

AGENDA PLACEMENT MEMO

DATE: March 13, 2014

TO: Commissioners Court
FROM: Bob Space – Purchasing Agent

SUBJECT: Sole Source Exemption for SOE Software

REQUESTED ACTION/RECOMMENDATION


Approval of exemption from bidding for a Sole Source purchase of SOE Software and support, according to provisions of Section 262.024 (a)(7)(A) of the Local Government Code, and any appropriate action.

BACKGROUND

Jason Barnett, Elections Administrator, has requested purchase of the SOE software-services tracking and support modules. SOE Software is the sole provider of tracking and support solution with full integration into existing systems currently leveraged by Williamson County.

Based upon discussions with other entities, SOE representatives, Jay Schade, and with current elections staff, SOE Software Corporation is the ONLY provider of these modules of software and therefore qualifies as a sole source purchase. The tracking and support software solutions are proprietary and are the intellectual property of SOE Software Corporation.

The approval of a sole source purchase meets the exemption requirements of Section 262.024 (a)(7)(A) of the Local Government Code. This section allows for exemption based on purchasing the *items that may be obtained from only one source including (A) items for which competition is precluded because of the existence of a patent, copyright, secret process, or monopolies*. The exemption complies with Local Government Code for sole source purchases. Section 262.024 (c) requires that *if an item exempted under Subsection (a)(7) is purchased, the Commissioners Court, after accepting a signed statement from the county official who makes purchases for the county as to the existence of only one source, must enter in its minutes a statement to that effect*. This Agenda Memo complies with that requirement.



Robert Space
Purchasing Agent