



NORTHERN INDIANA COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING

May 24, 2021

US: +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 935 2286 1276

Held Online Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Public Session – 10:30 a.m. (CST)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe McGuinness
Jerome Prince

Jim Arnold
Jeff Good

Andrew Kostielney

STAFF PARTICIPANTS:

Michael Noland
Chuck Lukmann, Esq.
Connor Nolan
Kelly Wenger

Tony Siegmund
Nicole Barker
Steve Plesha
Jessie Watts

Justice Anderson
Vic Babin
Derrick Wright

OTHERS PRESENT

Steven Lyons-Passenger

Andrew Steele-The Times

CALL TO ORDER

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Good requested a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of March 29th, May 4th, and May 10th 2021. Mr. Arnold made a motion to approve the board meeting minute, Mr. Prince 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 one bid recommendations to the Board. The purchasing item is listed in the recommendations that follow and the Board's vote was requested at the end of the recommendation.

The first item was a bid for End-Life Seat Refurbishment. The Staff recommended that FELLFAB Corporation of Atlanta, Georgia be awarded the Contract for the End-Life Seat Refurbishment Project in the amount of Two Million, Three Hundred Fifty-One Thousand, Three

Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars and 47/100 (\$2,351,363.47). The Staff requested that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for the End-Life Seat Refurbishment Project at his discretion.

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Double Track NWI Update

Mr. Noland gave a brief update on the Double Track Project. The District requested bids for Double Track Project 1. Bids were solicited and a public bid opening was held virtually on May 4, 2021. This project involves all of the track work, overhead catenary, signal and communications systems, PTC, grade crossing warnings, structures, four bridges, retaining walls, five station platforms, roadways and parking lots.

Both bidders were responsive and met the technical specifications. Both bids received for this contract were significantly over the District's budget. On May 10, the Board granted authority to the District to reject the bids for Double Track Project 1 and re-bid the project, enabling the District to improve the work scope. NICTD worked with project partners to interview companies that bid and those that chose not to bid to look further into the constructability of the project. Mr. McGuinness and staff from INDOT provided assistance to the NICTD team to help ensure the opportunity for best practices in large construction projects were being considered. NICTD is working diligently to evaluate contract risks, value engineer opportunities, and other funding opportunities.

NICTD anticipates a shorter bid cycle with an opening in September to begin construction in early fall.

West Lake Corridor Project Update

Mr. Noland gave a brief update on the West Lake Corridor Project. Engineering design continues to advance by F.H. Paschen/Ragnar Benson. F.H. Paschen/Ragnar Benson is working on 60% design getting closer to 90%. NICTD has almost obtained all the property necessary for the West Lake Corridor Project. Almost all residential properties have been demolished. A few industrial property acquisitions are being wrapped up in Hammond. A Project Management office is active now in Hammond at an older elementary school and being utilized by NICTD and F.H. Paschen/Ragnar Benson team to review any requests for information or plan design issues.

NICTD anticipates construction will begin later this year.

COVID-19 Operations/Status

Mr. Noland gave a brief update on COVID-19 Operations. Governor Holcomb lifted the statewide mask mandate and remaining COVID-19 business restrictions starting April 6. However, the mask mandate continues on the South Shore Line due to the extension of the federal Transportation Security Administration mandate for masks to be worn by employees and riders on all planes, trains and buses. Social distancing restrictions onboard our train has been relaxed, but masks will continue to be mandated for passengers and staff.

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 down about 53.8% in ticket sales compared to last year.

Ms. Barker shared a few sneak peaks of the Real Estate brochures Group7even helped create for Greater Northwest Indiana Association of Realtors.

Ms. Barker shared the “Connecting People” campaign that will be releasing soon. With the pandemic restrictions becoming more relaxed, Group7even helps NICTD create a campaign to help encourage people to connect or reconnect to the people and places they love by taking the train.

Ms. Barker touched on Sanitized for Safety. NICTD is doing everything they can to ensure rider safety while taking the train.

Ms. Barker shared construction posters that will be posted on board to remind passengers of track safety as the landscape starts to change with the ongoing projects.

Ms. Barker concluded by sharing summer events including Bikes on Trains, the Chicago Cubs and White Sox games, Dunes Birding Festival, Festival of the Lakes, the Chicago Auto Show, Guns n’ Roses, and Lollapalooza.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Kelly Wenger, NICTD Grant Administrator, summarized **Ridership**. Ms. Wenger provided changes from 2019, 2020, and 2021. Ridership continues to increase slowly each month. With events returning to Chicago, NICTD anticipates Ridership will continue to increase over the summer. This past April bikes on trains’ ridership was the highest NICTD has ever had for the month of April.

Derrick Wright, NICTD Chief Operating Officer, commented on **On-Time Performance**. Mr. Wright discussed the opportunities of 2021. Quite a few of the recent delays are due to bussing at various stations to help facilitate pre-construction third-party utility work and the Double Track NWI construction project. NICTD continues to work with partners to minimize delays. Mid-June some configuration changes will be made to minimize delays.

