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Invitation To Bid

Sealed bids will be received by the State Engineer on behalf of the Department of Human Services at the Office of the State Engineer, Joe Foss Building, 523 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182 until 3:00 PM CT, Tuesday, August 31st, 2010 for labor and materials for Energy Conservation Measures, Human Services Center, Yankton, South Dakota, OSE # H1310-02X.

Combined Bids will be received for replacement of lighting with energy efficient light sources in selected buildings, provide occupancy sensors in selected areas, temperature control on heating systems, ventilation control with CO2 sensors to reduce outside air, and insulation of heating and hot water piping, including all necessary General and Electrical work.

Contractors Please Note: There will be an on-site prebid meeting on Thursday, August 26th, 2010 at 1:00 PM CT. Contractors shall meet at the Mickelson Building front entrance. Each contractor shall be held to have examined the premises at the prebid meeting and satisfied as to the existing site conditions before submitting a sealed Bid.

Copies of the Plans and Specifications may be obtained by bidders at the office of Roby, Quintal and Everson, 2000 N Kimball, Mitchell, SD 57301, telephone number 605.996.7543. Copies are on file for viewing purposes at the Office of the State Engineer, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182. Any one requesting, reviewing, or copying Plans and Specifications for this project (such individual is hereinafter referred to as "bidder") agrees that they are doing so for the sole purpose of submitting a bid on the project. In consideration of the State of South Dakota providing such Plans and Specifications for the purpose of preparing a bid, bidder further agrees:

- A. The Plans and Specifications are the sole property of the State;
- B. Any copies of the Plans and Specifications obtained directly from the office of Roby, Quintal and Everson immediately after the State provides notice that bidder will not be awarded a contract, or thirty (30) days after the bid opening for the project, which ever occurs first;
- C. Any copies of the Plans and Specifications made by the bidder will be destroyed immediately after the State provides notice that bidder will not be awarded a contract, or thirty (30) days after the bid opening for the project, which ever occurs first;
- D. If bidder does not submit a bid, bidder will fulfill the requirements of B and C above on or before the date of the bid opening;
- E. The Plans and Specifications are to be used only with respect to this project and are not to be used for any other project or purposes other than preparing a bid for this project;
- F. The Plans and Specifications will not be disseminated to any person or entity for purposes other than obtaining pricing information without the express written approval of the state;
- G. All information contained in the Plans and Specifications is confidential; and
- H. Should the bidder disseminate the Plans and Specifications to an individual or entity for purposes of obtaining pricing information, the bidder will require that individual or entity to adhere to the terms set forth herein. The bidder, however, assumes no liability for the misuse of the Plans and Specifications by such third party or such third party's failure to comply with the provisions contained herein.

Should bidder be awarded a contract for construction of the project, bidder does not need to return or destroy Plans and Specifications until after completion of the project.

Each bid in excess of \$50,000.00 must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or draft in the amount of 5% of the base bid and all add alternates and drawn on a State or National Bank or a 10% bid bond issued by a surety authorized to do business in the State of South Dakota and made payable to the Department of Human Services of the State of South Dakota.

The Department of Human Services reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities therein.

KRISTI HONEYWELL, P.E.
 State Engineer
 Office of the State Engineer

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Boyd County Nebraska Board of Supervisors will be accepting bids for a new boiler for the Courthouse. Bids should be clearly marked as Boiler Bid and in the Boyd County Clerk's office by 10:00am on Tuesday, September 14, 2010. The bids will be opened that day. The Boyd County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. For boiler specs or any other information please contact the Boyd County Clerk's office at (402)775-2391.

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MENNO

From Page 1

Schaeffer said her aunt and uncle live in the home just south of 115 Park Street. Their garage was destroyed, and boards covered the shattered windows of their home. They are staying with a friend, according to Schaeffer.

"I don't know if they'll be able to live there, but they're safe," she said. A breeze blew debris from the streets of Menno Tuesday afternoon. Pieces of the structure were found a mile outside of town after the explosion, according to some reports.

Boards, frames and other items hung in nearby trees, and the breeze threatened to dislodge them onto any unsuspecting bystander.

Hutchinson County Emergency Manager Dave Hoffman was one of several officials securing the site Tuesday as NorthWestern Energy employees carried out an investigation.

The Menno Fire Department summoned NorthWestern Energy shortly after the explosion. Crews shut off electricity and natural gas service to the scene and to two neighboring residences.

"All of us at NorthWestern Energy extend our deepest sympathy to the (Guthmiller) family ... and to the friends and neighbors who've been touched by this tragedy," said NorthWestern president and CEO Bob Rowe in a media release Tuesday afternoon. "Menno, like so many of the towns we serve, is a close-knit community, and any incident such as this affects everyone."

NorthWestern will assist the ongoing investigation to help determine the source of the natural gas. Initial tests, conducted within hours of the explosion, indicated that the gas was properly odorized and that there was no significant presence of natural gas in the soil around the house, which suggests that the leak occurred inside of the house.

Hoffman said the explosion sucked all the oxygen out of the home and didn't leave much opportunity for a fire.

