

State of West Virginia Office of the Attorney General

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WRITTEN DETERMINATION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF THE WEST VIRGINIA DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (hereinafter "West Virginia DNR") has requested legal representation in conjunction with the acquisition of property situated in Wirt County. The property is situated in the Elizabeth District of Wirt County, and consists of approximately 7.94 acres owned by Wayne S. Wright and Sandra N. Wright. The West Virginia DNR is in need of an attorney to abstract the title, prepare a title report, prepare the deed, and hold the closing on or before November 15, 2013.

Pursuant to the written determination issued on September 27, 2013, the Office of the Attorney General determined that it was both cost-effective and in the interest of the public to appoint outside counsel to assist the West Virginia DNR with the needed legal services. A Request for Proposals (RFP # 014) was issued in accordance Section (D) of the Attorney General's Policy on Outside Counsel (Policy #WVAGO-004).

As of the October 9, 2013, deadline for proposals, the Office of the Attorney General received three timely proposals for legal services from Pullin, Fowler, Flanagan, Brown & Poe, Hanna & Hanna PLLC, and Ziegler & Ziegler. After review of the proposals, and consultation with the West Virginia DNR, the Office of the Attorney General has determined that:

- All of the bidding law firms possess the requisite skills and expertise to handle the legal matter in question.
- All of the bidding law firms possess the requisite staffing and support to handle the scope of the legal matter in question.
- All of the bidding law firms appear to be in compliance with all applicable laws of the State of West Virginia, and have not been subject to reprimand by the West Virginia State Bar, or other entities, for unethical conduct.
- Hanna & Hanna PLLC submitted the lowest proposal for fees, costs and expenses to perform the legal services requested.

- Hanna & Hanna PLLC is willing to perform the necessary title work for a flat fee of \$1,250.00 plus minimal recording and copying fees.
- The proposal of Hanna & Hanna PLLC is approximately fifty percent (50%) lower than the next qualified bidder.

Based on the factors set forth above, and consultation with the West Virginia DNR, the Office of the Attorney General authorizes the appointment of Hanna & Hanna PLLC to serve as outside counsel for the legal matters cited herein pursuant to Section (E) of Policy # WVAGO-004.

Daniel W. Greear Chief Counsel

Date Signed: October 11, 2013