

NORTHERN INDIANA COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT **BOARD MEETING**

March 28, 2022 US: +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 824 5490 0139 Public Session – 10:30 a.m. (CST)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Smith

Jim Arnold

Andrew Kostielney

Jerome Prince

Jeff Good

STAFF PARTICIPANTS:

Michael Noland

Tony Siegmund

Justice Anderson

Chuck Lukmann, Esq.

Steve Plesha Nicole Barker

Jessie Watts Jr. Carrie Hoyt

Kelly Wenger Michael Rowe

Stephanie Modglin

OTHERS PRESENT

Steven Lyons-Passenger Richard Curtis-Curtis Eng. Tim Zorn-Post Tribune Greg Price-Passenger

CALL TO ORDER

Chuck Lukmann, NICTD's General Counsel, called the meeting to order. Mr. Lukmann requested a roll call. Michael Smith, Jim Arnold, and Jerome Prince were present. Andrew Kostielney and Jeff Good attended electronically.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Lukmann requested a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of January 31, 2022. Mr. Prince made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes, Mr. Arnold seconded, and on roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PURCHASING (Procurement Recommendation Packet Attached)

Tony Siegmund, NICTD's Purchasing Manager, presented four recommendations to the Board. The purchasing items are listed in the recommendations that follow and the Board's vote was requested at the end of each recommendation.

The first item was a bid for ties for the upcoming 2022 construction season. The Staff recommended that Natural Wood Solutions of Nettleton, Mississippi be awarded the Contract for Ties 2022 in the amount of Two Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$297,000.00). The Staff requested that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for Ties 2022 at his discretion.

Mr. Arnold made a motion to grant authority to the NICTD President to issue a Notice to Proceed for Ties at his discretion, seconded by Mr. Prince, and on roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

The second item was a bid for 2022 Turnouts for the Hegewisch Project. The Staff recommended that Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak of Cheyenne, Wyoming be awarded the contract for turnouts in the amount of Nine Hundred Ninety-One Thousand, Two Hundred Nineteen Dollars and 00/100 (\$991,219.00). The Staff requested that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for 2022 Turnouts at his discretion.

Mr. Prince made a motion to grant authority to the NICTD President to issue a Notice to Proceed for Turnouts at his discretion, seconded by Mr. Arnold, and on roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

The third item was a proposal for Positive Train Control Technical Support Services (PTC TSS) provider. The Staff recommended that Piper Networks, Inc. of San Diego, California be awarded the Contract for Double Track PTC Technical Support Services in the amount of Eight Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred Dollars and 00/100 (\$849,800.00). The Staff requested that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for Double Track PTC Technical Support Services at his discretion, pending RDA and IFA approval.

Mr. Prince made a motion to grant authority to the NICTD President to issue a Notice to Proceed for Positive Train Control Technical Support Services (PTC TSS) provider at his discretion, seconded by Mr. Arnold, and on roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

The fourth item was sole source recommendation, Amendment 2 to West Lake Design Build, authorizing an additional \$1,323,181.69 to be added to the contract price. The District executed Contract 94028 for West Lake Design-Build to FH Paschen/Ragnar Benson Joint Venture on October 29, 2020, not to exceed cost of \$554,940,521.00. On November 22, 2021, the District approved Amendment 1 for \$1,005,535.01 paid by the City of Hammond. The District requested the Board grant the President the authority to approve Amendment 2 to Contract 94028 in the amount of One Million, Three Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand, One Hundred Eighty-One Dollars and 69/100 (\$1,323,181.69), pending RDA and IFA approval.

