

MAYOR LINDA GORTON



LEXINGTON

TODD SLATIN
DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT

June 25, 2025

Geospecialties LLC
Attn: Justin Anderson
1060 Elizabeth St, Ste 8
Nicholasville, KY 40356

RE: Bid #68-2025 Jacks Creek Pike Slope Repair

Dear Mr. Anderson

Your bid has been recommended to Council for acceptance and will receive second reading July 3, 2025.

The specifications for this purchase require the recommended bidder to furnish a performance bond or certified check in the amount of 100 percent of the bid amount recommended.

Please forward **three** original contracts and performance and payment bonds (or certified check), made payable to the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government as obligee, in the amount of **\$849,525.00** as soon as possible, in order to expedite a purchase order.

If you furnish a certified check as a performance bond, that check will be returned to you upon successful completion of your obligations under the terms and conditions of this contract.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Todd Slatin, Director
Division of Procurement



PART VI
CONTRACT AGREEMENT
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PART VI

CONTRACT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made on the 3rd day of July, 2025, by and between **Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government**, acting herein called "OWNER" and **Geospecialties LLC**, doing business as a corporation located in the City of Nicholasville, County of Jessamine, and State of Kentucky, hereinafter called "CONTRACTOR."

WITNESSETH: That the CONTRACTOR and the OWNER in consideration of eight hundred forty-nine thousand five hundred twenty-five Dollars and No Cents (\$849,525.00) quoted in the proposal by the CONTRACTOR, dated May 22, 2025, hereby agree to commence and complete the construction described as follows:

1. SCOPE OF WORK

The CONTRACTOR shall furnish all the materials, supplies, machinery, ~~e~~quipment, tools, superintendence, labor, insurance, and other accessories and services necessary to complete the said project in accordance with the conditions and prices stated in the Proposal, General Conditions, Special Conditions of the Contract, the Specifications, Contract Documents, and IonWave Q&A and Addenda, therefore as prepared by Lexington Fayette Urban County Government for the Jacks Creek Pike Slope Repair project.

2. TIME OF COMPLETION

The time estimated and authorized by the OWNER for the proper execution of the Work by the Contract, in full, is hereby fixed as sixty (60) calendar days to final completion. The time shall begin in accordance with the Notice to Proceed provided by OWNER.

3. ISSUANCE OF WORK ORDERS

Notice to begin Work will be given in whole or for part of the Work as determined by the OWNER pending the availability of funds. The order of construction will be as determined after consultation between the CONTRACTOR and the OWNER.

4. THE CONTRACT SUM

The OWNER agrees to pay the CONTRACTOR in current funds for the performance of the Contract, as quoted in the proposal, subject to any additions and deductions, as provided therein.

5. PROGRESS PAYMENTS

The OWNER shall make payments on account of the Contract, as provided in accordance with the General Conditions, less the aggregate of previous payments.

6. ACCEPTANCE AND FINAL PAYMENT

Final payment shall be due within ninety (90) days after completion of the Work, provided the Work be then fully completed and the Contract fully accepted.

Before issuance of final certificate, the CONTRACTOR shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Owner that all payrolls, material bills, and other indebtedness connected with the Work has been paid.

If, after the Work has been substantially completed, full completion thereof is materially delayed through no fault of the CONTRACTOR, the OWNER shall without terminating the Contract, make payment of the balance due for that portion of the Work fully completed and accepted. Such payment shall be made under the terms and conditions governing final payment, except that it shall not constitute a waiver of claims.

7. THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

The Advertisement for Bids, Information for Bidders, the General Conditions, Performance and Payment Bonds, Contract Agreement, Special Conditions, Technical Specifications, any and all Addenda, and Proposal, Ion Wave Q&A, and Plan Drawings form the Contract, and they are fully a part of the Contract as if hereto attached or herein repeated.

8. EXTRA WORK

The OWNER, without invalidating the Contract, may order extra work or make changes by altering, adding to or deducting from the Work, the Contract Sum being adjusted accordingly. All such Work shall be executed and paid for in accordance with the General Conditions, which is a part of this Contract.

9. THE FOLLOWING IS AN ENUMERATION OF THE SPECIFICATIONS AND DRAWINGS (CONTRACT DOCUMENTS):

<u>SPECIFICATIONS</u>	
SECTION NO.	TITLE
I	Advertisement for Bids
II	Information for Bidders
III	Form of Proposal
IV	General Conditions
V	Special Conditions
VI	Contract Agreement
VII	Performance and Payment Bonds
VIII	Addenda
IX	Technical Specifications and Drawings

IN WITNESSETH WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Contract as of the date and year above written.

