

## AGENDA



Thursday, December 16, 2010

**Purchasing Office**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**Item No. 42**

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**Subject:** Authorize award and execution of a contract with SAFEWARE INC., Round Rock, TX, for the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus components for the Austin Water Utility in an amount not to exceed \$594,412.82.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010–2011 Operating Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

**Fiscal Note:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**For More Information:** Steve Aden, Purchasing Manager, 974-2021.

**Purchasing Language:** Lowest bid of four bids received.

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore no goals were established for this solicitation.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

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This contract will provide the Austin Water Utility (AWU) with the necessary components, including air lines, air bottles, regulators, and masks, to assemble 100 new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). In the late 1970's and early 1980's the Austin Water Utility obtained just over 100 SCBA from the Austin Fire Department (AFD) for use by AWU employees. These units have been refurbished, rebuilt, and replaced over the past 25 years. All of the units currently in service are no longer supported by the manufacturer and must be replaced to ensure the safety of the employees. Under this contract 100 SCBA systems will be assembled for use by AWU personnel.

The SCBA systems are used for confined-space entry where low oxygen or hazardous gasses are present, as well as protection from airborne particles such as fumes, paint, and dust associated with daily maintenance operations. These units are used extensively throughout AWU at the treatment plants, in field operations, and during inspections.

This equipment was selected to obtain the most effective equipment available, as well as to ensure the compatibility between city departments. In addition, the AWU Govalle repair shop and the AFD repair shop will be using compatible equipment and will be able to support each other during natural disasters or civil emergencies.

MBE/WBE solicited: 3/7

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

**PRICE ANALYSIS**

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. One hundred eighty-four notices were sent, including three MBEs and seven WBEs. Four bids were received, with no response from the MBE/WBEs.
- c. This is the first purchase of its type; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Lowest bid received.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Water Utility's recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the Internet.