Mr. Prince made a motion to grant authority to the NICTD President to issue a Notice to Proceed for Amendment 2 to Contract 94028 in the amount of One Million, Three Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand, One Hundred Eighty-One Dollars and 69/100 (\$1,323,181.69), pending RDA and IFA approval at his discretion, seconded by Mr. Arnold, and on roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Double Track NWI and West Lake Corridor Project Updates

Mr. Noland gave a brief update on the Double Track NWI Project and West Lake Corridor Project. Double Track is officially in construction season. From Michigan City to Dune Park, you will see construction down the Right of Way along U.S. Hwy 12, in the Pines there are approximately 20-25 trailers with engineers, project managers, construction managers, and othe personnel working on the project. West Lake design is at approximately 75% complete. Phase 1 of the West Lake construction will begin in April/May of this year. NICTD is driving construction schedules to be ready to start revenue service for the Double Track in the spring of 2024 and West Lake in the spring of 2025. NICTD will continue to manage construction and update the Board as projects proceed.

NICTD continues to operate its regular train operations during construction. Currently, Dune Park, rather than Michigan City, is the operations hub. Passengers are being bussed by Royal Excursion between Carroll Ave and Dune Park stations.

Mr. Noland commented on the 2022 Turnouts. Although Hegewisch is not a part of the Double Track or West Lake Project, trains will still go through Hegewisch as we transport our riders to and from Illinois. This project is similar to the East Chicago Station upgrades previously approved by the board. NICTD changed the turnout design to high-speed turnouts to diverge freight train traffic around the platform so the commuter trains can come straight into the platform to save approximately 90 seconds of travel time for every train. NICTD will be installing these high-speed turnouts at the Hegewisch station. The South Shore Line will have a a similar circumstance; however, this will be resolved within the West Lake Project.

Mr. Noland mentioned that the Capital Plan approved in the January Board Meeting did not incorporate the funds that will be received from the newly passed federal infrastructure bill. NICTD will amend the Capital Plan once these funds are received. NICTD anticipates distribution will be posted in the next 3-4 weeks.

Mr. Noland advised the Board that NICTD continues to work with the City of South Bend, St. Joseph County, South Bend International Airport, and other partners to provide necessary support needed to make a determination as to the decision to identify a location where the station will be located in this area. Mr. Kostielney added that he anticipates a decision will be made before he leaves office at the end of the year.

COVID-19 Operations/Status

Mr. Noland gave a brief update on COVID-19 Operations. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the South Shore Line has invested a tremendous amount of time and resources into taking enhanced safety precautions and implementing new sanitization procedures for the health and safety of passengers as they return. The Federal Transportation Security Administration extended the mask mandate until April 18th. In addition to the TSA security directive, South Shore Line employees continue to follow the Federal Railroad Administration's "Emergency Order Requiring Face Mask Use in Railroad Operations," effective until further notice. The directives require the use of masks in all stations and trains throughout Indiana and Illinois. Our on-board staff continue to strictly enforce the mandate, and passengers who do not comply with the mask mandate are subject to removal from trains. If a passenger needs a mask, we will continue to provide masks free of charge. We have not had any recent disturbances or passengers subject to removal based on mask compliance.

TICKET SALES, ADVERTISING, AND MARKETING REPORT

Nicole Barker, NICTD Director of Capital Investment & Implementation, presented the **Ticket Sales, Advertising and Marketing Report**. Ms. Barker discussed the changes in ticket sales. NICTD is at 70% in Digital Sales.

Ms. Barker shared a few marketing posters from the "Connecting People" Campaign, Station Improvements, and the new station signage redesign.

Ms. Barker concluded by sharing ridership from past events and events to look forward to in the spring including Bikes on Trains, Cubs and Sox games, Star Trek Mission Chicago, and a Garth Brooks Stadium Tour at Notre Dame.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Kelly Wenger, NICTD Grant Administrator, summarized **Ridership**. Ms. Wenger detailed changes from 2019, our most recent pre-pandemic year, 2020, and 2021. NICTD's discretionary ridership including off-peak and weekend ridership continues to rise. NICTD's weekday work related ridership is increasing slower than discretionary riders. NICTD believe this is due to the Chicago businesses reducing the number of days employees are required to be in office.

Long-term bussing for Double Track started around the same time as south Bend's Spring Break. The following week, Chicago celebrated St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick's Day ridership was up approximately 33% from usual leisure ridership. Royal Excursion has done an excellent job assisting passengers and working with NICTD crews.

