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AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – July 07, 2020

AI Number: AI-76267

Project Number: 2020-287

Information: [Requesting authority to exempt from competitive procurement requirements, pursuant to TxLGC 262.024 (a)(1)(2)&(7), and requesting approval to purchase CAPR (Helmet Unit) Air Purifying Systems and accessories, in order to assist with County functions related to medical and public health measures.

Description of AI: COVID-19 related purchase of CAPR (Helmet Unit) Air Purifying Systems and Accessories.

Funding Source: CARES Act Relief Fund (TBD) **Acct. #** 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-XXX

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

Prepared by: Hector Garcia, Contract Specialist I **Department:** Purchasing Department

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.

In coordinating the response to this ongoing public health emergency, the Health Department, is in need of essential personal protective equipment for staff working directly with infected or potentially infected individuals as part of the continued response to the public health emergency related to COVID-19.

The 2010 Census has indicated that Hidalgo County has a low to moderate income level of 54.76% and the Texas Department of State Health Services estimates Hidalgo County’s population to be 1,005,539. With this large impoverished population, but limited lab testing capacity, the detection, mitigation, and response to COVID-19 has been largely impacted. Current public health directive emphasizing the importance of preventing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19. With this essential personal protective equipment, a much needed requirement for staff currently aiding infected and potentially infected individuals will serve to properly protect and prevent from possible exposure.

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 acts 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 Materiel 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 CAPR (Helmet Unit) Air Purifying Systems and accessories, to continue the further needed response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

ADMINISTRATION

Approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County’s intended purpose to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

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 the [***HCHD to purchase CAPR (Helmet Unit) Air Purifying Systems and accessories***], in order to assist with County Public Health 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)(2)&(7)
- C. Requesting approval to purchase CAPR (Helmet Unit) Air Purifying Systems and accessories through sole distributor Bio-Medical Devices International for the total amount of \$54,587.70.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of the item will allow the Hidalgo County Health Department to efficiently provide essential personal protective equipment for staff working directly with infected or potentially infected individuals during the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Recommending that Commissioners Court authorize the purchase for said equipment and accessories as stated as it is a reasonable and necessary expenditure related to the County's COVID-19 Public Health Response. Expenditures will be charged to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Relief Grant Fund and/or other grant assistance available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Attachments:

- 213 Form
- Agenda Item Briefing
- TXLGC 262.024(a) 1,2 & 7
- Sam.Gov
- Sole Distribution Letter
- Sole Distribution Information