

## TECHNICAL RESPONSES TO CONTRACTOR BID QUESTIONS FORT BAYARD NATIONAL CEMETERY

Provided below are the technical responses to Contractor Bid Questions. The Contractor Bid Questions are shown in italics and the technical responses follow each question.

### **QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:**

1. *The current plans call for a 250,000 gallons tank 40' diameter x 24' ht. calculation show volume for this size is 220,000 gallon allowing for 6" free board at the weir box at the overflow. The tank height would need to be 28' in order to have a capacity of 250,000 gallons and have a 6" freeboard at the weir box for the overflow. The tank change would only affect the tank supplier as the diameter does not change so associated crafts like concrete and walls would not change. Can we get a confirmation of the change in the tank height being set at 28' ht?*

**Response:** The revised storage tank size shall be 220,000 gallons. See revised drawings I-103, I-104, and I-105.

2. *Concerning the Fort Bayard National Cemetery we are having trouble finding more than one source (the source listed in the plans/specs) for the amended soil and the reveille bluegrass sod. They are both very high due to this fact. We were quoted \$63 a yard for the amended soil and \$223/pallet of sod. It seems like the source knows that they were on the plans and specs and knows that they are the only provider for these materials in the area, thus possible increased the price due to supply and demand. Is there any substitution allowed for either of the products?*

**Response:** Soil amendment shall be per Specifications Section 32 90 00 - Planting. Sod shall be as specified on the Drawings. No substitutions will be allowed.

3. a. *Pg. L-301 shows a scale of 1" = 30'. (the actual scale should be 1" = 50'). Please clarify.*

**Response:** Sheet L-301 is at a scale of 1"=50'. The bar scale on Sheet L-301 has been revised. Additionally, the bar scale on Sheet L-101 has been revised to reflect the scale of that sheet.

- b. *Please confirm Detail F1/L203 directions to provide tool joints followed by sawcuts @ 10' ocev at paving.*

**Response:** Confirmed – Detail F1/Sheet L-203 requires tool joints followed by sawcuts @ 10' ocev at paving.

- c. *Please confirm Detail F1/L204 directions to provide tool joints followed by sawcuts @ 5' ocev at sidewalks.*

**Response:** Confirmed – Detail F1/Sheet L-204 requires tool joints followed by sawcuts @ 5' ocev at sidewalks.

### **ADDITIONAL NOTE FOR CONCRETE WALK:**

Specifications Section 32 05 23, **ADD** the following: **Paragrapyh 1.6.D:** The first 100 S.F. placement of concrete walk will be made with the COTR present. Installation of the joints and finish on concrete shall be approved prior to placement of additional concrete walk. If initial walk is not acceptable, the walk shall be removed and replaced at the Contractor's expense until an acceptable finish and proper joints are provided. The approved walk will be the standard for acceptance for the balance of the project.

4. a. *Plans show 15" HDPE, Specs indicate RCP – Which should we use?*

**Response:** Plans require the installation of both HDPE and RCP storm drain pipe. Both pipe materials shall be used. See revised Specification Section 30 34 00 - Storm Drain Utility which includes both RCP and HDPE pipe.

- b. *Is there a water meter needed for irrigation line as well as the domestic?*

**Response:** Yes. See Sheet L-401.

c. *The fill line for the irrigation storage – supplier has included fill line control assembly – does it go into a structure of some kind?*

**Response:** The fill line control assembly shall be installed per Detail B2/Sheet I-107.

5. *We can't seem to locate any specs or drawings for the in-ground cremains. Can you please let me know where I might find that information?*

**Response:** The Plans require locating the corner monuments of the cremains areas.

6. *The plans on page AS-904 call for the concrete used in the columbaria to be 4,000 psi. The specifications section 03 45 50 2.17 B. call for the concrete to be 5,000 psi. Please clarify. Also the plans again on page AS-904 call out type and placement of reinforcing steel. Typically this is a means and method issue that is provided the manufacture and stamped by our structural engineer. The specifications require engineering calculations to be submitted (section 03 45 50 1.5 2) we cannot provide calculations on a product that we did not design is the owner taking over the structural design and liability?*

**Response:** The referenced sheet should be AS-304 not AS-904. The concrete requirement shown on Sheet AS-304 will be revised to require 5,000 psi per the specifications. Additionally, Sheet SS-001 will also be revised to reflect 5,000 psi strength concrete. The Contractor is responsible for the design and calculations of the columbarium units in accordance with Specifications Section 3 45 50, Paragraph 1.5.2.