Ms. Wenger commented on **On-Time Performance**. Next Board Meeting, NICTD will be able to present any changes due to bussing. Due to Double Track construction between Michigan City and Dune Park, NICTD does have track outages. NICTD has transitioned some staff and car storage to Dune Park to assist with daily inspections, maintenance, and operations during the Double Track construction outages. NICTD is preparing for Bikes on Trains which begins April 1st.

Mr. Smith asked if NICTD is forecasting ridership trends for the next couple years. Ms. Wenger stated that NICTD has done several forecasts for Double Track. With the grant program, NICTD is required to do before and after studies. Lots of studies were done prior to the pandemic. NICTD does ridership predictions based on worst-case and best-case scenarios. NICTD also participates in a monthly call with local Transit operators to discuss ridership trends. Staff will continue to monitor ridership and establish projections based on current ridership trends.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Arnold made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Prince, and on roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2022.

Respectfully submitted

n Arnold, Secretary



PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Track Department:

Bids:

- Ties 2022
- Turnouts 2022

Double Track Project:

Proposals:

• PTC Technical Support Services

West Lake Corridor:

Sole Source:

 Design-Build – FH Paschen/Ragnar Benson JV – Change Order 2

RECOMMENDATION Track Department Ties 2022

March 28, 2022

A. SCOPE

The Track Department has requested bids for Ties 2022. This project includes Ties for the 2022 construction season. Bids were solicited and a public bid opening was held at the Dune Park Offices and virtually on February 10, 2022.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

1. Legal Notifications

The request for Ties 2022 was advertised throughout the region and nationally. The legal advertisements were placed in the following publications:

South Bend Tribune - South Bend, Indiana Herald-Dispatch - LaPorte County, Indiana Chesterton Tribune - Chesterton, Indiana Gary Crusader - Gary, Indiana The Times - Hammond, Indiana NICTD Plan Room

2. Bid Review

A total of eight (8) packets were requested for Ties 2022 prior to the bid opening. The request resulted in the receipt of three (3) bids.

3. DBE & Required Forms

The bids were evaluated for responsiveness to determine if they could be accepted for further review.

It was determined that the firms submitted all the necessary forms and were approved by the appropriate NICTD staff. All forms have been correctly submitted and were found to be within the guidelines set forth by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Bidder	Eligible Bidder	Lower Tier	DBE %	Non- Discrim.	Rest. Lobby	Drug Free	Buy America	Cert. of Qual.	Illegal Act.	Iran Invst.
Natural Wood Solutions Nettleton, Mississippi	X	X	11.1%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Koppers, Inc. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	X	X	12.4%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Stella-Jones Corporation Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	X	X	10.7%	X	X	X	X	Х	X	X

C. ENGINEERING REVIEW & PRICE ANALYSIS

The responsive Bids were evaluated for compliance to the technical specifications. All bidders were determined to be responsible and met the technical specifications.

The lowest responsive and responsible bid for Ties 2022 is Natural Wood Solutions, with a bid of \$297,000.00. This is 18.3% (\$46,000.00) more than the engineer's estimate of \$251,000.00.

Natural Wood Solutions' DBE amount is 11.1% (\$33,000.00).

Grade #5 Hardwood Cross Ties Dual Treated 7" x 9" – 8'6"							
Quantity 4,000							
Company	Unit	Total Cost					
Company	Cost	10001					
Natural Wood Solutions	\$74.25	\$297,000.00					
Koppers, Inc.	\$78.25	\$313,000.00					
Stella-Jones Corporation	\$79.50	\$318,000.00					

D. DELIVERY

Natural Wood Solutions can meet the District's delivery schedule for June 2022.

E. RECOMMENDATION

The Staff recommends that Natural Wood Solutions of Nettleton, Mississippi be awarded the Contract for Ties 2022 in the amount of Two Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand Dollars and $^{00}/_{100}$ (\$297,000.00).

The Staff is requesting that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for Ties 2022 at his discretion.