"The only fires were little smolder fires," he said. "(The Menno Fire Department) probably put 400-500 gallons of water out, and that was it."

Ammon Auch, the city sexton, lives close by and was on site shortly after the explosion occurred.

He helped Darlene Aisenbrey remove some of her personal belongings from the Aisenbrey-Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory located adjacent to 115 Park Street.

"It was a block house with a concrete floor," he said of the Guthmiller home.

Auch then pointed to the funeral home roof, where plywood had been used to cover holes.

"That's where pieces of concrete fell through the roof," he said, adding that some of those chunks of debris weighed as much as 700 pounds.

It isn't the first time the neighborhood has endured an explosion, Auch said. Approximately 30 years ago, a propane leak sparked an explosion on the same block that lifted a house up and set it down again. In that case, the occupant wasn't seriously injured.

This time, Auch noted, the community wasn't so lucky.

He said Guthmiller had worked at the post office and the pharmacy.

"I talked to her just yesterday," Auch said. "She was a very nice person with a wonderful personality."

That description was common amongst those who knew Guthmiller.

"She was the sweetest lady ever," Schaeffer said. "She was always smiling."

Funeral services for Guthmiller will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Menno. Burial will be in the Menno Cemetery.

Visitation will begin at 4 p.m. Friday at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Menno with the family present and a 7 p.m. prayer service.

Hoffman said it would likely be today (Wednesday) before clean-up of the site begins because of the ongoing investigation into what happened.

The community will be there to help, according to Schaeffer.

"The whole town will pitch in for the clean-up," she said. "It's just how Menno is. Everyone is going to help."

HAITI

From Page 1

away, to get the mole removed." Much of the care consisted of basic hygiene, Dickes said.

"We offered a lot of preventative medicine," she said. "We told them about hand cleaning. We gave them vitamins and showed them how to brush their teeth. We dewormed all children more than 20 pounds and on up to adults."

The staff also demonstrated the use of condoms, mainly for AIDS prevention, Dickes said. The clinic treated a large number of patients with sexually-transmitted diseases, she said.

"There was a lack of knowledge (about sexual practices)," she said. Eslick-Coats said he was surprised by the lack of basic health awareness among the Haitians.

"Most of what we taught was everyday things that we would consider normal routine," he said.

The 730th examined 25 to 30 patients at a time. The 730th is made up of health care specialists, radiologists, lab technicians, mental health technicians, physician assistants, medical doctors, nurses and other administrative and supply personnel.

"People walked, or they rode on the back of motorcycles and pickups to get to us," Dickes said. "There was only one day that we had to turn people away. The rest of the time, we managed to get them all in."

Most of the cases were handled at the clinic, but some emergencies were sent to the University of Miami's site at Port-au-Prince.

"We averaged at least 500 patients a day. One day, we saw 750," Dickes said. "We had people come with cancerous lesions, broken bones and deformities."

Dickes provided ultrasound examinations as part of prenatal care. In some cases, Haitian women thought they were pregnant but learned they weren't.

"The Haitians had been given mobile ultrasound machines, but no one knew how to use them," she said. "It was just amazing for (expectant mothers) to see an ultrasound, that there was a live being in them that was moving."

The 730th operated under trying conditions in sweltering heat, Dickes said. Bugs were also a major problem, and the 730th soldiers are taking malaria pills for 30 days.

"They set up generators for electricity because they didn't have dependable electric supplies," she said. "We had fans because there was no air conditioning."

The Haitians themselves weren't the only ones treated by the visiting soldiers, Dickes said.

"We had veterinarians who came with us from different states," she said. "They treated goats and pigs, and they helped out in the back behind the clinic. Those animals are very important to the people."

The animals literally became neighbors to the soldiers, Dickes said.

"We had concertina wire around the compound, and anything that got through the wire was in our compound," she said. "We had goats, pigs and chickens on our forward operating base. We had big cats in the trees. Every morning, goats were eating grass around the cactus."

Even after the mission was completed, the flight home remained an adventure, Eslick-Coats said.

"The (Haitian) pilot said they forgot to count the bags, so they had to stop and do that," he said. "The delay pushed us behind."

The soldiers ran into another delay when their flight became blocked by another plane. After missing a connecting flight, the 730th spent Saturday night in Chicago before returning home to Sioux Falls and Vermillion on Sunday.

"We came home (to Sioux Falls) at the same time as an Honor

Flight (carrying World War II veterans from Washington, D.C.)," Eslick-Coats said. "We came off the plane and here were people with flags for the Honor Flight. They still clapped for us and said thank you (for our service)."

Dickes found a special satisfaction on the recent mission.

"The 730th served in Iraq with Desert Storm and Operation Iraq Freedom," she said. "In combat, we were also soldiers. But this time, we were there strictly for (the Haitians') needs and medical care."

Eslick-Coats marveled at the Haitians' appreciation for the medical care.

"I never knew a place where people had so little and were so happy to see the doctors," he said. "They were very patient with us and knew why we were there. They were so thankful."

Dickes agreed. "The people were very kind. They were very grateful to have us there."

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