AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND DESIGN-BUILDER ON THE BASIS OF A STIPULATED PRICE

THIS AGREEMENT is by and between **City of Lenoir**, a North Carolina municipal corporation, ("Owner"), and **GeoSpecialties** ("Design-Builder").

Terms used in this Agreement have the meanings stated in the General Conditions and the Supplementary Conditions.

Owner and Design-Builder agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1—THE PROJECT AND THE WORK

The Project, of which the Work under the Contract Documents is a part, is generally described as follows: **Lenoir Fire Department Foundation Stabilization** – Design & Construction of foundation stabilization for the Lenoir Fire Department, including: foundation stabilization and slab-on-grade remediation requiring integrated geo-structural engineering, site-civil work, subsurface investigation, installation and construction.

1.01 Design-Builder shall complete all Work as specified or indicated in the Contract. The Work is generally described as the design and construction of the following as presented in the GeoSpecialties proposal dated August 6, 2026:

- **Compaction grout under Fire Station Foundation**
  - Drilling will be conducted from outside the Fire Station under the structure and pressure grouted.
  - Compaction grouting will be performed using 15 different drill locations at 30 feet in depth under the building outer foundation.
- **Install micropiles:**
  - Excavate "windows" at micropile locations.
  - Micropiles will be installed adjacent to the building along the exterior wall. The depth of the micropiles is estimated to be 60 feet.
- **Tie in micropiles to existing foundation**
  - Install underpinning brackets
- **Temporary lining within portion of existing storm drain**
  - Approximately 20 to 25 foot section to be lined with gunite
- **Compaction grout from below storm drain to 15 feet below ground surface**
  - The area will be compaction grouted at approximately 115 locations to a depth of 30 feet.
  - GeoSpecialties proposes to utilize cementitious compaction grouting in accordance with the alternate grouting provisions permitted under SP-16.
- **Grade and seed sinkhole area**
  - Sink hole area will be cleaned out of vegetation filled and regraded using soil. Specifically in the top two (2) feet topsoil will be used to facilitate grass growth and seeding will be applied.
  - Remainder of the area will be reclaimed and cleaned.

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ARTICLE 2—OWNER'S ADVISOR AND DESIGN-BUILDER'S ENGINEER

2.01 Owner's Advisor **Mattern & Craig** and **Catawba Valley Engineering & Testing**

2.02 Engineer: Design-Builder will provide a final design package sealed by a Professional Engineer Registered in the state of North Carolina ("Engineer") for the performance of professional engineering services for the micropile portion only under this Contract.

ARTICLE 3—CONTRACT TIMES

3.01 Time of the Essence

A. All time limits for Design-Builder's attainment of Milestones, if any, Substantial Completion, and completion and readiness for final payment, as stated in the Contract, are essential obligations of this Contract. Time is of the essence for completing the Work included in this Contract.

3.02 Contract Times—Weeks

A. Design-Builder will substantially complete the Work within **12 to 16 weeks after Notice to Proceed (NTP)** is issued after the Effective Date of the Contract.

B. Design-Builder will complete the Work and be ready for final payment in accordance with General Conditions Paragraph 15.07 within **20 weeks** after the Effective Date of the Contract.

3.03 Liquidated Damages

A. Not Applicable under this Contract per *Attachment A – Standard Terms and Conditions*

ARTICLE 4—CONTRACT PRICE

4.01 Stipulated Sums

A. Owner shall pay Design-Builder for completion of the Work in accordance with the Contract Documents at the prices as presented in GeoSpecialties proposal dated August 6, 2026, attached hereto as an exhibit.

4.02 Changes in Contract Price Based on Cost of the Work

A. If a Change Order or an adjustment in the Contract Price is determined on the basis of Cost of the Work and includes Design Professional Services, the Cost of the Work for those services shall include direct labor cost of each employee providing services multiplied by a factor of **2.5**, which covers labor costs, overhead, and profit. Reimbursable expenses shall be compensated for at cost with no markup for overhead and profit.

B. If the value of Work covered by a Change Order or an adjustment in the Contract Price is determined on the basis of Cost of the Work, and involves Work performed under Construction Subcontracts or Design Agreements, the allowable markups on lower tier invoices are limited as stated in General Conditions Paragraphs 11.07.D.1.c and d.

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ARTICLE 5—PAYMENT PROCEDURES

5.01 Submittal and Processing of Payments

A. Design-Builder shall submit Applications for Payment in accordance with General Conditions Article 15. Owner will process Applications for Payment as provided in the General Conditions.

5.02 Progress Payments; Retainage

A. Owner shall make progress payments on the basis of Design-Builder's Applications for Payment on or about the **7th** day of each month during performance of the Work, provided that such Applications for Payment have been submitted in a timely manner and otherwise meet the requirements of the Contract. All such payments will be measured by the Schedule of Values established as provided in the General Conditions, and in the case of Unit Price Work based on the number of units completed, or in the event there is no Schedule of Values, as provided elsewhere in the Contract.

1. Prior to Substantial Completion, progress payments will be made in an amount equal to the percentage indicated below but, in each case, less the aggregate of payments previously made and less such amounts as Owner may withhold, including but not limited to liquidated damages, in accordance with the Contract.

2. Upon Substantial Completion, Owner shall pay an amount sufficient to increase total payments to Design-Builder to **100 percent** of the Work completed, less such amounts set off by Owner pursuant to General Conditions Paragraph 15.01.E, and less **150 percent** of Engineer's estimate of the value of Work to be completed or corrected as shown on the punch list of items to be completed or corrected prior to final payment.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions above, no retainage will be withheld with respect to the portion of a payment application pertaining to engineering, design, and other professional services.

5.03 Final Payment

A. Owner shall pay the remainder of the Contract Price upon final completion and acceptance of the Work in accordance with General Conditions Paragraph 15.07.

5.04 Interest Rate

A. All amounts not paid when due will bear interest at the rate of **two percent [2%]** percent per month, or if applicable at the rate stated in a governing prompt payment statute.

ARTICLE 6—CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

6.01 Contents

A. The Contract Documents consist of the following:

1. This Agreement.

2. GeoSpecialties proposal dated August 6, 2026

3. Informational documents incorporated herein by reference as provided to GeoSpecialties for analysis listed on Page 1 in the attached proposal.

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4. Bonds (as required by NCGS)
    a. Performance bond and power of attorney.
    b. Payment bond and power of attorney.
5. General Conditions.
6. Supplementary Conditions.
7. The following which may be delivered or issued on or after the Effective Date of the Contract and are not attached hereto:
    a. Work Change Directives.
    b. Change Orders.
    c. Allowance Authorization.
    d. Warranty bond, if any.

B. The documents listed in Paragraph 6.01.A are attached to this Agreement, except as expressly noted otherwise above.

C. There are no Contract Documents other than those listed above in this Article 6.

D. The Contract Documents may only be amended, modified, or supplemented as provided in the General Conditions.

ARTICLE 7—DESIGN-BUILDER'S REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

7.01 Representations

A. Design-Builder makes the following representations on which Owner may rely:

1. Design-Builder has examined and carefully studied the Contract Documents and any data and reference items identified in the Contract Documents.
2. Design-Builder has visited the Site, conducted a thorough, alert visual examination of the Site and adjacent areas, and become familiar with and is satisfied as to the general, local, and Site conditions that may affect cost, progress, and performance of the Work.
3. Design-Builder is familiar with and is satisfied as to all Laws and Regulations that may affect cost, progress, and performance of the Work.
4. Design-Builder has carefully studied:
    (a) reports of explorations and tests of subsurface conditions at or adjacent to the Site, and all drawings of physical conditions relating to existing surface or subsurface structures at the Site, if any, that Owner has identified or made available to Design-Builder, especially with respect to Technical Data in such reports and drawings, and
    (b) reports and drawings relating to Hazardous Environmental Conditions, if any, at or adjacent to the Site, that Owner has identified or made available to Design-Builder, especially with respect to Technical Data in such reports and drawings.

