit requirements for total suspended solids in the backwash water. The backwash water is discharged directly to the Missouri River. The new backwash water clarification system will enable the plant to meet the MPDES discharge limits by removing solids produced by the water purification system.