



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Fire
Department No.: 031
For Agenda Of: March 9, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Mark A. Hartwig, Fire Chief 805-681-5507
Director(s)
Contact Info: Shawna Jorgensen, Chief Financial Officer 805-681-5506

SUBJECT: Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and Arista Aviation Services LLC and Request for Waiver of Competition in Purchase of Helicopter Inspection, Maintenance and Upgrade Services – Sikorsky HH60L 964

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management, Purchasing

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Fire Chief to execute an Agreement for the services of an Independent Contractor (Attachment A), Arista Aviation Services LLC, for helicopter inspection, maintenance, and upgrade services needed for the Sikorsky HH60L Firehawk conversion, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$295,656; and
- b) Authorize the Purchasing Agent to procure the service without being required to conduct a formal bid process, pursuant to County Code § 2-39 waive competitive bidding by the County of Santa Barbara; and
- c) Approve and authorize the Fire Chief or designee to approve up to a 20% contingency with Arista Aviation Services LLC in the amount not to exceed \$59,131 for any additional items within the scope of work that may be required to complete the repairs and/or inspections; and
- d) Approve Budget Revision Request #BJE-0007395 (Attachment B); and

- e) Find that the proposed Agreement is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378(b)(2) in that the Agreement involves a continuing administrative or maintenance activity, and CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), in that the Agreement involves an organizational or administrative activity of government that will not result in the direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

Summary Text:

This Agreement is for the purchase of items, materials, and services specified in Attachment A for helicopter parts and services needed for helicopter HH60L 964. The vendor, Arista Aviation Services LLC, is an established County vendor and provides helicopter repair and inspection services to the County's Air Support Unit equipment.

Pursuant to County Code Section 2-39, the Fire Department is requesting your Board to waive the requirement for a competitive bid due to "limitations on the source or supply" and the "necessary restrictions in specifications" for the conversion of the Army Blackhawk helicopter to a Firehawk helicopter.

This contract represents another step toward the conversion of the recently acquired Army Blackhawk into a Firehawk. The scope of work for this contract includes de-modification of military specific equipment, airframe maintenance, mission-specific airframe modifications, replacing electrical components, installation of updated cockpit lighting for night vision goggles and monitors to be utilized at night, and removal of some nonessential lighting items to allow space for mounting of belly tank. It does not include the firefighting water tank which will be added at a later date pursuant to a separate contract with United Rotorcraft, nor the updated lighting package that has the Supplemental Type Certificate owned by United Rotorcraft.

Background:

In working with the Sheriff, we have agreed that for the needed HH60L 964 helicopter maintenance and upgrade services, the Fire Department will contract with and pay the vendor, Arista Aviation Services LLC directly. The terms of service provided for in this Agreement ensure that the service will be completed as quickly as possible, barring any unforeseen repair issues.

This is a very specialized project and there are few vendors nationwide who have experience in this scope of work. County ASU personnel have spent several months seeking out potential vendors as well as collaborating closely with outside agency partners who are currently, or have previously, completed a similar project. Arista Aviation has been selected because they are also the vendor who built the aircraft up and know exactly all functionality of the components and their locations. Arista Aviation has acquired, refurbished and resold several other similar aircraft. Additionally, they own several non-flying Blackhawk helicopters that may provide parts, helping to expedite the project and keep costs down as there are limitations on the source and supply of parts for Blackhawk helicopters. Waiver of any potentially applicable bidding requirements is warranted, since this is a hybrid of a highly specialized service and materials contract that cannot be separated.

After visiting United Rotorcraft (UR) in Colorado and meeting with their engineers and build up team, it was found that the HH60L needed additional modifications to streamline the installation of the belly tank. At that time, the engineering division and UR executive staff came up with a list of items that

needed modification “Change Orders”. Usually UR would take the aircraft and conduct all work, but with the impacts of COVID-19, it has delayed many projects in their facility, allowing them no opportunity to complete the project in a timely manner thus delaying the tank installation as well. It was recommended by UR staff that the aircraft be sent back to Arista for the modifications since they were very familiar with the aircraft and could conduct the work with much more efficiency. Arista works closely with UR and is familiar with these buildups and since Arista built the aircraft they are very familiar with its components, and can start work immediately, without any delays.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>		<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>		<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund					
State					
Federal					
Fire Protection District Fund Balance					\$354, 787
Fire Protection District Fund - Donations					
Total (includes 20% contingency)	\$	-	\$	-	\$354, 787

Narrative: The funding for the additional fixed-belly tank modifications is unbudgeted in FY 2020-21. The Fire Department is requesting Board approval to draw the total cost of the contract amount (\$295,656) and the contact contingency (\$59,131) from our fund balance reserves for these one-time costs.

Staffing Impacts:

None

Special Instructions:

Please provide a copy of the executed Agreement to CFO Shawna Jorgensen, Fire Department and route a certified copy of the Minute Order to the Purchasing Agent.

Attachments:

- A. Agreement for Services between the County of Santa Barbara and Arista Aviation Services LLC
- B. Budget Revision Request #BJE-0007395

Authored by:

Shawna Jorgensen, Chief Financial Officer, Fire Department

cc:

Mark A. Hartwig, Fire Chief

Rob Heckman, Deputy Chief

Woody Enos, Deputy Chief

Anthony Stornetta, Air/Wildland Battalion Chief