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5. Design-Builder has considered the information known to Design-Builder itself, and to Construction Subcontractors and Project Design Professionals that Design-Builder has selected as of the Effective Date; information commonly known to design professionals, design-builders, and contractors doing business in the locality of the Site; information and observations obtained from visits to the Site; the Contract Documents; and the Site-related reports and drawings, if any, identified in the Contract Documents or otherwise made available to Design-Builder, with respect to the effect of such information, observations, and documents on (a) the cost, progress, and performance of the Work; (b) the means, methods, techniques, sequences, and procedures of construction to be employed by Design-Builder; and (c) Design-Builder's safety precautions and programs.

6. Based on the information and observations referred to in the preceding paragraph, Design-Builder agrees that no further examinations, investigations, explorations, tests, studies, or data are necessary prior to entry into the Contract at the Contract Price, subject to the Contract Times.

7. Design-Builder is aware of the general nature of work to be performed by Owner and others at the Site that relates to the Work as indicated in the Contract Documents.

8. Design-Builder has given Owner written notice of all conflicts, errors, ambiguities, or discrepancies that Design-Builder has discovered in the Contract Documents, and the written response from Owner is acceptable to Design-Builder.

9. The Contract Documents are generally sufficient to indicate and convey understanding of all terms and conditions for performance and furnishing of the Work.

10. Design-Builder's entry into this Contract constitutes an incontrovertible representation by Design-Builder that without exception all prices in the Agreement are premised upon performing and furnishing the Work required by the Contract Documents.

7.02 Certifications

A. Design-Builder certifies that it has not engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, or coercive practices in competing for or in executing the Contract. For the purposes of this Paragraph 7.02:

1. "corrupt practice" means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of anything of value likely to influence the action of a public official in the bidding process or in the Contract execution;

2. "fraudulent practice" means an intentional misrepresentation of facts made (a) to influence the bidding process or the execution of the Contract to the detriment of Owner, (b) to establish Bid or Contract prices at artificial noncompetitive levels, or (c) to deprive Owner of the benefits of free and open competition;

3. "collusive practice" means a scheme or arrangement between two or more Bidders, with or without the knowledge of Owner, a purpose of which is to establish Bid prices at artificial, noncompetitive levels; and

4. "coercive practice" means harming or threatening to harm, directly or indirectly, persons or their property to influence their participation in the bidding process or affect the execution of the Contract.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Owner and Design-Builder have signed this Agreement.

This Agreement will be effective on **[indicate date on which Contract becomes effective]**, which is the Effective Date of the Contract.

Owner:	Design-Builder:
City of Lenoir	Geospecialties LLC
(typed or printed name of organization)	*(typed or printed name of organization)*
By: [signature]	By: [signature]
(individual's signature)	*(individual's signature)*
Date: 9/25/2026	Date: 9/24/26
(date signed)	*(date signed)*
Name: Scott Hildebrand	Name: Justin Anderson
(typed or printed)	*(typed or printed)*
Title: City Manager	Title: CEO
(typed or printed)	*(typed or printed)*
	(If Design-Builder is a corporation, a partnership, or a joint venture, attach evidence of authority to sign.)
Attest: Donna Beam	Attest: [signature]
(individual's signature)	*(individual's signature)*
Title: Finance Director Preaudit	Title: CFO
(typed or printed)	*(typed or printed)*
Address for giving notices:	Address for giving notices:
	2025 Leestown Rd, Suite B
	Lexington, KY 40511
Designated Representative:	Designated Representative:
Name:	Name: Justin Anderson
(typed or printed)	*(typed or printed)*
Title:	Title: CEO
(typed or printed)	*(typed or printed)*
Address:	Address:
	2025 Leestown Rd, Suite B
	Lexington, KY 40511
Phone: 828-757-2199	Phone: 859.361.2465
Email:	Email: justin.anderson@geospecialties.com
(If Owner is a corporation, attach evidence af authority ta sign. If Owner is a public body, attach evidence of authority ta sign and resalution or other documents autharizing execution af this Agreement.)	License No.: 105523 *(where applicable)*
	State: North Carolina

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GEO SPECIALTIES

Pioneering
Geotechnical Excellence

Martin J. Woodard, PhD PG PE
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August 6, 2026

Jon Hogan, ISA
Public Works Director
801 West Ave NW
Lenoir, NC 28645
Jon.hogan@CI.LENOIR.NC.US
(828) 757-2175

Subject: Lenoir Fire Station- Emergency Sinkhole Repair

Dear Mr. Hogan:

GeoSpecialties is pleased to offer this proposal for the above-referenced project. This proposal is exclusively for the City of Lenoir, herein known as the "Owner," to consider. The site is located at 602 Harper Avenue, Lenoir, Caldwell County, North Carolina.

This proposal has been prepared after a site visit that included Jon Hogan and Neill Belk (City of Lenoir), David LeGrand (Catawba Valley Engineering), Mike Milton and Martin Woodard (GeoSpecialties). The following is a list of information Catawba Valley Engineering & Testing provided for the analysis.

- 2026 Geophysical Exploration performed by Terracon.
- Special Provisions in Bid - prepared by Ardurra.
- SP-15 and SP-16 Special Provisions provided to Ardurra by CVET for Bid.
- CVET repair drawings for bid (23-872)
- 2022 Culvert Inspection and Initial Geophysical Exploration

Our understanding is that the storm drain adjacent to the fire station is compromised. Soil has entered the drain and is being washed away during heavy storm events, creating voids around the pipe and weakening the surrounding soils. These weakened soils appear to extend beneath the fire station.

The loss and weakening of soil have caused a sinkhole-like depression adjacent to the fire station. The resulting settlement may also have stressed the building, causing wall cracks and operational issues with windows and doors. Catawba Valley has monitored several of these cracks for several years, and some appear to be widening.

Based on the site visit, discussions with the City of Lenoir, and the documents provided, we propose the following mitigation measures.

Support the Fire Station

Geophysical results indicate that the soils beneath the fire station are weak. The first step is to improve subsurface conditions by compaction grouting to a depth of approximately 30 feet using cementitious grout.



Figure 1. Model of fire station and sink hole at 602 Harper Ave.

After the initial compaction grouting beneath the station north foundation, the north building perimeter will be supported with micropiles installed adjacent to the exterior wall. This system will provide both immediate and long-term resistance to continued differential settlement.

