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AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – December 8, 2020

AI Number: 78581

Project Number: 2020-664

Information: [Requesting authority to purchase One (1) Used Truck with a Refrigerated Cargo Box and Wide Liftgate] for Hidalgo County Emergency Management [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 262.0249(a)(1) & (2);(C) Requesting approval to purchase items listed.

Funding Source: CARES Act Fund

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

Requested by: Chief, Ricardo Saldaña

Department: Emergency Mgmt.

Prepared by: Jorge Garza, Contract Specialist II

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-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 One (1) Used Truck with a Refrigerated Cargo Box and Wide Liftgate to continue the further needed response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

ADMINISTRATION

As a critical countermeasure and to strengthen our preparedness and response capacity for Hidalgo County Emergency Management approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County’s intended purpose to mitigate the spread of COVID–19. This equipment would allow the transportation of pallets that would include stockpile emergency supplies. Supplies would include: lifesaving medical supplies, personal protective equipment such as gloves, protective gowns, disposable coveralls, disinfectant spray, hand sanitizer, N95 masks, oxygen tubing, syringes, temporarily house antibiotics, influenza vaccines, testing supplies, and support devices for lifesaving care. This inventory would be a safeguard to support supply and demand response needs and it would avoid experiencing the alarming shortage we have had with 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 [Hidalgo County Emergency Management One (1) New or Used Truck with a Refrigerated Cargo Box and Wide Liftgate Purchase], 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): 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 approval to purchase One (1) Used Truck with a Refrigerated Cargo Box and Wide Liftgate from Rio Truck & Trailer Center LLC. in the amount of \$37,925 Compliance with 1295 and 213 Forms.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of the item will allow the Hidalgo County Emergency Management to efficiently provide support with loading, storage, and distribution of goods and materials to address the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Recommending that Commissioners Court authorize the

purchase for said New or Used Truck with a Refrigerated Cargo Box and Wide Liftgate 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:

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