

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: VET MED SUBSTATION FEEDERS EXTENSION – 1200 AMP SWITCHGEAR**

**BACKGROUND:**

On January 14, 2014, City Council approved preliminary plans and specifications for the 1200 Amp Switchgear for the Vet Med Feeder Extension. The complete project will add a new underground feeder south to the ISU Research Park. This particular portion of the project is for the purchase of a 1200 Amp Switchgear.

Bid documents were issued to eight firms. The bid was advertised on the Current Bid Opportunities section of the Purchasing webpage and a Legal Notice was published in the Ames Tribune. The bid was also sent to one plan room. The engineer’s estimated cost of this project was \$20,000.

On January 29, 2014, two bids were received as shown below:

BIDDER	TOTAL
WESCO Distribution Des Moines, IA	\$17,334.00
Fletcher-Reinhardt Co. Cedar Rapids, IA	\$82,205.93

Staff reviewed the bids and concluded that the apparent low bid submitted by WESCO Distribution, Des Moines, IA, in the amount of \$17,334.00 (inclusive of Iowa sales tax) is acceptable.

The approved FY2013/14 CIP for Electric Services includes \$300,000 for materials and construction of this project. To date the project budget has the following items encumbered:

<b>\$300,000.00</b>	<b>Amount budgeted for project</b>
<b><u>\$17,334.00</u></b>	<b>Actual cost for 1200 amp switchgear – (Pending Council approval of award for this agenda item)</b>
\$282,666.00	Amount available to complete project (Cost of additional materials and of construction phase is estimated to cost \$280,000)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Award a contract to WESCO Distribution, Des Moines, IA, for the 1200 Amp Switchgear for the Vet Med Feeder Extension in the amount of \$17,334.00 (inclusive of Iowa sales tax).
2. Reject all bids and do not purchase this equipment at this time.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

This project is necessary to extend feeder capacity from the Vet Med Substation to the ISU Research Park. This will provide capacity for new load growth and improve reliability to the Research Park and surrounding areas. To meet the project timetable, the switchgear must be ordered in advance of scheduling the installation.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.