The instability is being caused by breaks and leaks in the storm drain and the loss of material around

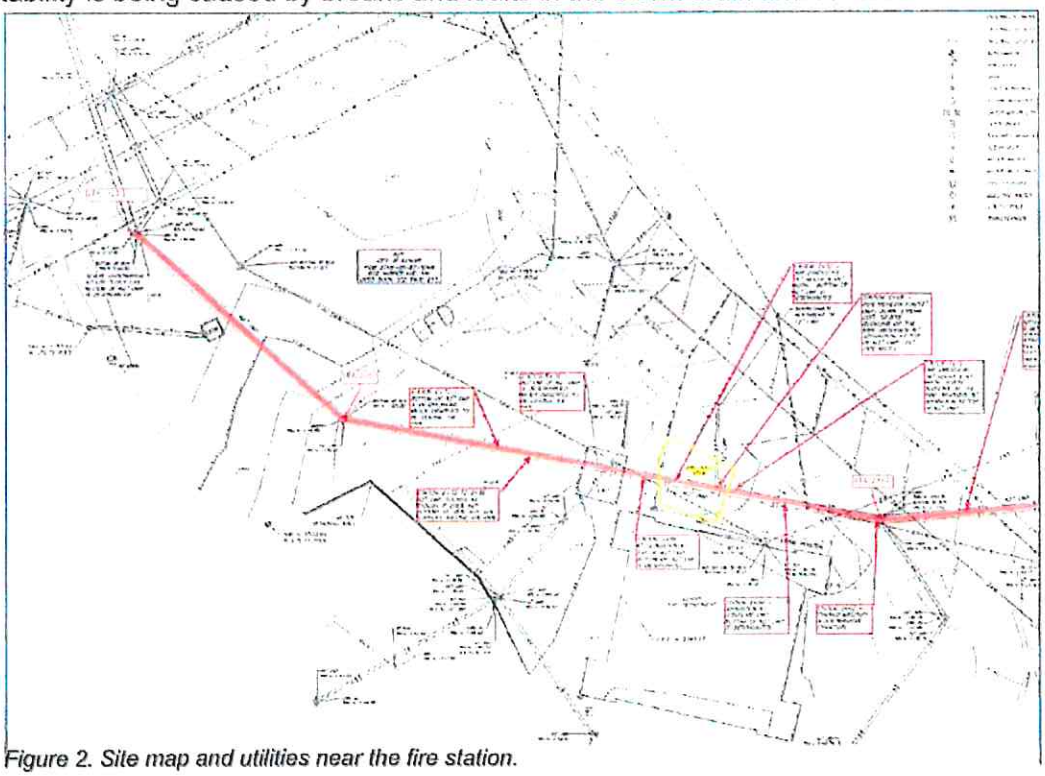


Figure 2. Site map and utilities near the fire station.

the pipe, which must also be addressed. We have accounted for a 20–25-foot section of the pipe to be lined with gunite to prevent further inflow and outflow of water and soil. After the lining is installed, the ground from below the pipe to approximately 15 feet below grade will be improved by compaction grouting. Compaction grouting is not intended near the existing water line that serves the fire station.

After compaction grouting is complete, the area will be regraded, covered with topsoil, and seeded.

GeoSpecialties' proposed remediation approach is intended to provide both immediate stabilization and long-term support of the existing structure. The proposed system combines deep cementitious compaction grouting and micropile underpinning to mitigate continued settlement risks associated with subsurface voiding and soil loss.

GeoSpecialties will perform construction monitoring during the grouting operations including visual crack monitoring, laser elevation monitoring, grout pressure monitoring, grout take monitoring, and daily installation logs. Grouting operations will be adjusted in the field based on observed subsurface conditions and structure response.

GeoSpecialties' proposed approach is performance-based and intended to satisfy the contractor-designed ground improvement requirements outlined in SP-16 of the project specifications.

I. Proposed Scope of Work

GeoSpecialties proposes slope stabilization improvements at the following site(s):

- **Compaction grout under Fire Station Foundation**
  - Drilling will be conducted from outside the Fire Station under the structure and pressure grouted.
  - Compaction grouting will be performed using 15 different drill locations at 30 feet in depth under the building outer foundation.
- **Install micropiles:**
  - Excavate "windows" at micropile locations.
  - Micropiles will be installed adjacent to the building along the exterior wall. The depth of the micropiles is estimated to be 60 feet.
- **Tie in micropiles to existing foundation**
  - Install underpinning brackets
- **Temporary lining within portion of existing storm drain**
  - Approximately 20 to 25 foot section to be lined with gunite
- **Compaction grout from below storm drain to 15 feet below ground surface**
  - The area will be compaction grouted at approximately 115 locations to a depth of 30 feet.
  - GeoSpecialties proposes to utilize cementitious compaction grouting in accordance with the alternate grouting provisions permitted under SP-16.
- **Grade and seed sinkhole area**
  - Sink hole area will be cleaned out of vegetation filled and regraded using soil. Specifically in the top two (2) feet topsoil will be used to facilitate grass growth and seeding will be applied.
  - Remainder of the area will be reclaimed and cleaned.

II. Roles and Responsibilities

GeoSpecialties' scope of work includes labor, tools, equipment, and materials to design and install the ground improvement and underpinning system pursuant to the following conditions:

1. Design and installation of the mitigation system.
    a. Design and monitor all compaction grouting.
    b. Install micropiles up to 60 feet in length.
    c. Connect the micropiles to the fire station structure
    d. Provide temporary lining for portions of the storm pipe
    e. Grade and seed grass area adjacent to the fire station
2. The pricing contained herein is based on the following assumptions:
    a. Micropile installation depths averaging approximately 60 feet.
    b. A total of approximately 33 micropiles.
    c. Compaction grouting quantities not exceeding approximately 450 cubic yards of grout injection.
    d. Drilling footage not exceeding approximately 3,900 linear feet.
    e. Subsurface conditions generally consistent with the provided geotechnical and geophysical information.
    f. No major underground obstructions, abandoned structures, undocumented utilities, hazardous materials, artesian groundwater conditions, or excessive voiding conditions are encountered.

    If actual field conditions differ materially from the assumptions above, including but not limited to increased grout take, deeper treatment zones, excessive voiding, utility conflicts, obstruction removal, or additional underpinning requirements, GeoSpecialties reserves the right to adjust the contract amount through a change order.
3. Provide final design package sealed by a Professional Engineer Registered in the state of North Carolina for micropile portion only.
4. The initial mobilization includes labor, equipment, and material capable of installing the micropile and compaction grouting system. If GeoSpecialties is required to leave the site and return outside of what was previously stated and planned for, the cost is as indicated in the pricing table provided in Section V for each demobilization/remobilization. Work shall be available to GeoSpecialties prior to our mobilizing to the site.
5. GeoSpecialties' design responsibilities are limited to the ground improvement, underpinning, and temporary stabilization systems specifically described herein. GeoSpecialties does not assume responsibility for the evaluation or repair of pre-existing structural damage to the fire station, including existing cracks, door/window movement, slab distress, or architectural finishes.
6. Final acceptance of the ground improvement system shall be based upon reasonable professional judgment, observed field performance, and the completion of the work generally consistent with the project intent and the contractor-designed performance requirements outlined in SP-16.

Owner would be responsible for the following:

1. Provide traffic control, as required.
2. Obtain any necessary permits.
3. Backfill existing 42" storm sewer within a month of compaction grouting completion.
4. Provide an on-site dump site for excavated materials.
5. Provide all weather working access to GeoSpecialties for material/equipment deliveries, and on-site area for material/equipment storage. Owner to obtain all right of way, licenses, or easements for GeoSpecialties to perform its work.

III. Key Assumptions, Clarifications and Exclusions

The following are additional key assumptions made in the preparation of this proposed scope and fee.

