
Meeting Date

January 3, 2023

New Business Item #1

Subject

Water Treatment Plant Analytical Equipment Purchase Authorization
Turbidity Analyzers (Turbidimeters)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the BWA Board approve the purchase of the 22 turbidimeters and related accessories from Hach Corporation in the amount of \$87,651.52 as proposed in the manufacturer’s purchase order/quote.

Background/Analysis

BWA utilizes 22 turbidimeters manufactured by the Hach Corporation to monitor turbidity at the water treatment plant. These instruments, originally specified by BWA’s Engineer as sole-source equipment, provide a measure of suspended particles in water, are critical to the water treatment process and are operated and maintained as required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and EPA.

Many of the Authority’s turbidimeters have been in service since the 2004 plant expansion and are nearing the end of useful life. Additionally, by 2024, as production of the units currently in service is being discontinued, the manufacturer will no longer be making replacement parts, potentially leaving existing equipment unserviceable. Accordingly, replacement of this aging equipment with new equipment utilizing the latest technology is warranted.

BWA has received a quote from Hach Corporation for the purchase of six (6) turbidimeters to be utilized at various monitoring locations within the water treatment process, sixteen (16) turbidimeters to measure the finished water turbidity from each filter, as well as related parts and accessories. The total cost for all equipment and accessories is \$87,651.52. Consistent with the original Engineer’s specifications, this is a sole-source purchase.

Financial Impact

Funding is available in the 2023 Operating Budget (Capital Outlay).