



MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Director's Office

Greg Gianforte, Governor
Misty Ann Giles, Director

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

Solicitation Title/Event Name:

Solicitation Number:

Solicitation Close Date:

Notice of Intent to Award Post Date:

Issuing Contracts Officer contact information:

The State intends to award a contract to the apparent successful offeror(s) of the above-mentioned solicitation. The Notice of Intent to Award shall not be considered a binding commitment by the state.

Under the Montana Procurement Act, the State has made the relevant scoring matrix/bid tab for the above-mentioned solicitation available for public inspection. Comments from the public regarding the proposed award must be submitted to the Contracts Officer listed above within this 7-day notice period.

Apparent Successful Offeror(s)

Unsuccessful Offeror(s)

DNRC-RFP/RFQ-2026-1345AB
Montana Legal Counsel Land Board

SCORE SUMMARY WORKSHEET		
Category	Total Possible Points	KLH Advisors, PLLC
Company Profile and Experience		
Experience with Montana Water Court Adjudications	200	167
Relevant knowledge and experience in Montana water law	200	185
Relevant knowledge and experience in Montana real property law	150	132
Ability to provide services		
	200	163
Client Reference Forms		
Three References	P/F	Pass
Total of all categories	750	647

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Individual Scoring Matrix			
The evaluator will review and evaluate the offers according to the following criteria, which are worth a total of 750 points: The Provision of Services, Statement of Qualifications, Company Profile and Experience, Resumes, will be evaluated based on the scoring guide.			
Offeror (Company) Name: KLH Advisors, PLLC			Total Points Awarded: 647
Category	Total Possible Points	Awarded Points	Mandatory Justification Comments for Points Awarded
Company Profile and Experience			
Experience with Montana Water Court Adjudications	200	167	The applicants have working and practical knowledge of the water court adjunction process, and the water court itself. Relatively new lawyer, some practical experience but not extensive. Ms. Ols offers meaningful experience in this field, with the added asset of having worked at the Water Court itself.
Relevant knowledge and experience in Montana water law	200	185	The education, clinical and law review experience suggests relevant knowledge. Ms. Ols offers meaningful experience in the field, with the added asset of having worked at the Water Court itself. The applicants have demonstrated they have experience representing clients before the water court and have water adjudication experience.
Relevant knowledge and experience in Montana real property law	150	132	Ms. Lewis has a demonstrated experience with real properties issues with an awareness of the fiduciary obligations of the Board. The applicants have stated through Ms. Lewis, that she has background in real property transactions. However, there is no indication of relevant experience in matters that have come before the land board or identified knowledge of land board trust obligations and responsibilities. Ms. Ols does not have much experience here; however, her supervising attorney, Ms. Lewis does have more.
Ability to provide services			
Ability to provide timely services. Provided customer service policy.	200	163	The applicants provides the requisite statement of customer services. The statement indicates the applicants will be available/on-call on a daily basis, but does not appear to address the ability of the applicants to meet required water court timelines and statutory filing deadlines. Both attorney appear to have requisite abilities. The law firm offers two counsel members with experience which would ensure no gaps in representation.
Client Reference Forms			
Three References	P/F	Pass	
Total of all categories	750	647	

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SCORING GUIDE

In awarding points to the evaluation criteria, the evaluator/evaluation committee will consider the following guidelines:

Superior Response (95-100%): A superior response is an exceptional reply that completely and comprehensively meets all of the requirements of the RFP. In addition, the response may cover areas not originally addressed within the RFP and/or include additional information and recommendations that would prove both valuable and beneficial to the agency.

Good Response (75-94%): A good response clearly meets all the requirements of the RFP and demonstrates in an unambiguous and concise manner a thorough knowledge and understanding of the project, with no deficiencies noted.

Fair Response (60-74%): A fair response minimally meets most requirements set forth in the RFP. The offeror demonstrates some ability to comply with guidelines and requirements of the project, but knowledge of the subject matter is limited.

Failed Response (59% or less): A failed response does not meet the requirements set forth in the RFP. The offeror has not demonstrated sufficient knowledge of the subject matter.

Score	150	200
Superior (95-100%)	141 - 150	188 - 200
Good (75-94%)	111 - 141	148 - 188
Fair (60-74%)	88.5 - 111	118 - 148
Failed (0-59%)	0 - 88.5	0 - 118

Technical Scoring Session

DNRC-RFP/RFQ-2026-1345AB
Montana Legal Counsel Land Board

Date 9/22/2025
Time 3:00 PM

Location Teams

Evaluation Committee Members: Anita Milanovich, Austin Knudsen, James Brown
Contracts Officer: Amanda Battin, amanda.battin2@mt.gov
Meeting Facilitator Rhonda Peters

Order of Evaluation: Alphabetical
Scoring Method: Average