The successful bidder for providing the sand was Southern Engineering Co. of Baton Rouge, which did the job for $195,000. The firm used a sunken barge to mix the sand with water and pump it onto the beach area with a dredge.

Final inspection of the sand job was made Friday, and the public works department will receive bids in its Baton Rouge offices Monday on two more smaller projects.

These include two comfort stations, estimated to cost $35,500, and a water well which may have to go down 800 feet at estimated cost of some $5,700.

Officials say two other contracts will complete the job as far as planning now goes. These include $315,000 in piers, one for each end and one for the center of the beach, and $45 in picnic shelters and landscaping.

At last count, the cost was pushing close to the $1 million provided, and officials were seeking ways to pare.

Word has spread already among youths that the sand is on the beach.

Officials said a recent holiday weekend attracted flocks of students, who pushed past the construction equipment to get onto the beach. They left two small boatloads of beer cans and bottles.