



DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES

Department of Utilities
Wastewater Treatment Plant
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Appleton, WI 54915
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<https://appletonwi.gov/government/departments/utilities>

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 3, 2026
To: Chairperson Denise Fenton and Members of the Finance Committee
CC: Chris Stempa, Director of Utilities
Jeri Ohman, Enterprise Accounting Manager
From: Ryan Rice, Deputy Director of Utilities
Subject: **Action: Award sole source purchase of two Hidrostal E5K-S digester circulation pumps to LAI, Ltd. in the amount of \$57,640**

BACKGROUND:

The two 2.2-million-gallon primary digesters at the WWTP each utilize a dedicated pump to continuously circulate the contents of the tank. This circulation maintains the mixing, temperature uniformity, and solids contact necessary for stable anaerobic digestion, making the pumps critical to the operation of the digestion process and to permit compliance.

Recently, one of the circulation pumps failed and was replaced with a spare rebuilt pump held in storage. The failed pump was inspected and determined to be beyond economical repair. Having a spare pump on hand ensured that the critical digestion process continued without interruption. The purchase of two new pumps restores the plant's spare capacity and provides contingency against unexpected failures by accounting for the criticality of this equipment to operation and compliance.

QUOTATION

Hidrostal is the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) of the digester circulation pumps installed during the last major upgrade project in the early 1990s. LAI, Ltd. is the authorized Hidrostal municipal representative serving Wisconsin. LAI, Ltd. provided a quotation for two new Hidrostal E5K-S bare pump assemblies in the amount of \$57,640.

FUNDING SOURCE:

The cost of this replacement would be funded by the 2026 Wastewater O&M budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

I am recommending the approval of the sole source purchase of two Hidrostal E5K-S digester circulation pumps from LAI, Ltd. in the amount of \$57,640.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Ryan Rice at 920-832-5945.

Finance Committee Memorandum

Sole Source Purchase to LAI, Ltd.: Hidrostral E5K-S Digester Circulation Pumps

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Encl: Finance Department Sole Source Request Form