

## CRUCE LAKE HOA BOARD MEETING

April 2, 2015

Present: Ansel Garrett, Brenda Singleton, Chris Hamlet, Connie Hamlet, William Gee, Bryan Capes

Absent: Brett Abee, Pat Erwin, Kim Bjork

The special meeting was called to order by William Gee at approximately 6:34.

This meeting was called to review the lawn care quotes and take a final vote by the board on hiring a lawn care company. Bryan presented updated information on the two quotes being considered by the board.

**Chemicals for lawns:** Neither company performs this service; they would sub out and suggested we would do better to contract this service directly.

**Pine Straw:** Both companies quoted for short needle and stated that long needle pine straw would be an additional \$.45 per bale. It is harder to get and does not always have good color and is harder to lay.

**Fungicides and pesticides:** Both companies can perform this service at an additional charge.

**Spring and Fall Flowers:** Planting is included in both quotes.

**Irrigation system:** Lee indicated that the system is in good shape and that at this time nothing seems to be in need of repair. He said he would complete any repairs as needed. Gary was called and is also able to adjust the sprinkler heads and could do simple replacement repairs but for larger issues he would have to sub out the repair.

**Quotes for upgrading shrubs and flowers in center island:** Both vendors would provide the plants at the wholesale cost of \$400. Lee would charge \$300 for labor and Gary said he would not charge for the labor.

Bryan clarified with Gary that his bid would include cutting the dam and back bimonthly.

**Comparison of quotes: difference of \$79 a month.**

Lee's monthly cost to HOA is \$844.00

Gary's monthly cost to HOA is \$765.00

Lee's quote is \$948.00 more annually plus the \$300 labor for planting center island.

William proposed that whichever company we elect the contract should include wording that would allow the HOA to terminate the contract if the services were subpar. Everyone was in favor of this stipulation.

Brenda is concerned the bi-monthly cutting of the dam would not be sufficient during the growing season and that weekly cutting may be needed. Everyone agreed.

William stated that we should request proof of insurance which could be sent directly to the HOA P.O. box or via email to William. The board agreed.

Bryan stated that Gary came highly recommended, could provide references as requested and has 8 employees on staff. The board members discussed whether it was wise to consider only the lowest quote given the quality of Lee's performance in the past. Bryan voiced that he was unsure of why he was asked to get quotes comparing apples to apples if we are not going to use the quotes to award the contract. Bryan contacted several vendors and tried to pick those that came with good recommendations. He thought the reason for getting bids was to get the best value for the HOA and homeowners. Several members stated the Board is obligated to ensure we are paying the market price for services rendered and wanted to be able to support that the contract was not just awarded to one company over another.

After further discussion a vote was taken. Bryan, Chris, and Connie had to remove themselves from the vote (Chris and Connie employ Lee for their lawn care and Bryan worked with the vendors to get quotes). William called to get votes from Kim and Brett. The final vote was 5-1 to award the contract to Gary.

Brian will get with Gary to get a final contract written and presented for signatures.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.