NICTD has been notified that Natural Wood Solutions may not honor this bid price and may need to award this to the second lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Koppers, Inc. The Staff requests that the Board also grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for Ties 2022 to Koppers, Inc., should Natural Wood Solutions not honor their bid price.

RECOMMENDATION Track Department Turnouts 2022 March 28, 2022

A. SCOPE

The Track Department has requested bids for Turnouts 2022. This project includes the turnouts required for the Hegewisch Project. Bids were solicited and a public bid opening was held at the Dune Park Offices and virtually on February 24, 2022.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

1. Legal Notifications

The request for Turnouts 2022 was advertised throughout the region and nationally. The legal advertisements were placed in the following publications:

South Bend Tribune - South Bend, Indiana Herald-Dispatch - LaPorte County, Indiana Chesterton Tribune - Chesterton, Indiana Gary Crusader - Gary, Indiana The Times - Hammond, Indiana NICTD Plan Room

2. Bid Review

A total of seven (7) packets were requested for Turnouts 2022 prior to the bid opening. The request resulted in the receipt of two (2) bids.

3. DBE & Required Forms

The bids were evaluated for responsiveness to determine if they could be accepted for further review.

It was determined that the firms submitted all the necessary forms and were approved by the appropriate NICTD staff. All forms have been correctly submitted and were found to be within the guidelines set forth by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Bidder	Eligible Bidder	Lower Tier	DBE %	Non- Discrim.	Rest. Lobby	Drug Free	Buy America	Cert. of Qual.	Illegal Act.	Iran Invst.
Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak Cheyenne, Wyoming	X	X	9.3%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Unitrac Railroad Materials Knoxville, Tennessee	X	X	6.6%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

C. ENGINEERING REVIEW & PRICE ANALYSIS

The responsive Bids were evaluated for compliance to the technical specifications. Both bidders were determined to be responsible and met the technical specifications.

The lowest responsive and responsible bid for Turnouts 2022 is Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak, with a bid of \$991,219.00. This is 0.9% (\$8,781.00) less than the engineer's estimate of \$1,000,000.00.

Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak's DBE amount is 9.3% (\$92,600.00).

Company:			e Railway Nortrak	Unitrac Railroad Materials		
Description	Qty	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Unit Cost	Total Cost	
No. 20 RH Panelized Crossover	1	\$376,995.00	\$376,995.00	\$555,690.00	\$555,690.00	
No. 20 LH Panelized Gauntlet Turnout	1	\$149,117.00	\$149,117.00	\$493,940.00	\$493,940.00	
No. 20 RH Panelized Gauntlet Turnout	1	\$149,117.00	\$149,117.00	\$493,940.00	\$493,940.00	
No. 20 Equilateral Panelized Gauntlet Turnout	2	\$157,995.00	\$315,990.00	\$199,655.00	\$399,310.00	
Grand Total		\$991,219.00		\$1,942,880.00		

D. DELIVERY

Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak can meet the District's delivery schedule for March 2023.

E. RECOMMENDATION

The Staff recommends that Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak of Cheyenne, Wyoming be awarded the Contract for Turnouts 2022 in the amount of Nine Hundred Ninety-One Thousand, Two Hundred Nineteen Dollars and $^{00}/_{100}$ (\$991,219.00).

The Staff is requesting that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for Turnouts 2022 at his discretion.

RECOMMENDATION Double Track NWI PTC Technical Support Services

March 28, 2022

A. SCOPE

The Double Track NWI team has requested proposals from qualified firms to select an appropriate Positive Train Control Technical Support Services (PTC TSS) provider. Proposals were solicited and a private proposal opening was held on Friday, February 18, 2022.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

1. Legal Notifications

The request for PTC TSS proposals was advertised throughout the region and nationally. The legal advertisements were placed in the following publications:

South Bend Tribune - South Bend, Indiana Herald-Dispatch - LaPorte County, Indiana Chesterton Tribune - Chesterton, Indiana Gary Crusader - Gary, Indiana The Times - Hammond, Indiana NICTD Plan Room

2. Proposal Review

A total of eighteen (18) packets were requested for PTC TSS prior to the proposal opening. The request resulted in the receipt of three (3) proposal.

