

COUNCIL WORKSHOP ITEM

ITEM: 2003 Heritage Festival Sound Contract
DATE: February 21, 2003
PREPARED BY: Mary Scalzetti, Director Tourism and Events
PURPOSE: Approval of Vendor – Sound for Stages at Heritage Festival
BID AMOUNT: \$ 15,900 **ACCOUNT:** 108.863.0000.5315.
BUDGET AMOUNT: \$29,300

DISCUSSION:

The stage vendor selection for HF will be under \$15,000 and therefore has been removed from the workshop items.

At their meeting on February 20, 2003, the Tourism and Events Commission unanimously recommended the services of R. J. Recording as the sound vendor for the 2003 Heritage Festival. R. J. Recordings bid totaled \$15,900, which includes sound for six stages and the labor of twelve technicians.

Several other companies were sent RFP's, with two other companies besides RJ Recording returning bids. Edge Audio Services whose bid totaled \$14,950, which includes sound for six stages and the labor of eight technicians, and Creative Soundz whose bid totaled \$15,525, which includes sound for six stages and the labor of eight technicians.

As Edge Audio came in with an impressive bid, staff did some background checking and found that they performed the sound for the Scarecrow Festival in St. Charles in 2002. After speaking with the woman who ran their event, she advised that Edge's level of service was inadequate. Edges' technicians arrived two hours late for one of their stages, causing an obvious entertainment back up, chaos for the children who were scheduled to perform first on stage, as well as many upset parents and residents. St. Charles advised they would not be using the services of Edge Audio in 2003. The commission and staff felt this company should not be used at Heritage Festival.

Creative Soundz's has done the sound for several entertainment showcases and expos that many Tourism and Events Commission members as well as staff have attended. In discussing their performance with the sound detail at these events, we were all dissatisfied. Their technicians were inexperienced as the sound was unevenly distributed through their systems causing echoing and screeching during many of the performances. Their level of quality just isn't what we have come to expect at Heritage Festival.

Staff along Tourism and Events Commission feels that the sound company should be selected based on their performance and quality, rather than low bid alone. A lot of money is spent on the entertainment for the festival, and a quality sound company is needed to ensure great performances. Staff strongly concurs with the Tourism and Events Commission as to the use of R.J. Recording

ATTACHMENT:

Attached is a copy of the sound quote sheet.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of R. J. Recording as the sound vendor for the 2003 Heritage Festival

2003 Heritage Festival Sound Quote Sheet

R J Recording

Sound System Rental for six Stages* w/12 operators	\$12,000.00
Total Labor	\$5,400.00
Band Gear Rental	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$17,400.00
Services donated for one day at Fishel Park by local company	\$1,500.00
TOTAL:	<u>\$15,900.00</u>

Edge Audio Services

Sound System Rental for six Stages w/8 operators	\$14,950.00
Band Gear Rental	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$14,950.00
Services donated for one day at Fishel Park by local company	\$0.00
TOTAL:	<u>\$14,950.00</u>

Creative Soundz

Sound System Rental for six Stages* w/8 operators	\$16,025.00
Band Gear Rental	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$16,025.00
Services donated for one day at Fishel Park by local company	\$500.00
TOTAL:	<u>\$15,525.00</u>

Innovative Concert Systems

No quote returned

KCM Productions

No quote returned

Big Audio Inc.

No quote returned

NOTE: Staff recommends RJ Recording
 *more staff is provided during the festival
 *same price as 2002
 *quality of service received