(Seal)

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.
Lexington, Kentucky

(Owner)

ATTEST:

Deputy Mackenzie Steck
Clerk of the Urban County Council

Paula Smith
(Witness)

BY:

Rinda Gorton

MAYOR

Mayor
(Title)

(Seal)

GEOSPEZIALTES LLC

(Contractor)

Marcia Shelton
(Secretary)*

BY:

[Signature]

Marcia Shelton
(Witness)

President

(Title)

1060 Elizabeth St. Unit 8, Nicholasville, KY 40356
(Address and Zip Code)

IMPORTANT: *Strike out any non-applicable terms.

Secretary of the Owner should attest. If the CONTRACTOR is corporation,
Secretary should attest. Give proper title of each person-executing Contract.

AIA Document A312™ – 2010

Bond Number: 101506282

Performance Bond

CONTRACTOR:

(Name, legal status and address)

GeoSpecialties, LLC
1060 Elizabeth St Suite 8
Nicholasville, KY 40356

OWNER:

(Name, legal status and address)

Lexington/Fayette Urban County Government
200 E. Main St., 3rd Fl
Lexington, KY 40507

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

Date:

Amount: \$849,525.00

Description:

(Name and location)

Jacks Creek Pike Slope Repair

BOND

Date:

(Not earlier than Construction Contract Date)

Amount: \$849,525.00

Modifications to this Bond: ☒ None ☐ See Section 16

CONTRACTOR AS PRINCIPAL

Company: (Corporate Seal)

GeoSpecialties, LLC

Signature:

Name Justin Anderson
and Title: President

(Any additional signatures appear on the last page of this Performance Bond.)

(FOR INFORMATION ONLY — Name, address and telephone)

AGENT or BROKER:

Houchens Insurance Group
1240 Fairway Street
Bowling Green, KY 42103

SURETY:

(Name, legal status and principal place of business)

Merchants National Bonding, Inc

P.O. Box 14498

Des Moines, IA 50306

This document has important legal consequences. Consultation with an attorney is encouraged with respect to its completion or modification.

Any singular reference to Contractor, Surety, Owner or other party shall be considered plural where applicable.

AIA Document A312–2010 combines two separate bonds, a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, into one form. This is not a single combined Performance and Payment Bond.

SURETY

Company:

(Corporate Seal)

Merchants National Bonding, Inc

Signature:

Name LaKala Carter
and Title: Attorney-in-Fact



§ 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 Section 3.

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

- .1 the Owner first provides notice to the Contractor and the Surety that the Owner is considering declaring a Contractor Default. Such notice shall 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 Section 3.1 shall 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 shall not waive the Owner's right, if any, subsequently to declare a Contractor Default;
- .2 the Owner declares a Contractor Default, terminates the Construction Contract and notifies the Surety; and
- .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 Section 3.1 shall 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 Section 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 Owner's 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 Section 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:

- .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
- .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 Section 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 Section 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 Section 5.1, 5.2 or 5.3, then the responsibilities of the Surety to the Owner shall not be greater than those of the Contractor under the Construction Contract, and the responsibilities of the Owner to the Surety shall 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

- .1 the responsibilities of the Contractor for correction of defective work and completion of the Construction Contract;
- .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 Section 5; and
- .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 Section 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 shall not be reduced or set off on account of any such unrelated obligations. No right of action shall 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 may be instituted in any court of competent jurisdiction in the location in which the work or part of the work is located and shall 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 period of limitation available to sureties as a defense in the jurisdiction of the suit shall be applicable.

§ 12 Notice to the Surety, the Owner or the Contractor shall 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 shall be deemed deleted herefrom and provisions conforming to such statutory or other legal requirement shall be deemed incorporated herein. When so furnished, the intent is that this Bond shall 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 to the Contractor of 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 shall be deemed to be Subcontractor and the term Owner shall be deemed to be Contractor.

(Space is provided below for additional signatures of added parties, other than those appearing on the cover page.)