- No off-site waste is assumed.
- No traffic control is assumed. The sidewalk will be closed to permit work within the area.
- No surveying is included (e.g. layout survey, as-built survey, and wall tolerances as required).
- The cost of a bond premium is not included in the GeoSpecialties' price. If desired by and paid by the Owner, GeoSpecialties will furnish a Payment and Performance Bond at a rate of 2% of the total price.
- Pricing assumes existing utilities shown in the provided documents are generally accurate and locatable.
- Repair or replacement of existing utilities damaged due to undocumented conditions, inaccurate utility locations, pre-existing deterioration, or utility failure is excluded.
- Independent third-party geotechnical testing, CPT testing, DMT testing, laboratory testing, and special inspections by others are excluded unless specifically noted otherwise.
- Structural repairs to the existing fire station building are excluded.
- Dewatering beyond normal construction means and methods is excluded.
- Removal and disposal of contaminated soils, hazardous materials, or unsuitable materials is excluded.
- Excessive grout takes associated with large undocumented voids, karst features, failed utilities, or subsurface anomalies are excluded.
- Pricing assumes reasonable access around the structure for drilling and grouting operations.
- Any work associated with permanent storm drain replacement is excluded from this proposal.
- Prevailing wage, Buy American compliance, and bond costs can be incorporated upon request if required by the Owner.

IV. Anticipated Schedule

GeoSpecialties estimates that the work described above can be completed in approximately **12 to 16 weeks. If notice to proceed is given within one week of receipt of this proposal, GeoSpecialties can mobilize prior to the end of June, possibly earlier.** Actual construction duration may vary depending on subsurface conditions, utility conflicts, weather delays, owner-directed changes, material lead times, and permitting or review durations. The approximate delivery schedule below assumes timely delivery of information and review comments from the owner. All construction work is based on a work schedule of Monday through Friday, up to 10 hours per day as weather and daylight permits. GeoSpecialties can mobilize to the site within a mutually negotiated timeframe from GeoSpecialties receiving an executed contract, approved submittals, and a written notice to proceed.

V. Pricing

Our scope of work includes labor, tools, and equipment to perform the work described herein based on the prices listed below. The prices included herein are based and expressly conditioned on continuous unobstructed work beginning the day GeoSpecialties mobilizes on the site. Should the work not proceed as continuous unobstructed work, the price to perform the work may likely increase. We propose to perform the above scope of work via the following fee breakdown. This pricing also assumes work is completed within 12 or more hours of daylight.

Because the project involves sinkhole remediation and subsurface conditions that are inherently variable and not fully defined prior to construction, the quantities provided herein are estimates only

and are based upon the currently available information. Actual grout quantities, drilling footage, micropile depths, and remediation extents may vary depending on field conditions encountered during construction.

Table 1 – Cost Estimate

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total
1	Mobilization	1	LS	$100,000	$100,000
2	Design and Stamped Plans for Micropiles	1	LS	$25,000	$25,000
3	Underpinning Micropiles with Brackets	33	EA	$8,500	$280,500
4	Compaction Grouting, Drilling	3,900	LF	$245	$955,500
5	Compaction Grouting, Grouting	450	CY	$900	$405,000
6	42" Pipe Temporary Repair (5'x20' area)	1	LS	$29,000	$29,000
7	Utility Locating	1	LS	$20,000	$20,000
8	Landscaping	1	LS	$15,000	$15,000
9	Utility Conflict/Moving allowance*	1	LS	$50,000	$50,000
					$1,880,000

* Billed at cost plus 15% if needed.

VI. Closure

Thank you for the opportunity to propose this very important project. If you have any questions or would like any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

GeoSpecialties

Martin J. Woodard, PhD PG PE
martin.woodard@geospecialties.com
c: (540) 315-0270

Accepted by: _____ (Signature)

Accepted by: Scott Hildebrand (Printed name/title)

Date: 9/25/2026

Attachment A – Standard Terms and Conditions

STANDARD OF CARE: Services performed by GeoSpecialties will be conducted in a manner consistent with that level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by other professionals currently practicing under similar conditions in the same locality, subject to the time limits, physical or other constraints applicable to the services. No warranty, express or implied is made.

INVOICES AND PAYMENT TERMS: Unless otherwise specified in any proposal, GeoSpecialties will submit monthly progress invoices to Client and a final bill upon completion of services. Payment is due upon receipt of invoice by Client and is past due thirty (30) days from the date of the invoice. Client agrees to pay a finance charge of two percent (2%) per month or the maximum rate permitted by law on past due accounts. Client agrees to pay attorneys' fees, legal costs and all other collection costs incurred by GeoSpecialties in pursuit of past due payments.

DELAYS AND FORCE MAJEURE: Client shall not hold GeoSpecialties responsible for damages or delays in performance that arise from a cause or condition reasonably beyond GeoSpecialties 's control, such as but not limited to acts or omissions of Client, its subcontractors, governmental authorities, or regulatory agencies; civil or labor unrest; acts of God, nature, or terror; disruptions of the Internet, GeoSpecialties' electronic telecommunications or hosting services; interruption of sources of supply; or any other events that are beyond the reasonable control of GeoSpecialties.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY: Client shall immediately notify GeoSpecialties in writing of any deficiencies or suspected deficiencies arising directly or indirectly from GeoSpecialties 's negligent acts, errors or omissions. Failure by Client to notify GeoSpecialties shall relieve GeoSpecialties of any further responsibility and liability for such deficiencies. To the extent permitted by law, Client and GeoSpecialties agree that all liability arising directly or indirectly from this Agreement or the services of GeoSpecialties shall expire no later than one (1) year from the date of GeoSpecialties' acts, errors, or omissions or prior to the last date allowed in the applicable statute of limitation, whichever occurs first in time.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, Client agrees to limit the liability of GeoSpecialties, whether in contract, tort, or otherwise, which arises from GeoSpecialties' acts, negligence, errors or omissions to a maximum of the greater of (a) insurance proceeds (including any deductible payable by GeoSpecialties) payable for such acts, negligence, errors, or omissions and (b) GeoSpecialties 's total fee for the services rendered under this Agreement.

Special risks occur whenever engineering or related disciplines are applied to identify subsurface conditions. Even a comprehensive sampling and testing program implemented in accordance with a professional Standard of Care may fail to detect certain conditions. The environmental, geological, geotechnical, geochemical, hydrogeological and other conditions that GeoSpecialties interprets to exist between sampling points may differ from those that actually exist. Furthermore, Client recognizes that, passage of time, natural occurrences, direct or indirect human intervention at or near the site may substantially alter discovered conditions. For the foregoing reasons, Client agrees to the fullest extent permitted by law that GeoSpecialties shall have no liability whatsoever for claims, damages or losses caused by site conditions that cannot reasonably be known by standard engineering methods.

INSURANCE: GeoSpecialties maintains professional liability insurance coverage and will provide a certificate of insurance upon Client's request. Client agrees that GeoSpecialties will not be liable or responsible for any loss or damage beyond the amounts, limits, exclusions, terms and conditions of such insurance.

Client may request that GeoSpecialties obtain professional liability insurance coverage higher than GeoSpecialties' existing coverage through project-specific insurance, if available, provided that Client shall pay an additional fee based on the additional premium cost.

PROFESSIONAL WORK PRODUCT: The Services provided by GeoSpecialties are intended for one-time use only. All documents, including but not limited to, reports, plans, designs, boring logs, field data, field notes, laboratory test data, calculations, and estimates and all electronic media prepared by GeoSpecialties are considered its professional work product (the "Documents"). GeoSpecialties retains all rights to the Documents.

Client understands and acknowledges that the Documents are not intended or represented by GeoSpecialties to be suitable for reuse by any party, including, but not limited to, the Client, its employees, agents, subcontractors or subsequent Contractors on any extension of a specific project not covered by this Agreement or on any other project, whether Client's or otherwise, without GeoSpecialties' prior written permission. Client agrees that any reuse unauthorized by GeoSpecialties will be at Client's sole risk and that Client will defend, indemnify and hold GeoSpecialties harmless from any loss or liability resulting from the reuse, misuse or negligent use of the Documents.

