

# ***Watauga County***



## ***Request for Proposal (RFP) Rich Mountain, Aho, and Buckeye Knob Tower and Tower Modifications for the Watauga County Public Safety Simulcast System***

**Due Date: June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**To: Will Holt, Emergency Services Director  
814 West King Street  
Boone, NC 28607  
828-264-4235 (P)  
Email – [Will.Holt@watgov.org](mailto:Will.Holt@watgov.org)**

## **PURPOSE**

The County of Watauga is accepting sealed proposals from qualified individuals or firms for the provision of the tower for the Rich Mountain site and modifications to the towers at the Aho and Buckeye Knob sites. The tower work shall be compliant with all federal, state, and local requirements as documented in the individual bid invitations and supporting documentation along with any other applicable building code requirements.

## **SCOPE**

Watauga County is constructing a public safety simulcast radio system with a combination of new and existing towers. Current towers must be brought up to designed load capacity in accordance with the requirements of the tower owner.

The successful bidder shall provide all management, supervision, personnel, engineering, equipment, tools, materials, subcontractors, transportation, permits and licensing necessary to meet the requirements set forth in the individual bid invitations for each site.

Architects must be properly licensed and registered as required by Chapter 83A of the North Carolina General Statutes. Engineering and Land Surveying consultants must be properly licensed and registered as required by Chapter 89C of the North Carolina General Statutes.

## **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

All questions related to this RFP shall be directed to:

Marty Randall, 10-18 Consulting  
828-527-2416  
Marty.Randall@1018consulting.com

Attachment A includes all pertinent construction documents. In addition, the County is requiring a mandatory site walk on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am meeting at the Emergency Services Department located at:

184 Hodges Gap Rd  
Suite D  
Boone, NC 28607

### ***Proposal Content***

The written proposal should provide background information about the company, its employees, and its experience with related projects and clients. It should cover the experience of the firm as well as any consultants on the proposed team. For the purposes of the RFP, the term “company” shall refer to the prime respondent of this RFP or, in other words, the company with whom

Watauga County will contract. The term “consultant” shall refer to all consultants which the prime respondent will include on the project team. The proposal shall clearly delineate any experience, background, etc. between the prime “company” and “consultants.”

Specifically, the RFP should address the following information. Firms may submit their standard qualification package supplemented by a cover letter or attachments as necessary to comply with this request.

Proposers shall possess all permits, licenses and professional credentials necessary to supply product and perform services as specified under this RFP. Minimum qualifications of the system designer and lead acceptance test personnel shall include both of the following:

### **Firm’s Submission**

The firm’s submission shall follow the guidance in each bid invitation. The County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, and to terminate the Request for Proposals process at any time.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

### ***Selection Process:***

The Emergency Services Director and the County’s consultant will serve as the selection committee for all applicants deemed eligible and qualified, seeking the advice and input of such other local officials as they may deem appropriate. A recommendation will be made to the Watauga County Board of Commissioners for its approval.

### ***Evaluation Criteria:***

By way of example, but not limitation, the following considerations will be utilized during the selection process from the submitted and eligible proposals:

- The thoroughness of the proposal regarding the tasks addressed in the Scope section of the RFP.
- The firm’s experience in designing public safety towers and tower modifications
- The successful experience of the staff proposed to be assigned to this project to perform the type of work required.
- Overall price of the proposal
- The firm’s financial ability to undertake the work and assume liability for the project.
- The firm’s proven ability to complete tasks on time.
- Project approach and methodology.
- Overall performance on past projects, as evidenced by previous contracts.
- Overall consideration of design elements.

Watauga County reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accept a response that does not satisfy all requirements but which, in the County’s sole judgment, sufficiently demonstrates the ability to produce, deliver, design, permit and construct a tower or tower modification to satisfy

the major requirements set forth in this RFP. The County reserves the right to interview any or all respondents to this RFP, or to ask for additional information or clarifications. By completing and submitting to Watauga County's RFP, the firm allows the County to call any person, business, group or organization that may have information to determine the firm's ability to complete the project as presented.

The County expects to complete its evaluation process to select a qualified partner, but reserves the right to change key dates and actions as the need arises.

## **PROPOSAL AND SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

Project schedule milestones and dates are as follows:

<i><b>Milestone</b></i>	<i><b>Date</b></i>	
Request for Proposals Published	May	16, 2025
Deadline for RFP Questions	June	2, 2025
Mandatory Site Walk	June	9, 2025
RFP Proposals Due Date	June	13, 2025
Board of Commissioners Hire Firm	July	15, 2025