



2812 S. Bus. Hwy 281
Edinburg, Texas 78539
Phone: (956) 318-2626
Fax: (956) 318-2629
www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/purchasing

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – December 1, 2020

AI Number: 78506

Project Number: 2020-657

Information: Approval to award Leadership Empowerment Group, LLC for the COVID Safe Work Plan Training in order to assist with County Public Health expenses addressing the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.

Description of AI: (A) Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost of COVID Safe Work Plan Training; (B) Exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to TxLGC 262.024(a)(1),(2) & (4); (C) Requesting approval to award.

Funding Source: CARES Act Relief Fund (TBD)

Acct. # 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-xxx

Requested by: Hilda Salinas, Assistant Chief of Staff

Department: County Judge's Office

Prepared by: JD Cortez, Contract Specialist III

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.

Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department (HCHHSD) in response to the COVID pandemic 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 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 to award for the COVID Safe Work Plan Training, to continue the further needed response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

ADMINISTRATION

This training will help Hidalgo County business owners and employees follow the recommended CDC protocols and maintain their operations with as much safety as possible for their staff, customers, and visitors.

The COVID-19 Work Safe Plan Training Certificate of Completion is not required, but it is recommended. It will demonstrate to the public that Hidalgo County is taking a proactive approach in providing the business with educational tools to train themselves and staff to recommended CDC protocols. To mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within the workplace and community of Hidalgo County, the public, business owners, and community organizations need to support the Work Safe Plan in operations of businesses and public spaces to make them as safe as possible during this pandemic. This online and on demand training is designed to provide valuable information and best practices for business owners and employees within 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 a line item, allotment or allocation, for the COVID Safe Work Plan Training, 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, attached herein finds that such expenditure is reasonable and necessary for the intended use.
- B. Exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to TxLGC 262.024(a)(1);(2) & (4).
- C. Requesting acceptance and approval of proposal submitted by Leadership Empowerment Group, LLC for the COVID Safe Work Plan Training in the total amount of \$50,000.00, subject to compliance with Form 1295.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval to award and commence the COVID Safe Work Plan Training that will assist Hidalgo County business owners and employees in following the recommended CDC protocols and maintain their operations with as much safety as possible for their staff, customers, and visitors. 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:

- TxLGC 262.024
- Agenda Item Briefing
- SAM.gov
- Form 1295
- Form 213