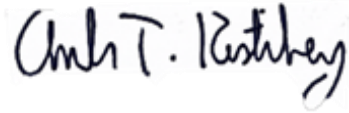
Mr. Noland added that NICTD has and will be doing a lot of bussing due to construction and to promote the opportunity for NIPSCO to get pre-construction work for Double Track.

NICTD will be establishing a construction schedule to minimize bussing costs and notify passengers as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Arnold made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Kostielney, and on roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew T. Kostielney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and "K".

Andrew Kostielney, Secretary



PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Mechanical Department

- **End-Life Seat Refurbishment**

C. ENGINEERING REVIEW & PRICE ANALYSIS

The Bids were evaluated for responsiveness to the technical specifications. Both bidders were responsive and met the technical specifications.

The lowest and most responsive bid for the End-Life Seat Refurbishment Project is \$2,351,363.47. This is 57.2% (\$855,486.47) more than the engineer’s estimate of \$1,495,877.00.

FELLFAB Corporation’s DBE amount is 3.48% (\$81,750.00).

Seat Component	Qty. Per Car	# of Cars	Spare Pieces	Total	FellFab Corp.		Sedia, Inc.	
					Unit Cost	Total Cost	Unit Cost	Total Cost
44" Seat Back (2 Place)	35	41	35	1470	\$ 368.60	\$ 541,842.00	\$ 352.01	\$ 517,454.70
44" Seat Bottom	35	41	35	1470	\$ 280.01	\$ 411,614.70	\$ 381.08	\$ 560,187.60
44" Crash Pad	35	41	35	1470	\$ 106.89	\$ 157,128.30	\$ 87.25	\$ 128,257.50
40.25" Seat Back (2 Place)	10	41	10	420	\$ 359.47	\$ 150,977.40	\$ 326.16	\$ 136,987.20
40.25" Seat Bottom	10	41	10	420	\$ 276.31	\$ 116,050.20	\$ 363.15	\$ 152,523.00
40.25" Crash Pad	4	41	10	174	\$ 103.77	\$ 18,055.98	\$ 84.49	\$ 14,701.26
Single Person Flip Seat Back	1	41	1	42	\$ 250.43	\$ 10,518.06	\$ 58.13	\$ 2,441.46
Single Person Flip Seat Bottom	1	41	1	42	\$ 228.83	\$ 9,610.86	\$ 74.50	\$ 3,129.00
Two Person Flip Seat Back (2 Place)	1	41	1	42	\$ 389.62	\$ 16,364.04	\$ 62.27	\$ 2,615.34
Two Person Flip Seat Bottom	1	41	1	42	\$ 281.36	\$ 11,817.12	\$ 90.84	\$ 3,815.28
Aisle Grab Handle	39	41	10	1609	\$ 59.30	\$ 95,413.70	\$ 55.76	\$ 89,717.84
Arm Rest Cap	46	41	50	1936	\$ 19.08	\$ 36,938.88	\$ 26.52	\$ 51,342.72
44" Seat Back Shroud	35	41	35	1470	\$ 290.70	\$ 427,329.00	\$ 250.77	\$ 368,631.90
40.25" Seat Back Shroud	10	41	20	430	\$ 296.92	\$ 127,675.60	\$ 265.18	\$ 114,027.40
RH Inner Arm Panel	21	41	21	882	\$ 36.24	\$ 31,963.68	\$ 50.31	\$ 44,373.42
RH Outer Arm Panel	21	41	21	882	\$ 35.08	\$ 30,940.56	\$ 66.04	\$ 58,247.28
RH Panel Trim	21	41	21	882	\$ 25.88	\$ 22,826.16	\$ 41.53	\$ 36,629.46
LH Inner Arm Panel	24	41	24	1008	\$ 36.24	\$ 36,529.92	\$ 49.21	\$ 49,603.68
LH Outer Arm Panel	24	41	24	1008	\$ 35.08	\$ 35,360.64	\$ 64.94	\$ 65,459.52
LH Panel Trim	24	41	24	1008	\$ 25.88	\$ 26,087.04	\$ 41.07	\$ 41,398.56
2 Pass. Flip Seat Back Shroud	1	41	5	46	\$ 290.70	\$ 13,372.20	\$ 523.30	\$ 24,071.80
1 Pass. Flip Seat Back Shroud	1	41	5	46	\$ 385.11	\$ 17,715.06	\$ 449.62	\$ 20,682.52
RH Panel Closure (Flip Seat)	1	41	10	51	\$ 36.59	\$ 1,866.09	\$ 97.00	\$ 4,947.00
LH Panel Closure (Flip Seat)	2	41	10	92	\$ 36.59	\$ 3,366.28	\$ 68.73	\$ 6,323.16
Grand Total						\$ 2,351,363.47		\$ 2,497,568.60

D. DELIVERY

FELLFAB Corporation can meet the District’s delivery schedule of August 2021 through the completion of the End-Life Project.

E. RECOMMENDATION

The Staff recommends that FELLFAB Corporation of Atlanta, Georgia be awarded the Contract for the End-Life Seat Refurbishment Project in the amount of Two Million, Three Hundred Fifty-One Thousand, Three Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars and ⁴⁷/₁₀₀ (\$2,351,363.47).

The Staff is requesting that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for the End-Life Seat Refurbishment Project at his discretion.