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## AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

### Commissioners Court – June 9, 2020

**AI Number: 75753**

**Project Number: 2020-217**

**Information:** Requesting authority to purchase Ten (10) Large Disinfectant Systems, Ten (10) Small Disinfectant Systems, Five (5) Refrigerators, One (1) Freezer, and Decontamination Supplies for decontamination machines for the Hidalgo County Health Department in order to immediately assist with County functions for medical and public health measures during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

**Description of AI:** (A) Discussion, consideration and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost of purchase; (B) Exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to Texas LGC 262.0249(a)(1) & (2);(C) Requesting approval to purchase items listed.

**Funding Source:** CARES Act Fund

**Acct. #** 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-751

**Acct. #** 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-660

**Acct. #** 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-610

**Requested by:** Eduardo “Eddie” Olivarez, Health Director

**Department:** Health Department

**Prepared by:** Alexandra Vela, Contract Specialist II

**Department:** Purchasing Department

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### BACKGROUND

On March 17, 2020, pursuant to the authority under Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency due to the imminent threat arising from the Coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 22, 2020, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), the Commissioners Court of Hidalgo County issued an Order of Continuance of Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Hidalgo County Emergency Management Plan and extends the Declaration of Local Disaster.

Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department (HCHHSD) in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic as it's a public health emergency and in accordance to the National Preparedness Goal under the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) which directs us to aim in

the establishment of secure and resilient nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate respond to and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk, and in order to comply with the directive of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5(HSPD-5).

## **COMPLIANCE**

Under the Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-8: National Preparedness, ‘It is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the nation, including act of terrorism, cyber-attacks, pandemics and catastrophic natural disasters’, and in compliance with the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capability 9 (Medical Material Management and Distribution), and pursuant to the Order of Continuance of Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Hidalgo County Emergency Management Plan and extends the Declaration of Local Disaster, we request the courts approval for the purchase of Ten (10) Large Disinfectant Systems, Ten (10) Small Disinfectant Machines, Five (5) Refrigerators, One (1) Freezer, and decontamination supplies for disinfectant machines to continue the further immediate response to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

The automatic large disinfecting machines will sanitize large areas/ rooms, the small automatic disinfecting machine is capable of hands free sanitizing smaller areas, rooms, and vehicles automatically providing for the effective elimination of any COVID-19 threat. The supplies are the consumable products/ disinfectant used by the machines to properly disinfect an area. The pharmacy/ medical grade refrigerators will be used to store the specimens collected to test for the COVID-19 at safe refrigerated temperatures when transported to a site used for administering of the vaccine. Pharmacy/Medical grade refrigerators maintain tighter tolerance on the internal temperature which is needed to help prevent the efficacy loss of the vaccines. The commercial grade freezer will be used to store adequate quantities of ice packs that are necessary whenever the COVID-19 vaccine is being transported to a site.

## **AGENDA ITEM CAPTION**

A) “Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment or allocation, for decontamination systems, refrigerators, and supplies in order to assist with County medical expenses addressing the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency; the Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, herein finds that such expenditure is reasonable and necessary for the intended use.”

B) Exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to Texas LGC 262.024(a)(1): an item that must be purchased in case of a public calamity if it is necessary to make the purchase promptly to relieve the necessity of the citizens; (2) an item necessary to preserve and protect the public health and safety of the citizens.

C) Requesting authority to purchase the following equipment with an estimated cost of \$449,500.00.

Cooperative	Contract Number	Description	Quantity
HGAC	EP11-17	Disinfectant Machine	10
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HGAC	EP11-17	Decontamination Supplies for Disinfectant Machines	Various
TXMAS	18-51V06	Vaccine and Specimen refrigerator	5
TXMAS	18-51V06	Upright Freezer	1

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Recommending that Commissioners Court authorize the exemption for said goods/services as stated as they are reasonable and necessary expenditures related to the County's COVID-19 immediate Public Health Response. Approval of the items will allow the Hidalgo County Health Department to proceed with immediately addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency. Expenditures will be charged to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Fund and/or other assistance available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1295 Form
- Project Overview
- Tex. Loc. Gov. Code
- 213 Form
- Agenda Item Briefing