



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 25.

DATE OF MEETING: September 8, 2009

REQUESTED BY: Mike Taylor, Director, Pender County Public Library

SHORT TITLE: Resolution Authorizing the County Manager to Negotiate a Proposed Contract with Cherry Huffman Architects for Regional Library Facility

BACKGROUND: On June 22, the Board of County Commissioners appointed and authorized a building committee to request qualifications from architectural firms interested in being awarded a contract to design the proposed Topsail Regional Branch Library and the renovations of the existing library into a county government office annex. The invitation resulted in sixteen responses to be considered.

Each committee member began the extensive task of reading sixteen proposals while evaluating each one on eleven criteria. The scores were compiled and the committee met to select six firms to interview on August 25. After a full day of interviews, the meeting adjourned to give committee members some time to score the top firms individually on twelve measures.

Scores were compiled resulting in Cherry Huffman Architects being identified as the highest ranked firm. The committee was impressed with their library building experience on a scale similar to our project, their approach and creativity, experience with green building practices, their strength in interior design, and many other factors. We felt a very comfortable rapport with the architect and other representatives and they communicated well on all criteria. The firm also had an excellent understanding of the significance of this project to the county and the community it serves. However, if a satisfactory proposal from Cherry Huffman Architects for your approval cannot be obtained in our opinion, we have other very high ranking firms that we would be happy to negotiate further.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: The building committee requests the Board of County Commissioners to authorize the County Manger to negotiate a contract with Cherry Huffman Architects for your review and approval. If a satisfactory recommended contract cannot be achieved, we ask that the County Manager then be authorized to negotiate with the remaining top ranked architectural firms until a strong recommendation can be made to the Commissioners.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Respectfully recommend approval.



Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that that the County Manager be authorized to negotiate a satisfactory contract with Cherry Huffman Architects to recommend for approval to the Board of County Commissioners. If a satisfactory proposal cannot be obtained, we ask that the County Manager then be authorized to negotiate with the next top ranked firm, and so forth, until such can be obtained for your review and approval.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Tate ___ Brown ___ Blanchard ___ Rivenbark ___ Williams ___

Jimmy T. Tate, Chairman

9/8/09
Date

ATTEST

9/8/09
Date