



COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER _____

PAGE 1 OF 4

DATE: 01/23/2024

SUBJECT: HART INTERCIVIC, INC. - HART INTERCIVIC VERITY VOTING SYSTEM AND ASSOCIATED SOFTWARE, HARDWARE, ACCESSORIES, CONSUMABLES, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR - ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION

***** CONSENT AGENDA *****

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve renewal of Hart InterCivic, Inc. as sole source for Hart InterCivic Verity Voting System and associated software, hardware, accessories, consumables, maintenance, and repair, for Elections Administration.

BACKGROUND

On February 7, 2023, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #140261, approved Hart InterCivic, Inc. as sole source for Hart InterCivic Verity Voting System and associated software, hardware, accessories, consumables, maintenance, and repair, for Elections Administration.

Hart InterCivic, Inc. provided the Purchasing Agent documentation to substantiate that their sole source status has not changed and they continue to be the sole source for Hart InterCivic, Inc. Verity Voting System (Verity) and its associated software, hardware, accessories, consumables, maintenance, and repair. The letter states that the Verity software applications are a proprietary group of products necessary for an authorized Hart InterCivic, Inc. customer to accomplish ballot creation, election management, tabulation, and maintenance of the Verity equipment. The letter further states that the license, support, maintenance, repairs, thermal paper, and ballots are only available from Hart InterCivic, Inc.

Hart InterCivic, Inc. is the provider of the Hart InterCivic Verity Voting System. The system and services include voting equipment, certified by the Secretary of State's Office, software, accessories, on-site technical support, and solution-specific consumables that are part of the certified solution, such as ballot paper. The Verity Voting System allows the Elections Administration to administer elections effectively and accurately in Tarrant County by providing a platform that can be used by any voter to cast their vote, regardless of disability, while still providing a verifiable paper trail. The system provides an easy, reliable, and verifiable method for tallying election results while maintaining the security of the voted ballots.

Under the County Purchasing Act, exemptions to the competitive bidding requirements are allowed for certain types of purchases. The statutes require that the Purchasing Agent advise the Commissioners Court of the existence of only one (1) source, with such notice to be entered into the minutes of the Court.

SUBMITTED BY:	Purchasing	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Brad Richards Chris Lax, CPSM, CPSD, CPCP
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REFERENCE NUMBER: _____ DATE: 01/23/2024 PAGE 2 OF 4

Accordingly, the above item has been determined to be sole source under the County Purchasing Act 262.024(a) (7) as follows:

- “(7) an item can be obtained from only one (1) source, including:
- (A) items for which competition is precluded because of the existence of patents, copyrights, secret processes, or monopolies;
 - (D) captive replacement parts or components for equipment.”

FISCAL IMPACT

Expenses for last year were approximately \$1,615,582.60. There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with this item. The County’s future cost will be determined on an as-needed basis. Funding is available in the following accounts:

10000-2024 General Fund/1420000000 Elections/578021 Hardware Maintenance
10000-2024 General Fund/1420000000 Elections/523011 Parts and Supplies
10000-2024 General Fund/1420000000 Elections/521031 Voting Supplies