CONTRACTOR AS PRINCIPAL

Company: _____

Signature: _____

Name and Title: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Name and Title: _____

Address: _____

(Corporate Seal) _____

Company: _____

SURETY

(Corporate Seal)

AIA Document A312™ – 2010

Bond Number: 101506282

Payment Bond

CONTRACTOR:

(Name, legal status and address)

GeoSpecialties, LLC
1060 Elizabeth St Suite 8
Nicholasville, KY 40356

OWNER:

(Name, legal status and address)

Lexington/Fayette Urban County Government
200 E. Main St., 3rd Fl
Lexington, KY 40507

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

Date:

Amount: \$849,525.00

Description:

(Name and location)

Jacks Creek Pike Slope Repair

BOND

Date:


(Not earlier than Construction Contract Date)

Amount: \$849,525.00

Modifications to this Bond: ☒ None ☐ See Section 18

CONTRACTOR AS PRINCIPAL

Company: 
GeoSpecialties, LLC

Signature: 
Name Justin Anderson
and Title: President

(Any additional signatures appear on the last page of this Payment Bond.)

(FOR INFORMATION ONLY — Name, address and telephone)

AGENT or BROKER:

Houchens Insurance Group
1240 Fairway Street
Bowling Green, KY 42103

SURETY:

(Name, legal status and principal place of business)

Merchants National Bonding, Inc
P.O. Box 14498
Des Moines, IA 50306


This document has important legal consequences. Consultation with an attorney is encouraged with respect to its completion or modification.

Any singular reference to Contractor, Surety, Owner or other party shall be considered plural where applicable.

AIA Document A312–2010 combines two separate bonds, a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, into one form. This is not a single combined Performance and Payment Bond.

SURETY

Company: 
Merchants National Bonding, Inc

Signature: 
Name LaKala Carter
and Title: Attorney-in-Fact

OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE:

(Architect, Engineer or other party:)

§ 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 shall arise after the Owner has promptly notified the Contractor and the Surety (at the address described in Section 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 Section 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 shall arise after the following:

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

- .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
- .2** have sent a Claim to the Surety (at the address described in Section 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 Section 13).

§ 6 If a notice of non-payment required by Section 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 Section 5.1.1.

§ 7 When a Claimant has satisfied the conditions of Sections 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 Section 7.1 or Section 7.2 shall 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 Section 7.1 or Section 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.

§ 8 The Surety's total obligation shall not exceed the amount of this Bond, plus the amount of reasonable attorney's fees provided under Section 7.3, and the amount of this Bond shall 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 shall 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 satisfy 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 shall 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 Section 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 shall be applicable.

§ 13 Notice and Claims to the Surety, the Owner or the Contractor shall be mailed or delivered to the address shown on the page on which their signature appears. Actual receipt of notice or Claims, however accomplished, shall 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 shall be deemed deleted herefrom and provisions conforming to such statutory or other legal requirement shall be deemed incorporated herein. When so furnished, the intent is that this Bond shall be construed as a statutory bond and not as a common law bond.

§ 15 Upon request 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:

- .1 the name of the Claimant;
- .2 the name of the person for whom the labor was done, or materials or equipment furnished;
- .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;
- .4 a brief description of the labor, materials or equipment furnished;
- .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;
- .6 the total amount earned by the Claimant for labor, materials or equipment furnished as of the date of the Claim;
- .7 the total amount of previous payments received by the Claimant; and
- .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 shall be to include without limitation in the terms "labor, materials or equipment" that part of 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 shall be deemed to be Subcontractor and the term Owner shall be deemed to be Contractor.

§ 18 Modifications to this bond are as follows:

(Space is provided below for additional signatures of added parties, other than those appearing on the cover page.)

CONTRACTOR AS PRINCIPAL

SURETY

Company:

(Corporate Seal)

Company:

(Corporate Seal)

Signature: _____

Name and Title: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Name and Title: _____

Address: _____

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, d/b/a Merchants National Indemnity Company (in California only) (herein collectively called the "Companies") do hereby make, constitute and appoint, individually,

Adam Harris; Alex M Rehtin; Brian L Sewell; 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 following By-Laws adopted by the Board of Directors of Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual) on April 23, 2011 and amended August 14, 2015 and April 27, 2024 and adopted by the Board of Directors of Merchants National Bonding, Inc., on October 16, 2015 and amended on April 27, 2024.

"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 13th day of March, 2025.



MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.
d/b/a MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY

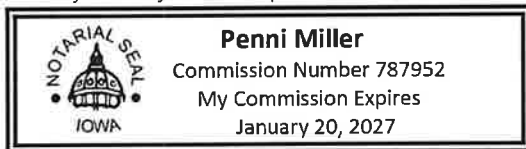
By

Larry Taylor

President

STATE OF IOWA
COUNTY OF DALLAS ss.

On this 13th day of March, 2025, 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) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.; 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.



Penni Miller

Notary Public

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

I, Elisabeth Sandersfeld, Secretary of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., 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 _____, 2025.



Elisabeth Sandersfeld

Secretary