3. DBE & Required Forms

The proposals were evaluated for responsiveness to determine if they could be accepted for further review. It was determined that the firms submitted all the necessary forms and were approved by the appropriate NICTD staff. All forms have been correctly submitted and were found to be within the guidelines set forth by the FTA.

Proposer	DBE %	Eligible Bidder	Lower Tier	Non- Discrim.	Proc. Integrity	Rest. Lobby	Drug Free	E- Verify	Illegal Act.	Iran Invst.
Piper Networks, Inc. San Diego, California	12%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gannett Fleming, Inc. Camp Hill, Pennsylvania	12%	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	X	X
STV Incorporated Chicago, Illinois	12%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

C. STAFF REVIEW

Team Evaluation Review:

The team was composed of six (6) individuals that evaluated the proposals on:

- i) Business Organization & History
- ii) Team Identification
- iii) Statement of Qualifications & Approach
- iv) Price Proposal

The evaluation review resulted in an interview with all three firms.

PTCTSS	Totals			
Proposer	Score	Rank		
Piper Networks, Inc.	576	1		
Gannett Fleming, Inc.	506	2		
STV Incorporated	466	3		

The District held virtual conferences with all three proposers to clarify the details of their proposals. As a result, proposers were requested to submit revised proposals that addressed items of concern or requested clarifications. Upon receipt of these revised proposals, Piper was identified as the strongest proposer. Piper had the most comprehensive and complete approach, and the District was able to negotiate a contract amount that will ensure the DT6 PTC contract will have adequate technical support.

Negotiations resulted in a final contract amount of \$849,800.00, which includes a \$140,000 contingency that is only to be used upon approval from the District.

Independent Cost Estimate: \$519,852.00.

D. RECOMMENDATION

The Staff recommends that Piper Networks, Inc. of San Diego, California be awarded the Contract for Double Track PTC Technical Support Services in the amount of Eight Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred Dollars and $^{00}/_{100}$ (\$849,800.00).

The Staff is requesting that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for Double Track PTC Technical Support Services at his discretion, pending RDA and IFA approval.

RECOMMENDATION West Lake Design-Build Sole Source March 28, 2022

RECOMMENDATION:

The District executed Contract 94028 for West Lake Design-Build to FH Paschen/Ragnar Benson Joint Venture on October 29, 2020, for a not to exceed cost of \$554,940,521.00. On November 22, 2021, the District approved Amendment 1 for \$1,005,535.01 to keep the project moving forward. Amendment 2 authorizes an additional \$1,323,181.69 to be added to the contract price.

PCO#	Change Description	Cost
010	Munster/Dyer Station Parking Lot and Wet Detention Pond Configuration Changes	\$662,063.51
021	Additional Drainage Study, Hammond Gateway Station, and MSF Yard	\$56,031.25
022	Monitoring Well Sealing at AOCs 3-5	\$4,698.29
025	Redo Radio Coverage Study	\$29,670.07
026	Fiber Optic Marker Posts	\$92,696.81
068	Credit, Bridge Girder Webs, and Bottom Flanges not Fracture Critical Material	(\$46,955.27)
071	INDOT I-80/94 OH Clearance Coordination	\$211,045.32
072	Add Crash Beams to Bridge 106	\$201,210.78
075	GSA Encroachment (Funded by Others)	\$58,551.56
092	Concept Design for Hammond Gateway Station Building Improvements	\$42,577.37
122	Russel Street Pedestrian Tunnel Design Delta (Funded by Others)	\$11,592.00
	Total	\$1,323,181.69

An independent cost estimate has been prepared for all of the PCOs listed above and the costs associated with each have been determined to be fair and reasonable. Therefore, the District is requesting the Board grant the President the authority to approve Amendment 2 to Contract 94028 in the amount of One Million, Three Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand, One Hundred Eighty-One Dollars and ⁶⁹/₁₀₀ (\$1,323,181.69), pending RDA and IFA approval.