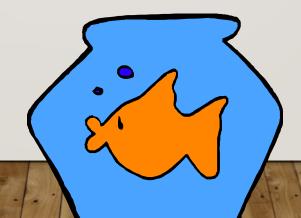
Melcome to County Purchasing

WHY IS PURCHASING IMPORTANT?

Purchasing is an essential county government business function

Integrity and efficiency are crucial components of its credibility

Perception of misuse threatens the public confidence



ACCOUNTABILITY





TEXAS FINANCE LAWS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE

Sections 113.043, 111.065, 140.003, and 111.093

- Cannot spend unless budgeted
- Cannot pay if purchase was not according to law
- Purchases shall be made in accordance with requirements of LGC 262
- Auditor must verify availability of funds (encumber) for contract to be enforceable (population over 225,000)

LGC 262.011(f)

• The county auditor may not draw, and the county treasurer may not honor an electronic transfer, check, or warrant for a purchase unless the purchase is made by the county purchasing agent or on competitive bid as provided by law.

COUNTY PURCHASING ACT CHAPTER 262 LOCAL GOVT. CODE

Subchapter A – General Provisions

Subchapter B – Purchasing Agents

Subchapter C – Competitive Bidding in General

CHAPTER 262 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SUBCHAPTER B – PURCHASING AGENTS

§ 262.011 - Purchasing Agent

- (a) Board may appoint Purchasing Agent (2 year term)
 - Under 150,000 District Courts Judges and County Judge
 - Over 150,000 3 District Court Judges and 2 Commissioners Court (variations)
- (d) County Purchasing Agent shall purchase <u>all</u> supplies, materials, and equipment required or used, by the county or a subdivision, officer, or employee of the county...a person other than the county purchasing agent <u>may not make the purchase</u> of the supplies, material, or equipment or make the contract for repairs.
- (e) The county purchasing agent shall supervise all purchases made on competitive bid.

CHAPTER 262 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SUBCHAPTER B – PURCHASING AGENTS

§ 262.0115 - Purchasing Agents in Counties with Population of More than 100,000

- (a) Commissioners Court may employ a person to act as county purchasing agent (if one has not been appointed under 262.011 and not been abolished)
- (b) Purchasing Agent shall carry out the functions prescribed under 262.011 and for any administrative function of the county auditor regarding county purchases and contracts and public bidding
- (c) Position may be abolished at any time and county auditor shall assume the functions regarding competitive bidding

§ 262.0225 Competitive Procedures

- (a) All bidders shall have the opportunity to:
 - bid on the same items
 - o on equal terms
 - have bids judged by the same standards as set forth in the specifications
- (b) Bids and proposals will be received in a fair and confidential manner
- (c) Bids may be accepted through electronic submission, but county must also accept any bids or proposals submitted in hard-copy

§ 262.023 Competitive Requirements

- (a) Sealed bids or proposals required for purchases exceeding \$50,000
- (c) Applies to purchase of one or more items
 - Component component parts of an item
 - Separate normally purchased in one purchase
 - Sequential purchases over time

§ 262.024 Discretionary Exemptions

- (a) Exempt from bidding IF Commissioners Court by order grants the exemption (not all-inclusive):
 - (I) In a case of public calamity
 - (2) To preserve or protect public health or safety
 - (3) Unforeseen damage to public property
 - (4) Personal or professional services
 - (6) Land or right of way
 - (7) Sole source purchases
 - (8) Food
 - (9) Personal property sold at auction

§ 262.0245 Competitive Procedures

Purchasing Agent or Commissioners Court shall adopt procedures that provide for competitive procurement, to the extent practicable for purchases not subject to competitive procurement

- § 262.025 Competitive Bidding Notice
- § 262.027 Awarding of Contract
- § 262.030 Competitive Proposal Procedure
- § 262.0234 Criminal Penalties

BID VERSUS PROPOSAL

Activity Description	Competitive Sealed Bids	Competitive Sealed Proposals
When to use	When specifications or statement of work is well defined	When agency looks for proposer to develop and provide ideas or solutions
Opening	Public – price announced; and all data available to other bidders and the public	Public – only names of proposers are read; no pricing or other data made available (subject to local laws)
Evaluation	Based strictly on specifications – no material changes allowed	Based on quality with evaluation committee assigning weighted values to various parts of proposal
Discussion	None	Discussion may be conducted with each proposer to determine understanding of proposal requirements
Negotiation	None	Each qualified supplier is requested to submit a Best and Final Offer as a result of the in-depth review
Award	Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder	Best Value Proposal – not necessarily lowest price

OTHER STATUTES PURCHASING COMPLIES WITH

- LGC, Chapter 263—Sales or Lease of County Property
- LGC, Chapter 27 I Purchasing and Contracting by Municipalities, Counties and Certain Other Local Governments – Public Property (Cooperative Contracts)
- GC 2254 Professional and Consulting Services
- GC, Chapter 2269—Construction Delivery Methods

OTHER STATUTES PURCHASING COMPLIES WITH

- Code of Criminal Procedures, Art. 18.17-- Disposition of Abandoned or Unclaimed Property
- Code of Criminal Procedures, Art. 59.06— Disposition of Forfeited Property
- Human Resources Code, Chapter 122—Council on Purchasing from People with Disabilities
- GC, Chapter 225 I—Prompt Payment Act
- GC, Chapter 2267 -P3 Construction Method
- Occupation Code Chapter 1001 Engineering
- Occupation Code Chapter 1051 Architecture

OTHER STATUTES PURCHASING COMPLIES WITH

- GC 2252, Subch. A—Nonresident Bidders
- GC 2252, Subch. B—Interest on Retained Public Works Contract Payments
- GC 2252, Subch. F No Foreign Terrorists, Iran, Sudan
- GC 2253—Public Work Performance and Payment Bonds
- GC 2260 Resolution Certain Claims Against State
- GC 2270 & 808 Israel Preference
- Worker's Compensation Agency, Rule I 10.108 & I 10.110—Requirements for Worker's Compensation Coverage
- GC, Chapter 791—Interlocal Cooperation Act
- GC, Chapter 2258—Prevailing Wage Rates
- LGC, Chapter 140—Financial Provisions Affecting Local Governments
- LGC, Chapter 171 and 176-- Regulation of Conflicts of Interest