DATA AND INFORMATION: Client shall provide to GeoSpecialties all reports, data, studies, plans, specifications, documents and other information ("Project Information") which are relevant to the Services. GeoSpecialties shall be entitled to rely upon the Project Information provided by Client or others and GeoSpecialties assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy or completeness of such.

RIGHT OF ENTRY: Client will provide for the right of entry for GeoSpecialties, its subcontractors, and all necessary equipment in order to complete the Services under this Agreement. If Client does not own the site, Client shall obtain permission and execute any required documents for GeoSpecialties to enter the site and perform Services. It is understood by Client that in the normal course of work some surface damage may occur, the restoration of which is not part of this Agreement.

CONTROL OF WORK AND JOB-SITE SAFETY: Insofar as job site safety is concerned, GeoSpecialties is responsible only for the health and safety of its employees and subcontractors. Nothing herein shall be construed to relieve Client or any other consultants or contractors from their responsibilities for maintaining a safe job site. GeoSpecialties shall not advise on, issue directions regarding, or assume control over safety conditions and programs for others at the job site. Neither the professional activities of GeoSpecialties, nor the presence of GeoSpecialties or its employees and subcontractors, shall be construed to imply that GeoSpecialties controls the operations of others or has any responsibility for job site safety.

DISPUTES: All disputes, claims, or controversies arising out of or related to this Agreement shall be submitted to mediation.

TERMINATION: Either party may terminate this Agreement as a result of a material breach of the other party if the other party does not commence and continue to cure the breach within seven (7) days of receipt of written notice of the breach from the non-breaching party. In the event of termination, GeoSpecialties shall be paid for Services performed to the termination notice date, together with reimbursable expenses including subcontractors, sub- consultants, project-related materials and travel. If GeoSpecialties suspends the services hereunder, GeoSpecialties shall have no liability to Client for any resulting delay or damage to Client or others. Client shall make no deductions from GeoSpecialties' compensation on account of sums withheld from payments to contractors, nor shall payment to GeoSpecialties be contingency upon financing arrangements or Client's receipt of payment from any third party.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA: Client acknowledges that electronic media are subject to unauthorized and undetectable alteration, modification, deterioration, and incompatibility, either intentional or unintentional, due to transmission, conversion, media degradation, software error, or human alteration. Accordingly, documents provided to Client in electronic media are submitted for informational purposes only subject to a review and acceptance period of 30 days. Client should report any defects discovered during that time period to GeoSpecialties for correction. GeoSpecialties makes no warranties, either express or implied, regarding the fitness or suitability of electronic media. Client agrees not to use any electronic media provided by GeoSpecialties, in whole or in part, for any project other than that for which they were created, without the express written consent of GeoSpecialties and without suitable compensation. Accordingly, Client agrees to waive any and all claims against GeoSpecialties resulting in any way from the unauthorized reuse or alteration or electronic media.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND CONTAMINANTS: Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as providing any type of service relating to an assessment of the presence or absence of oil, hazardous materials, asbestos, radioactive materials or any other environmental contaminants or conditions which may be subject to governmental regulation or control, or for the design of systems to remove, treat, handle, remediate or dispose of such materials, contaminants, or conditions.

MISCELLANEOUS: This Agreement supersedes all other agreements, oral or written, and contains the entire agreement of the parties. No cancellation, modification, amendment, deletion, addition, waiver or other change

in this Agreement shall have effect unless specifically set forth in writing signed by the party to be bound thereby. Titles in this Agreement are for convenience only. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns provided that it may not be assigned by either party without consent of the other. It is expressly intended and agreed that no third-party beneficiaries are created by this Agreement, and that the rights and remedies provided herein shall inure only to the benefit of the parties to this Agreement. Client acknowledges and agrees that GeoSpecialties can retain subconsultants, who may be affiliated with GeoSpecialties, to provide services for the benefit of GeoSpecialties. GeoSpecialties will be responsible to Client for the services and work done by all of its subconsultants and subcontractors, collectively to the maximum amount stated in Limitation of Liability.

No waiver of any right or remedy in respect of any occurrence on one occasion shall be deemed a waiver of such right or remedy in respect of such occurrence on any other occasion. All representations and obligations (including the Limitation of Liability) shall survive indefinitely the termination of the Agreement. Client acknowledges that it may not use GeoSpecialties' name or any reference to the Services in any press release or public document without the express, written consent of GeoSpecialties. Any provision, to the extent found to be unlawful or unenforceable, shall be stricken without affecting any other provision of the Agreement, so that the Agreement will be deemed to be a valid and binding agreement enforceable in accordance with its terms.

All questions concerning the validity and operation of this Agreement and the performance of the obligations imposed upon the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of Kentucky unless the law of another jurisdiction must apply for this Agreement to be enforceable.

Client represents and warrants that the individual signing the proposal is an authorized representative of Client and has authority to bind the Client.

CHANGES: If the contract is changed after the construction crew delivers the materials or begins work, the project site is not ready for GeoSpecialties' work to begin, or other delays outside of GeoSpecialties' control, there will be a $600.00 per crew-hour charge for time lost.

INTEGRATION: This agreement contains the entire understanding between the parties hereto and no other representation or inducement, verbal or written, has been made which is not contained in this contract.

RETAINAGE: if any, is to be released to GeoSpecialties within 30 days after the completion of GeoSpecialties' work.

LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: Client agrees that GeoSpecialties shall not be responsible for liquidated damages, delay damages, or other time related damages for any work that is outside GeoSpecialties' control.

VIBRATIONS: GeoSpecialties cannot accept any liability for disturbance to existing structures and their inhabitants on or near the site. Client shall indemnify GeoSpecialties against any and all claims for such disturbance and also take precautions as necessary to avoid any such claims. This may include vibration monitoring, excavating trenches around the affected area, etc. It is possible that damage may occur as a result of heave, settlement, utility not correctly marked, or intrusion of grout and/or construction water and GeoSpecialties cannot accept responsibility/liability for such damage. Client agrees to waive all liability and damages against GeoSpecialties in any related to the underground conditions and/or existing facilities described in the preceding sentence.

UTILITIES: Client shall ensure that all utilities are properly located before GeoSpecialties mobilizes to the site. Specific location (potholing), removal, and/or relocation of all underground and overhead utilities are not included in GeoSpecialties 's scope of work.

OTHER: This offer expires 30 days from the date transmitted.

PERFORMANCE BOND

Bond Number: 101953946

Contractor	**Surety**
Name: Geospecialties, LLC Address *(principal place of business)*: 2025 Leestown Rd, Lexington, KY 40511	Name: Merchants National Bonding, Inc Address *(principal place of business)*: P.O. Box 14498, Des Moines, IA 50306
Owner	**Contract**
Name: City of Lenoir Mailing address *(principal place of business)*: 801 West Ave NW, Lenoir, NC 28645	Description *(name and location)*: Lenoir Fire Department Foundation Stabilization Contract Price: $1,880,000.00 Effective Date of Contract:

Bond

Bond Amount: $1,880,000.00

Date of Bond:

(Date of Bond cannot be earlier than Effective Date of Contract)

Modifications to this Bond form:

☒ None ☐ See Paragraph 16

Surety and Contractor, intending to be legally bound hereby, subject to the terms set forth in this Performance Bond, do each cause this Performance Bond to be duly executed by an authorized officer, agent, or representative.

