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## AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

**Commissioners Court – August 11, 2020**

**AI Number:** 76793

**Project Number:** 00418838

**Information:** [Requesting approval to purchase medical protective gear for Hidalgo County Health Department [in order to assist with County functions related to medical and public health measures.]

**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 262.024(a)(1)&(2); (C) Requesting approval to purchase

**Funding Source:** CARES Act Relief Fund    **Acct. #** 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-610

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

**Prepared by:** Rogelio Garcia, Procurement Specialist    **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) is in need of medical protective gear are experiencing an increase in exposure to COVID related cases, they are requesting protective coats in order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of their staff as they serve the community.

### 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, cyberattacks, 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 of sanitation supplies to continue the further needed response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. 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.

## ADMINISTRATION

Approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the staff as they serve the constituents of Hidalgo County.

## 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 [**Hidalgo County Health Department Remodel and Repair of county-owned Modular Building**], in order to assist with County functions related to medical and public health measures 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. Requesting exemption from competitive procurement requirements pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 262.024 (a)(1)(2)(7), attached herein; and;
- C. Requesting approval to purchase the needed Lab Coats attached herein, not to exceed the amount of \$93,000.00.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of the item will allow the Hidalgo County Health Department Employees to assist Hidalgo County constituents who are possibly positive for COVID-19 while protecting themselves. Recommending that Commissioners Court authorize the purchase for said Medical Protection Equipment 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:

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