

EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request

For Cooperative Contracts

The Board is being asked to authorize the use of a cooperative contract for the **Purchase of Three (3) Small Service Bucket Trucks with Global Rental Company, Inc. (Altec Industries).**

Board Meeting Date:	July 9, 2024	
Project Name/Contract #:	Small Service Bucket Trucks / Sourcewell 062320-ALT	
Manager:	Scott Milovich	Ext. 7408
Executive Officer:	Karen Kelley	Ext. 7153
Expected Spend:	\$562,000	

Narrative:

The Board is being asked to authorize the use of the Sourcewell Cooperative Contract 062320-ALT with Global Rental Company, Inc. (Altec Industries) for the purchase of three (3) small service bucket trucks. Like other cooperative programs, this Sourcewell contract leverages the purchasing power of public entities across the country to deliver competitive pricing and sourced contracts to public entities like EWEB. This Sourcewell contract offers discounts ranging 3-5% off MSRP.

Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

EWEB line crews are continually assessing their structure and equipment compliment to enhance productivity and safety. Utilizing small bucket trucks has become more common with utilities and contractors in the Pacific Northwest working in similar conditions and with challenges utilizing larger trucks in limited access areas, and to decrease restoration times in large storms. The use of bucket trucks generally is also becoming more common as a safer approach to line work as it reduces the need for climbing poles.

The need for this class of bucket truck has been identified for some time with Fleet and Line strategizing to phase out the typical crew cab lead truck and replace them with extended cab lead trucks, with these small service bucket trucks complimenting the overhead workflow. With supply chain issues we believed that process was going to take multiple years as these trucks typically have an extreme lead time, so we have been planning to proceed for the near future with the current equipment makeup. However, this opportunity poses an acceleration of that plan by approximately 3 years for upcoming retirements of lead trucks that would be converted to less expensive extended cab models.

It has become standard for contractors (including the ones that serviced EWEB during the ice storm this year) for a small bucket to be added to the crew equipment compliment to be more flexible and better assist the crews. Efficiencies are realized in day-to-day work with the ability for the lead or others on the crew to assist in tight spots (alleys, neighborhoods, back country) or adjacent to the large bucket for support in installing equipment. In storms this allows for the use of more 2 person teams for secondary repairs or smaller work, and more ability for make safe during first part of the storm. It is expected for large storms that adding these additional trucks would decrease an overall storm by 1 day due to the ability to address initial make safe work and service restorations at the end of the storm quicker. Currently these workflows are limited by the number of these small trucks with some outages needing to be delayed until equipment availability opens up.

These bucket trucks will be used day to day, but the highest value will come in those times when we are in an emergency. Specifically Red Flag Warning or PSPS patrols where we will be able to patrol and fix with the same 2-person resource. Additionally for ice storms, we will be able to essentially double our resource for make safe at the onset of a storm and for secondary fixes at the end. Currently poles that are inaccessible by large buckets crews are serviced by climbing. Though possible, utilizing a small bucket truck is much safer, faster and reduces wear and tear on the bodies of our line techs.

We have a unique opportunity in that Global Rental Company, Inc. (Altec Industries) has units which were originally produced for sale in California; with new California specific emissions standards now in effect they are now unable to sell the vehicles there. Altec Industries has made these available to other agencies through their rental group. If we had to order these to be built, we would not expect delivery until 2027. These vehicles meet all current Oregon emissions standards. This presents an opportunity to fast track the transition to a safer and more efficient crew vehicle compliment this year and get us to an improved state several years sooner than anticipated. As this change in crew vehicle compliment takes effect, we anticipate needing fewer of the larger trucks currently in use and would work to phase out unnecessary equipment in 5-7 years. We are requesting three trucks for issuing on an assigned or need by basis for line crews, and one in the Service Crew/TS team for use as a backup trouble shooter vehicle and for day to day use as a smaller service truck for 2 people working in limited access areas for customer development work.

Global Rental Company, Inc. (Altec Industries) has responded to our recent solicitations as the lowest and responsive bidder, by utilizing a cooperative contract. They can deliver these units in a short time-period to meet our needs for availability by delivering them within 120-days after receipt of PO, so they fall under the 2024 budget.

Purchasing Process

Sourcewell is a local government unit from the state of Minnesota that assists public agencies to contract more efficiently than as an individual entity. They establish competitively awarded cooperative purchasing contracts on behalf of itself and its participating agencies, including EWEB. Sourcewell follows the competitive contracting law process to solicit, evaluate, and award contracts for goods and services which facilitates the public procurement process and leverages governmental agencies purchasing power.

RFP 062320 was published on April 30, 2020, and closed on June 23, 2020, at 4:30 pm (CT). Eighteen (18) RFP responses were received by Sourcewell, including Altec Industries, Inc. (Global Rental Company, Inc.). Sourcewell Contract 062320-ALT was executed on August 24, 2020, with an initial expiration date of August 27, 2024. It may be renewed for one additional year.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Management requests the Board authorize the use of a cooperative contract for the Purchase of three (3) small service bucket trucks with Global Rental Company, Inc. (Altec Industries). Approximately \$2.8 million was planned for vehicles and power operated equipment in the 2024 Electric Capital Budget of \$69.9 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.