Contractor as Principal	Surety
Geospecialties, LLC *(Full formal name of Contractor)*	Merchants National Bonding, Inc *(Full formal name of Surety) (corporate seal)*
By: _____ *(Signature)*	By: _____ *(Signature)(Attach Power of Attorney)*
Name: Justin Anderson *(Printed or typed)*	Name: Emma Harvey *(Printed or typed)*
Title: CEO	Title: Attorney-in-Fact
Attest: _____ *(Signature)*	Attest: LaKala Carter *(Signature)*
Name: CAO *(Printed or typed)*	Name: LaKala Carter *(Printed or typed)*
Title: _____	Title: Witness

Notes: (1) Provide supplemental execution by any additional parties, such as joint venturers. (2) Any singular reference to Contractor, Surety, Owner, or other party is considered plural where applicable.

MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC. INCORPORATED -o- 2003

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1. The Contractor and Surety, jointly and severally, bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns to the Owner for the performance of the Construction Contract, which is incorporated herein by reference.

2. If the Contractor performs the Construction Contract, the Surety and the Contractor shall have no obligation under this Bond, except when applicable to participate in a conference as provided in Paragraph 3.

3. If there is no Owner Default under the Construction Contract, the Surety's obligation under this Bond will arise after:

    3.1. The Owner first provides notice to the Contractor and the Surety that the Owner is considering declaring a Contractor Default. Such notice may indicate whether the Owner is requesting a conference among the Owner, Contractor, and Surety to discuss the Contractor's performance. If the Owner does not request a conference, the Surety may, within five (5) business days after receipt of the Owner's notice, request such a conference. If the Surety timely requests a conference, the Owner shall attend. Unless the Owner agrees otherwise, any conference requested under this Paragraph 3.1 will be held within ten (10) business days of the Surety's receipt of the Owner's notice. If the Owner, the Contractor, and the Surety agree, the Contractor shall be allowed a reasonable time to perform the Construction Contract, but such an agreement does not waive the Owner's right, if any, subsequently to declare a Contractor Default;

    3.2. The Owner declares a Contractor Default, terminates the Construction Contract and notifies the Surety; and

    3.3. The Owner has agreed to pay the Balance of the Contract Price in accordance with the terms of the Construction Contract to the Surety or to a contractor selected to perform the Construction Contract.

4. Failure on the part of the Owner to comply with the notice requirement in Paragraph 3.1 does not constitute a failure to comply with a condition precedent to the Surety's obligations, or release the Surety from its obligations, except to the extent the Surety demonstrates actual prejudice.

5. When the Owner has satisfied the conditions of Paragraph 3, the Surety shall promptly and at the Surety's expense take one of the following actions:

    5.1. Arrange for the Contractor, with the consent of the Owner, to perform and complete the Construction Contract;

    5.2. Undertake to perform and complete the Construction Contract itself, through its agents or independent contractors;

    5.3. Obtain bids or negotiated proposals from qualified contractors acceptable to the Owner for a contract for performance and completion of the Construction Contract, arrange for a contract to be prepared for execution by the Owner and a contractor selected with the Owners concurrence, to be secured with performance and payment bonds executed by a qualified surety equivalent to the bonds issued on the Construction Contract, and pay to the Owner the amount of damages as described in Paragraph 7 in excess of the Balance of the Contract Price incurred by the Owner as a result of the Contractor Default; or

    5.4. Waive its right to perform and complete, arrange for completion, or obtain a new contractor, and with reasonable promptness under the circumstances:

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5.4.1 After investigation, determine the amount for which it may be liable to the Owner and, as soon as practicable after the amount is determined, make payment to the Owner; or

5.4.2 Deny liability in whole or in part and notify the Owner, citing the reasons for denial.

6. If the Surety does not proceed as provided in Paragraph 5 with reasonable promptness, the Surety shall be deemed to be in default on this Bond seven days after receipt of an additional written notice from the Owner to the Surety demanding that the Surety perform its obligations under this Bond, and the Owner shall be entitled to enforce any remedy available to the Owner. If the Surety proceeds as provided in Paragraph 5.4, and the Owner refuses the payment, or the Surety has denied liability, in whole or in part, without further notice, the Owner shall be entitled to enforce any remedy available to the Owner.

7. If the Surety elects to act under Paragraph 5.1, 5.2, or 5.3, then the responsibilities of the Surety to the Owner will not be greater than those of the Contractor under the Construction Contract, and the responsibilities of the Owner to the Surety will not be greater than those of the Owner under the Construction Contract. Subject to the commitment by the Owner to pay the Balance of the Contract Price, the Surety is obligated, without duplication for:

   7.1. the responsibilities of the Contractor for correction of defective work and completion of the Construction Contract;

   7.2. additional legal, design professional, and delay costs resulting from the Contractor's Default, and resulting from the actions or failure to act of the Surety under Paragraph 5; and

   7.3. liquidated damages, or if no liquidated damages are specified in the Construction Contract, actual damages caused by delayed performance or non-performance of the Contractor.

8. If the Surety elects to act under Paragraph 5.1, 5.3, or 5.4, the Surety's liability is limited to the amount of this Bond.

9. The Surety shall not be liable to the Owner or others for obligations of the Contractor that are unrelated to the Construction Contract, and the Balance of the Contract Price will not be reduced or set off on account of any such unrelated obligations. No right of action will accrue on this Bond to any person or entity other than the Owner or its heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns.

10. The Surety hereby waives notice of any change, including changes of time, to the Construction Contract or to related subcontracts, purchase orders, and other obligations.

11. Any proceeding, legal or equitable, under this Bond must be instituted in any court of competent jurisdiction in the location in which the work or part of the work is located and must be instituted within two years after a declaration of Contractor Default or within two years after the Contractor ceased working or within two years after the Surety refuses or fails to perform its obligations under this Bond, whichever occurs first. If the provisions of this paragraph are void or prohibited by law, the minimum periods of limitations available to sureties as a defense in the jurisdiction of the suit will be applicable.

12. Notice to the Surety, the Owner, or the Contractor must be mailed or delivered to the address shown on the page on which their signature appears.

13. When this Bond has been furnished to comply with a statutory or other legal requirement in the location where the construction was to be performed, any provision in this Bond conflicting with said statutory or legal requirement will be deemed deleted therefrom and provisions conforming to such

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statutory or other legal requirement will be deemed incorporated herein. When so furnished, the intent is that this Bond will be construed as a statutory bond and not as a common law bond.

14. Definitions

    14.1. *Balance of the Contract Price*—The total amount payable by the Owner to the Contractor under the Construction Contract after all proper adjustments have been made including allowance for the Contractor for any amounts received or to be received by the Owner in settlement of insurance or other claims for damages to which the Contractor is entitled, reduced by all valid and proper payments made to or on behalf of the Contractor under the Construction Contract.

    14.2. *Construction Contract*—The agreement between the Owner and Contractor identified on the cover page, including all Contract Documents and changes made to the agreement and the Contract Documents.

    14.3. *Contractor Default*—Failure of the Contractor, which has not been remedied or waived, to perform or otherwise to comply with a material term of the Construction Contract.

    14.4. *Owner Default*—Failure of the Owner, which has not been remedied or waived, to pay the Contractor as required under the Construction Contract or to perform and complete or comply with the other material terms of the Construction Contract.

    14.5. *Contract Documents*—All the documents that comprise the agreement between the Owner and Contractor.

15. If this Bond is issued for an agreement between a contractor and subcontractor, the term Contractor in this Bond will be deemed to be Subcontractor and the term Owner will be deemed to be Contractor.