7. *Sheet D-102: Demolition Plan Area B; shows 2 trees in the lower left hand corner just up and to the left of Section G are noted with Demolition Note #38 which states "Existing Tree to Remain, (TYP.)," but these trees are located direction in the middle of a gravel road. Please confirm that these trees are to be protected and left in place.*

**Response:** Confirmed – The two trees shall be protected and left in place.

8. *Specification Section 00 72 00 General Conditions states "Provided by Owner". Please provide specification or clarify precisely which General Condition costs the Owner will cover?*

**Response:** See the 'NCA Standards of Employee Conduct' document.

9. *I'm trying to get my proposal ready and was wondering if the niche cover rosette info will be coming out soon in an Addm?*

**Response:** See the Specification Section 03 45 50, Paragraph 2.13, Rosettes.

10. *I'm actually trying to locate the specification of the stainless Steel Rosette and Mount used to secure the Niche Covers? Do you have this info?*

**Response:** See Specification Section 03 45 50, Paragraph 2.13, Rosettes.

11. *Drawing A-102 – Please describe what a boxcar ceiling is or provided in the specification. We have contacted all our suppliers and none of them know what it is.*

**Response:** All references in the Drawings and Specifications to "Boxcar Siding" shall be revised to "Beadboard." See revised Sheets A-101, A-102, and A-301.

12. *Sheet L-401 shows the Biokinetic Wastewater Treatment System, Singulair Model 960 or equivalent (Detailed on Sheet L-404), discharging directly into the storm sewer. Is this in any violation of State or Local laws and if so, are they overridden by this project being on Federal land?*

**Response:** The Singulair Bio-kinetic Model 960 Wastewater Treatment System is approved by the State of New Mexico Environment Department for use in New Mexico. There is no violation of any Federal, State, or local law with regard to its use or installation.

13. a. *Sheet A-102: Key Note 2; calls for the patio soffit to be “boxcar siding ceiling”. Boxcar siding is a term used to describe any of several varieties of 1-by-6 and 1-by-8 pine tongue and groove siding products. Some are smooth while others feature “beadboard” style detail lines down the center and slightly rounded edges. Can we please be provided with a spec for the “boxcar siding ceiling”?*

**Response:** All references in the Drawings and Specifications to “Boxcar Siding” shall be revised to “Beadboard.” See revised Sheets A-101, A-102, and A-301.

b. *Sheet L-102: shows the “Temp. Office, Public Restroom and Gravesite Locator” building to be 15’ x 40’. The existing building outline shown on Sheet D-101 shows the building to be approximately 25’ x 40’. With the concern that we will be losing 400sf with the transition from the existing to the temporary structure, can we please be provided with a list of requirements for the temporary building to have such as office count, dimensions, etc.?*

**Response:** The temporary building(s) is not intended to be ‘constructed’, but to be a portable-type of facility (i.e., trailer). The size of the restrooms and visitor lobby shall be similar to the existing facilities and meet all accessibility and code requirements. The office shall be large enough for one desk w/chair, a file cabinet, and two visitor chairs.

14. a. *In the PIC building, is the Aspen ceiling in Room #100 factory finished or field painted?*  
b. *Is the Boxcar ceiling at Patio #108 factory finished or field painted.*  
c. *Is the fiberglass-reinforced soffit board at the exterior ceiling factory finished or field painted?*

**Response:** (a) See revised Sheet A-102.

(b) All beadboard shall be painted. Section 09 91 00 of the Specifications shall be revised as follows:

**Page 8, Paragraph 3.6.C – Add item D: Exterior Beadboard Ceilings: Two coats of Exterior Alkyd, Semi-Gloss (EO): MPI 94.**

(c) See revised Sheet A-102.

15. *Refer to the plans, sheet L-209 (Gravesite Numbering Plan). I am not sure what the In-Ground Cremains are, and I don’t know what work is involved. Is there any details or specification sections on them?*

**Response:** The Plans require locating the corner monuments of the cremains areas.

16. a. *Section 31 23 19: Dewatering; Subsection 1.3.A states, that a “Dewatering system shall be of sufficient size and capacity necessary to lower and maintain ground water table to an elevation at least 300 mm (1 foot) below the lowest foundation subgrade or bottom of pipe trench...” At what elevation will we hit water?*

**Response:** The contractors shall refer to the Boring Logs – Sheets B-301, 302, and 303 and the Geotechnical Investigation Report for pertinent data regarding groundwater beneath the site.

