

For business editors

Demolition Bid Accepted for Monsour Demolition

Dore & Associates Contracting Inc. was low bidder of the 13 companies that submitted proposals

JEANNETTE, Pa., September 10, 2015 – The Board of Directors for the Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation (WCIDC), in partnership with the Westmoreland County Land Bank, are announcing the acceptance and approval of Dore & Associates Contracting Inc.’s bid for environmental remediation and demolition of the former Monsour Medical Center. Of the 13 bids received, Michigan-based Dore & Associates submitted the lowest qualified bid in the amount of \$1,091,800.

Work on the site, located at the corner of US Rt. 30 and Pennsylvania Ave. in the City of Jeannette, is expected to begin within 30 days, with work anticipated to be completed within six months. Dore & Associates specializes in demolition, abatement, and remediation of former commercial/industrial properties and has completed over 50,000 projects since its beginnings in 1958. One of those projects was the recently completed razing of the former Jeannette Hospital on Jefferson Avenue.

“Monsour hospital has created a terrible first impression of our wonderful county for far too long,” said Charles Anderson, County Commissioner and Chairman of the Board. “It is time we look forward and move our county in a positive direction.”

This is the first part of a two-phase project with the goal to market the site to potential developers and return this property to productive use. This first phase will consist of environmental remediation and demolition of the remaining structure. The second phase, which is expected to proceed immediately following the completion of phase 1, will include site preparation, utility extensions, and storm water improvements.

“It is our goal to develop this property and attract new businesses and fresh jobs to the city,” said Tyler Courtney, County Commissioner. “Having the opportunity to partner with so many organizations

while improving the City of Jeannette and the lives of its residents is important as it lays the groundwork for future redevelopment projects here and throughout the county.”

The 6.4 acre property was purchased in October of 2014 for \$15,172 by the newly formed Westmoreland County Land Bank. Over the past two years, the Land Bank has eliminated or addressed approximately \$30 million of federal, state, local, and private liens which entangled and prevented redevelopment of the site.

“The Land Bank’s involvement was a vital component in the redevelopment of the Monsour property,” said Ted Kopas, County Commissioner. “Without it, we would have never been able to remove the liens against the property and demolish the buildings.”

“We are very happy with how effective the Land Bank has been in clearing away the red tape of the several liens that were up against the Monsour parcels, not to mention the delinquent taxes and remaining mortgage on the building,” said David Johnston, Chairperson of the Land Bank Board. “Needless to say, we are all very happy to see the former medical center coming down.”

Funding for this contract will be provided by a Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Project grant in the amount of \$591,800 and a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$500,000.

The Monsour Medical Center closed in 2006 after failing to renew its medical license. Since then, the property has rapidly deteriorated while being a haven for vandals and arsonists.

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