16. Modifications to this Bond are as follows: **[Describe modification or enter "None"]**

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PAYMENT BOND

Bond Number: 101953946

Contractor	Surety
Name: Geospecialties, LLC Address *(principal place of business)*: 2025 Leestown Rd, Lexington, KY 40511	Name: Merchants National Bonding, Inc Address *(principal place of business)*: P.O. Box 14498, Des Moines, IA 50306
Owner	**Contract**
Name: City of Lenoir Mailing address *(principal place of business)*: 801 West Ave NW, Lenoir, NC 28645	Description *(name and location)*: Lenoir Fire Department Foundation Stabilization Contract Price: $1,880,000.00 Effective Date of Contract:

Bond

Bond Amount: $1,880,000.00

Date of Bond:

(Date of Bond cannot be earlier than Effective Date of Contract)

Modifications to this Bond form:

☑ None ☐ See Paragraph 18

Surety and Contractor, intending to be legally bound hereby, subject to the terms set forth in this Payment Bond, do each cause this Payment Bond to be duly executed by an authorized officer, agent, or representative.

Contractor as Principal	Surety
Geospecialties, LLC *(Full formal name of Contractor)*	Merchants National Bonding, Inc *(Full formal name of Surety) (corporate seal)*
By: _____ *(Signature)*	By: Emma Harvey *(Signature)(Attach Power of Attorney)*
Name: Dustin Anderson *(Printed or typed)*	Name: Emma Harvey *(Printed or typed)*
Title: CEO	Title: Attorney-in-Fact
Attest: Marcia Shelton *(Signature)*	Attest: LaKala Carter *(Signature)*
Name: Marcia Shelton *(Printed or typed)*	Name: LaKala Carter *(Printed or typed)*
Title: Director Accounting	Title: Witness

Notes: (1) Provide supplemental execution by any additional parties, such as joint venturers. (2) Any singular reference to Contractor, Surety, Owner, or other party is considered plural where applicable.

EJCDC® C-615, Payment Bond.
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1. The Contractor and Surety, jointly and severally, bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns to the Owner to pay for labor, materials, and equipment furnished for use in the performance of the Construction Contract, which is incorporated herein by reference, subject to the following terms.

2. If the Contractor promptly makes payment of all sums due to Claimants, and defends, indemnifies, and holds harmless the Owner from claims, demands, liens, or suits by any person or entity seeking payment for labor, materials, or equipment furnished for use in the performance of the Construction Contract, then the Surety and the Contractor shall have no obligation under this Bond.

3. If there is no Owner Default under the Construction Contract, the Surety's obligation to the Owner under this Bond will arise after the Owner has promptly notified the Contractor and the Surety (at the address described in Paragraph 13) of claims, demands, liens, or suits against the Owner or the Owner's property by any person or entity seeking payment for labor, materials, or equipment furnished for use in the performance of the Construction Contract, and tendered defense of such claims, demands, liens, or suits to the Contractor and the Surety.

4. When the Owner has satisfied the conditions in Paragraph 3, the Surety shall promptly and at the Surety's expense defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Owner against a duly tendered claim, demand, lien, or suit.

5. The Surety's obligations to a Claimant under this Bond will arise after the following:

    5.1. Claimants who do not have a direct contract with the Contractor

        5.1.1. have furnished a written notice of non-payment to the Contractor, stating with substantial accuracy the amount claimed and the name of the party to whom the materials were, or equipment was, furnished or supplied or for whom the labor was done or performed, within ninety (90) days after having last performed labor or last furnished materials or equipment included in the Claim; and

        5.1.2. have sent a Claim to the Surety (at the address described in Paragraph 13).

    5.2. Claimants who are employed by or have a direct contract with the Contractor have sent a Claim to the Surety (at the address described in Paragraph 13).

6. If a notice of non-payment required by Paragraph 5.1.1 is given by the Owner to the Contractor, that is sufficient to satisfy a Claimant's obligation to furnish a written notice of non-payment under Paragraph 5.1.1.

7. When a Claimant has satisfied the conditions of Paragraph 5.1 or 5.2, whichever is applicable, the Surety shall promptly and at the Surety's expense take the following actions:

    7.1. Send an answer to the Claimant, with a copy to the Owner, within sixty (60) days after receipt of the Claim, stating the amounts that are undisputed and the basis for challenging any amounts that are disputed; and

    7.2. Pay or arrange for payment of any undisputed amounts.

    7.3. The Surety's failure to discharge its obligations under Paragraph 7.1 or 7.2 will not be deemed to constitute a waiver of defenses the Surety or Contractor may have or acquire as to a Claim, except as to undisputed amounts for which the Surety and Claimant have reached agreement. If, however, the Surety fails to discharge its obligations under Paragraph 7.1 or 7.2, the Surety shall indemnify the Claimant for the reasonable attorney's fees the Claimant incurs thereafter to recover any sums found to be due and owing to the Claimant.

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8. The Surety's total obligation will not exceed the amount of this Bond, plus the amount of reasonable attorney's fees provided under Paragraph 7.3, and the amount of this Bond will be credited for any payments made in good faith by the Surety.

9. Amounts owed by the Owner to the Contractor under the Construction Contract will be used for the performance of the Construction Contract and to satisfy claims, if any, under any construction performance bond. By the Contractor furnishing and the Owner accepting this Bond, they agree that all funds earned by the Contractor in the performance of the Construction Contract are dedicated to satisfying obligations of the Contractor and Surety under this Bond, subject to the Owner's priority to use the funds for the completion of the work.

10. The Surety shall not be liable to the Owner, Claimants, or others for obligations of the Contractor that are unrelated to the Construction Contract. The Owner shall not be liable for the payment of any costs or expenses of any Claimant under this Bond, and shall have under this Bond no obligation to make payments to or give notice on behalf of Claimants, or otherwise have any obligations to Claimants under this Bond.

11. The Surety hereby waives notice of any change, including changes of time, to the Construction Contract or to related subcontracts, purchase orders, and other obligations.

12. No suit or action will be commenced by a Claimant under this Bond other than in a court of competent jurisdiction in the state in which the project that is the subject of the Construction Contract is located or after the expiration of one year from the date (1) on which the Claimant sent a Claim to the Surety pursuant to Paragraph 5.1.2 or 5.2, or (2) on which the last labor or service was performed by anyone or the last materials or equipment were furnished by anyone under the Construction Contract, whichever of (1) or (2) first occurs. If the provisions of this paragraph are void or prohibited by law, the minimum period of limitation available to sureties as a defense in the jurisdiction of the suit will be applicable.

13. Notice and Claims to the Surety, the Owner, or the Contractor must be mailed or delivered to the address shown on the page on which their signature appears. Actual receipt of notice or Claims, however accomplished, will be sufficient compliance as of the date received.

14. When this Bond has been furnished to comply with a statutory or other legal requirement in the location where the construction was to be performed, any provision in this Bond conflicting with said statutory or legal requirement will be deemed deleted here from and provisions conforming to such statutory or other legal requirement will be deemed incorporated herein. When so furnished, the intent is that this Bond will be construed as a statutory bond and not as a common law bond.

15. Upon requests by any person or entity appearing to be a potential beneficiary of this Bond, the Contractor and Owner shall promptly furnish a copy of this Bond or shall permit a copy to be made.

16. Definitions

    16.1. *Claim*—A written statement by the Claimant including at a minimum:

        16.1.1. The name of the Claimant;

        16.1.2. The name of the person for whom the labor was done, or materials or equipment furnished;

        16.1.3. A copy of the agreement or purchase order pursuant to which labor, materials, or equipment was furnished for use in the performance of the Construction Contract;

        16.1.4. A brief description of the labor, materials, or equipment furnished;

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16.1.5. The date on which the Claimant last performed labor or last furnished materials or equipment for use in the performance of the Construction Contract;

16.1.6. The total amount earned by the Claimant for labor, materials, or equipment furnished as of the date of the Claim;

16.1.7. The total amount of previous payments received by the Claimant; and

16.1.8. The total amount due and unpaid to the Claimant for labor, materials, or equipment furnished as of the date of the Claim.