b. *Section 01 00 00-3: General Requirements; Subsection 1.5.E states, “Workmen are subject to rules of the Cemetery applicable to their conduct.” Can we be provided a copy of the rules of the Cemetery?*

**Response:** See the ‘NCA Standards of Employee Conduct’ document.

c. *Section 01 00 00-10: General Requirements; Subsection 1.16 states, “Provide ample temporary sanitary toilet accommodations with suitable sewer and water connections; or, when approved by the COTR, provide suitable dry closets where directed.” Has a decision as to whether dry closets will be allowed and if so, where they can be located?*

**Response:** Dry closets will not be acceptable.

d. *Section 01 00 00-11: General Requirements; Subsection 1.17.B does not mention anything about power. What is the name of the company who owns the power lines near the site so that we may reach out to them about connecting to their service?*

**Response:** The power company supplying electricity to Ft. Bayard National Cemetery is PNM, 3815 N. Swan Street, Silver City, NM 88061. Contacts: Ron Luddington (577-956-1455, Brad Kimmick (575-590-7806).

*e. Section 01 00 00-4: General Requirements; Subsection 1.5.M states, "The Contractor must cooperate and coordinate with the Cemetery Director, through the COTR, in arranging construction schedule to cause the least possible interference with cemetery activities in actual burial areas. Construction noise during the interment services shall not disturb the service." Can we request a total number of services that were performed last year so we may adjust our construction schedule appropriately?*

**Response:** The number of services varies from 100 to 150 per year. FY2011 had 145 interments.

*f. Section 31 20 00-3: Earth Moving; Subsection 1.4.C.4 states, that Blasting may be performed and the statement is reinforced with Section 31 20 33-8; 3.2.D. Looking at the boring logs, there is a very good chance blasting may be required. However, Section 01 57 19-7: Temporary Environmental Controls; Subsection EP-5.F.2.a specifically states that blasting is "not permitted" as shown in the chart. Will blasting be permitted?*

**Response:** Blasting will be permitted.

*g. Section 01 00 00-1: General Requirements; Subsection 1.12 lists bid items 1-3. The Price Schedule as provided on page number 6 of 44 of the Solicitation shows a 1 Lump Sum bid item. Please confirm that we are to price this project per the Price Schedule provided in the Solicitation.*

**Response:** The Contracting officer will provide a response to this question.

*h. Plan Sheet X-101: Construction Sequencing: Phase A: Note 2 "Establish temporary offsite cemetery offices, public restroom, and gravesite locator." Are there any fees or permits needed for building a temporary building that will service the public and will we be provided with any specifications for these temporary buildings?*

**Response:** The temporary building(s) is not intended to be 'constructed', but to be a portable-type of facility (i.e., trailer). The size of the restrooms and visitor lobby shall be similar to the existing facilities and meet all accessibility and code requirements. The office shall be large enough for one desk w/chair, a file cabinet, and two visitor chairs.

*i. SWPPP Spec is not present in the Project Specifications. The plans (L-105 for example) show a New Mexico DOT Standard Drawing. Please confirm that we are to use the New Mexico DOT Standard Specs and Drawings in lieu of a project specific SWPPP Plan.*

**Response:** Confirmed – The contractor shall follow the plans and use the New Mexico DOT standard structures.

17. *On sheet L-101 it shows a Temp office and restrooms and grave site locators, but the specifications do not specify the size requirements for the office and restrooms. It is our understanding the COTR will not requiring a field office as stated in the specification.*

**Response:** The temporary building(s) is not intended to be 'constructed', but to be a portable-type of facility (i.e., trailer). The size of the restrooms and visitor lobby shall be similar to the existing facilities and meet all accessibility and code requirements. The office shall be large enough for one desk w/chair, a file cabinet, and two visitor chairs.

18. a. *Section 31 32 13 - Chain Link Fences and Gates: Part 2 - Products 2.2 B: Can you clarify that the fabric is a 9 ga core 8 ga finish and not a 10 ga core 9 ga finish?*

**Response:** Fence fabric shall be 9 ga. per Specifications and Detail F4/Sheet L-204.

- b. *Sheet L-204 Detail F4: Keyed Note 9: Can you confirm that the requirement for end/corner post is 2-1/2" dia (generally a commercial post) whereas this project is based on an industrial spec which requires the same type posts to be 2-7/8" dia? Legend: The posts footings are somewhat misaligned; industry standards for a 6' tall fence are generally as follows:*

*Line posts                      10" diameter x 24" deep*

*Terminal posts                12" diameter x 30" deep*

*Naturally these footings may require some modification should rocky conditions exist.*

**Response:** All line and end/corner posts for the chain link fencing shall be SCHEDULE 40 as per the specifications, paragraph 2.3. Line posts shall be 2" O.D. and end/corner posts shall be 2-1/2" O.D. as indicated. The footings shall be constructed per Detail F4/Sheet L-204 and when solid rock is encountered near the surface, follow the requirements of specification paragraph 3.2.

