

Revised 9-04-12

The University of Wyoming
Board of Trustees' Report
September 6-7, 2012

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Architect/Engineer for the Biological Sciences Building Modifications**, Collins

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
 Education Session
 Information Item
 Other Specify: Approval of Architect/Engineer

BACKGROUND AND POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

The Biological Sciences building occupied in 1969 has classrooms, class laboratories, offices and research laboratories that have remained since the original construction. The facility requirements and building codes under which the building was constructed do not meet today's safety requirements and regulations, especially in the laboratories. The original unit ventilators in the class laboratories are too noisy by today's standards to conduct classes, requiring the ventilators to be shut down for class sessions.

The Biological Sciences building upgrades were originally planned as part of the recent American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) stimulus funded projects. Due to the time for the completion of the stimulus projects and the higher than expected costs of the renovations, the improvements were delayed until other funding could be identified.

The primary modifications within the 160,000 square feet will include removing existing unit ventilators in laboratories and classrooms with a system utilizing a roof top HVAC unit and duct work; replacement of air conditioning units serving the office areas; replacement of unit ventilators serving circulation spaces; improvements and consolidation of the chemical fume hood exhaust system; new building automation and control system; and replacement of associated suspended ceiling and lighting systems.

The project will be funded with FY 2013 - 14 major maintenance funds supplemented with available Federal Mineral Royalty funds. The preliminary estimate for the Biological Sciences Building Modifications Project is \$10M.

The professional architect/engineering services were publicly advertised in July and August with qualification responses received by August 17, 2012. Ten statements-of-qualification were received from firms from coast to coast. At least three respondents were scheduled for interview on August 31, 2012. **The recommended ranking of the firms by the Biological Science planning team and the Facilities Planning office is as follows:**

- 1. Dale Buckingham Architect, LLC, Sheridan Wyoming**
- 2. Associated Construction Engineering, Inc., Sheridan, Wyoming**

3. CE Group, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

PRIOR RELATED BOARD DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS:

July 2011 – Board of Trustees approved the FY 2013-2014 Capital Construction Request for University of Wyoming, which included the request for major maintenance funding.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE BOARD:

Authorization is required from the Board of Trustees to contract the architect/engineering services for the Biological Sciences Building Modification.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

- The 2012 Wyoming Legislature appropriated major maintenance funding for the University.
- The project is ready for the completion of design and construction following the previous successful stimulus projects to improve building safety.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST:

None.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS BOARD MEETING:

Authorization to contract with the first-ranked firm, Dale Buckingham Architect, LLC. If favorable negotiations cannot be completed with the first-ranked firm, negotiation will be opened with the second-ranked firm and third-ranked firm until achieving favorable negotiations.

PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming authorize the contracting with the recommended first-ranked architect/engineering firm, Dale Buckingham Architect, LLC. of Sheridan, Wyoming.