16.2. *Claimant*—An individual or entity having a direct contract with the Contractor or with a subcontractor of the Contractor to furnish labor, materials, or equipment for use in the performance of the Construction Contract. The term Claimant also includes any individual or entity that has rightfully asserted a claim under an applicable mechanic's lien or similar statute against the real property upon which the Project is located. The intent of this Bond is to include without limitation in the terms of "labor, materials, or equipment" that part of the water, gas, power, light, heat, oil, gasoline, telephone service, or rental equipment used in the Construction Contract, architectural and engineering services required for performance of the work of the Contractor and the Contractor's subcontractors, and all other items for which a mechanic's lien may be asserted in the jurisdiction where the labor, materials, or equipment were furnished.

16.3. *Construction Contract*—The agreement between the Owner and Contractor identified on the cover page, including all Contract Documents and all changes made to the agreement and the Contract Documents.

16.4. *Owner Default*—Failure of the Owner, which has not been remedied or waived, to pay the Contractor as required under the Construction Contract or to perform and complete or comply with the other material terms of the Construction Contract.

16.5. *Contract Documents*—All the documents that comprise the agreement between the Owner and Contractor.

17. If this Bond is issued for an agreement between a contractor and subcontractor, the term Contractor in this Bond will be deemed to be Subcontractor and the term Owner will be deemed to be Contractor.

18. Modifications to this Bond are as follows: **[Describe modification or enter "None"]**

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MERCHANTS
BONDING COMPANY™

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Persons By These Presents, that MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., both being corporations of the State of Iowa, and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY , an assumed name of Merchants National Bonding, Inc., (herein collectively called the "Companies") do hereby make, constitute and appoint, individually,

Adam Harris; Adam Terry; Alex M Rechtin; Brian L Sewell; Dale E Wolcott; Emma Harvey; Kenny Albert; Lakala Carter; Melissa Propst; Steven M Baas

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, to sign its name as surety(ies) and to execute, seal and acknowledge any and all bonds, undertakings, contracts and other written instruments in the nature thereof, on behalf of the Companies in their business of guaranteeing the fidelity of persons, guaranteeing the performance of contracts and executing or guaranteeing bonds and undertakings required or permitted in any actions or proceedings allowed by law.

This Power-of-Attorney is granted and is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the By-Laws adopted by the Board of Directors of the Companies.

"The President, Secretary, Treasurer, or any Assistant Treasurer or any Assistant Secretary or any Vice President shall have power and authority to appoint Attorneys-in-Fact, and to authorize them to execute on behalf of the Company, and attach the seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof."

"The signature of any authorized officer and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile or electronic transmission to any Power of Attorney or Certification thereof authorizing the execution and delivery of any bond, undertaking, recognizance, or other suretyship obligations of the Company, and such signature and seal when so used shall have the same force and effect as though manually fixed."

In connection with obligations in favor of the Florida Department of Transportation only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact includes any and all consents for the release of retained percentages and/or final estimates on engineering and construction contracts required by the State of Florida Department of Transportation. It is fully understood that consenting to the State of Florida Department of Transportation making payment of the final estimate to the Contractor and/or its assignee, shall not relieve this surety company of any of its obligations under its bond.

In connection with obligations in favor of the Kentucky Department of Highways only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact cannot be modified or revoked unless prior written personal notice of such intent has been given to the Commissioner - Department of Highways of the Commonwealth of Kentucky at least thirty (30) days prior to the modification or revocation.

In Witness Whereof, the Companies have caused this instrument to be signed and sealed this 2nd day of March , 2026 .

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) INCORPORATED -o- 1933

MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC. INCORPORATED -o- 2003

MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY CALIFORNIA

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.
MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY

By Larry Taylor

STATE OF IOWA
COUNTY OF DALLAS ss.
On this 2nd day of March 2026 , before me appeared Larry Taylor, to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn did say that he is President of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY; and that the seals affixed to the foregoing instrument are the Corporate Seals of the Companies; and that the said instrument was signed and sealed in behalf of the Companies by authority of their respective Boards of Directors.

NOTARIAL SEAL IOWA
Penni Miller
Commission Number 787952
My Commission Expires
January 20, 2027

Notary Public

(Expiration of notary's commission does not invalidate this instrument)

I, Elisabeth Sandersfeld, Secretary of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL), MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., and MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the POWER-OF-ATTORNEY executed by said Companies, which is still in full force and effect and has not been amended or revoked.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Companies on this day of .

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) INCORPORATED -o- 1933

MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC. INCORPORATED -o- 2003

MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY CALIFORNIA

Secretary

GEOSPE-C01 EREYNOLDS

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY) 9/18/2026

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER	CONTACT NAME: Emily Reynolds	
Houchens Insurance Group 505 Wellington Way Lexington, KY 40503	PHONE (A/C, No, Ext):	FAX (A/C, No):
	E-MAIL ADDRESS: ereynolds@higusa.com	
	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE	NAIC #
	INSURER A : Scottsdale Insurance Company	41297
INSURED	INSURER B : United Fire & Casualty Company	13021
Geospecialties, LLC 2025B Leestown Rd. Lexington, KY 40511	INSURER C : Kentucky Associated General Contractors Self Insurers' Fund	
	INSURER D : Gray Surplus Lines Insurance Company	15889
	INSURER E :	
	INSURER F :	

COVERAGES **CERTIFICATE NUMBER:** **REVISION NUMBER:**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS	
A	X COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY						EACH OCCURRENCE	$ 1,000,000
	CLAIMS-MADE X OCCUR			VRS0009082	9/1/2026	9/1/2027	DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence)	$ 50,000
	X Pollution Liability						MED EXP (Any one person)	$ 5,000
	X $1M Occ /$2M Agg						PERSONAL & ADV INJURY	$ 1,000,000
	GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER:						GENERAL AGGREGATE	$ 2,000,000
	POLICY PRO-JECT LOC						PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG	$ 2,000,000
	OTHER:							$
B	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY						COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident)	$ 1,000,000
	X ANY AUTO						BODILY INJURY (Per person)	$
	OWNED AUTOS ONLY / SCHEDULED AUTOS			10051731207	4/8/2026	4/8/2027	BODILY INJURY (Per accident)	$
	X HIRED AUTOS ONLY / X NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY						PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident)	$
								$
A	UMBRELLA LIAB X OCCUR						EACH OCCURRENCE	$ 5,000,000
	X EXCESS LIAB CLAIMS-MADE			VES0005648	9/1/2026	9/1/2027	AGGREGATE	$ 5,000,000
	DED RETENTION $							$
C	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY Y/N						X PER STATUTE OTH-ER	
	ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) N/A			23782	1/1/2026	1/1/2027	E.L. EACH ACCIDENT	$ 4,500,000
	If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below						E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE	$ 4,500,000
							E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT	$ 4,500,000
A	Commercial Excess Um			VES0005648	9/1/2026	9/1/2027	Aggregate	5,000,000
D	Excess Umbrella			GSL103746	2/16/2026	4/8/2027	Aggregate	4,000,000

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)
Project: Lenior Fire Station

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

City of Lenior
801 West Avenue NW
Lenoir, NC 28645

CANCELLATION

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Allen J. Boas

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