- c. *Fence Demolition: For the removal and disposal of the existing fence, are the concrete encasements to also be removed?*

**Response:** Yes – Footings to be removed as shown on the revised sheets D-101, D-102 and D-103. Backfilled holes are to be compacted to 95%.

- d. *Photo 1: At various areas along the East fence perimeter, there exists a concrete trough along with a short rock embankment. We be allowed to work from the exterior side of the fencing (private property?) along these areas?*

**Response:** Yes – Work will be allowed on the exterior side of the fencing.

- e. *Photo 2: Is any work to be included at the existing main gate?*

**Response:** No work at the existing main gate with the exception of storm drainage modifications.

19. a. *The synopsis on the FBO website says that the marble/granite niche covers will be provided as government furnished property or is the contractor providing them? Are they made out of sterling honed travertine as stated in spec section 04 44 24?*

**Response:** The Government will furnish the niche covers and the Contractor shall install all niche covers in accordance with Specification Section 04 44 24.

- b. *The table of contents in the specs list 00 72 00 but is wasn't included in the specs?*

**Response:** Section 00 72 00 is not included in the specifications.

- c. *Is there a NPDES permit requirement? If so who is providing it contractor or VA? Are there any other permits required?*

**Response:** The contractor is responsible for complying with all Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, and permits.

- d. *In spec section 01 45 29 you have quantities listed for testing if we go over these quantities are we going to be compensated for the difference?*

**Response:** Only estimated quantities for testing are provided. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to provide the required amount of testing based on the specification requirements. No additional compensation will be provided for any testing required or directed by the contract.

- e. *Spec section 01 00 00-1 section 1.2 bid item #2 asks for 10 additional lids, 2 additional lifting apparatus & 2 shelf lifting apparatus but spec section 03 48 21 asks for 4 additional lids, 1 additional lifting apparatus & 1 shelf lifting apparatus?*

**Response:** The requirements of Paragraph 1.2.B of Section 01 00 00 shall be followed. The requirements as specified in Section 03 48 21 shall not apply.

- f. *Are the interior wood doors prefinished?*

**Response:** See Specifications Section 09 91 00 for requirements.

- g. *Sheet D-101 Section M are we relocating the grave markers or are they staying in place?*

**Response:** The grave markers in Section M have already been relocated. The plans require the contractor to remove the ground cover and railroad ties.

- h. *Sheet D-102 section G are we relocating the grave markers or are they staying in place?*

**Response:** The grave markers in Section G shall remain in place. The plans require the contractor to remove the ground cover and railroad ties.

- i. *Sheet L-202 key note 13 where are the relocated headstones coming from?*

**Response:** The grave markers referenced in Key Note #13 have already been relocated from Section M area shown on Demolition plans.

- j. *Are we removing & replacing all the existing turf?*

**Response:** Yes. Contractor shall reference Sheets D-101, D-102, D-103, and L-501.

- k. *What are the column & row markers in the columbaria made of?*

**Response:** The column and row markers are made of cast metal with a raised letter/number. A new detail depicting the "Row and Column Text Plaques" has been provided on Sheet AS-305.

- l. *Sheet L-101 shows the temporary construction entrance. It was talked about at the sight visit that the contractor would have access through the cemetery main gate. If that is the case do we need to construct the temp entrance?*

**Response:** Provide the temporary construction entrance as specified in the contract documents. The main gate may only be utilized by the Contractor under special circumstances with the approval by the COTR and/or Contracting Officer.

20. a. *I just wanted to confirm that the irrigation lateral line is to receive joint restraints.*

**Response:** Yes – joint restraints required.

- b. *The legend states "All changes in direction on sizes 2 ½" or larger...", but then it states "All joints in straight runs immediately upstream or downstream of a change in direction...". Are the straight runs 2 ½" or larger or is to be All.*

**Response:** Per the irrigation legend, joint restraints shall be installed on lateral straight runs 2 ½" or larger.