

Fremont School board changes bid requirements

MAY 26, 2011

Written by
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FREMONT -- The Fremont City Schools Board of Education revised its instructions for bidders at a special board meeting Wednesday night, because of changes by the Ohio School Facilities Commission.

Chris Moore, senior project manager for construction managers Touchstone CPM, said the changes will only affect bids still being accepted for loose furnishings and technology contracts, as it relates to the Fremont Middle School project.

"The man-hours associated with those areas are relatively small," Moore said. "About 95 percent of the hours have already been bid out."

He said the main change in bid conditions is the school board can no longer require contractors to submit bids with Ohio prevailing wage rates for the county. Moore said that change will not affect the contractors who have already bid for the project.

Superintendent Traci McCaudy said the original idea was to require prevailing wage so more local companies would bid on the project.

"We were more concerned with those prime contractors when we were discussing requiring prevailing wage so we could get more local involvement," McCaudy said.

Other sections that needed to be removed from the district's bid conditions, Moore said, include different experience requirements for each contract that the board had set previously. Contractors can still be evaluated based on prior work experience, he said, but specific requirements cannot be set out in the conditions due to policy changes at the OSFC.

"Directors change and policies change," Moore said. "There is a new director at the OSFC, and that probably resulted in the elimination of prevailing wage."

Asbestos removal

Board members also awarded a \$17,500 contract to Bowser-Morner Associates, Inc., of Toledo to provide environmental consulting services and project management related to asbestos and hazardous waste removal before the current middle school building on Croghan Street is demolished.

Moore said about \$1.3 million is budgeted for the asbestos removal project, but said the actual cost could change.

"It might not end up being a million-dollar job, but it is a big job," he said.

The board also approved a few supplemental appropriations, including \$11,397 for college testing.