



Solano County

Board of Supervisors

Minute Order

March 26, 2013

File Reference No. 13-0200

RE: Receive a presentation on Solano County's local vendor preference policies

The Board received a presentation from the Department of Resource Management and the General Services Department updating the members of the Board on the County's local vendor preference policies.

Diane Koutz, Solano County Central Services Manager/Purchasing Agent, noted that the Local Vendor Preference Program was approved by the Board of Supervisors in May, 2009 with the objective of supporting local businesses in Solano County. Ms. Koutz noted that the Purchasing Policy and Contracting Manual was rewritten to mandate all County departments to seek the services and commodities of three local vendors when feasible prior to purchasing elsewhere. In addition, since 2009, a local bidder was now allowed to match the lowest responsible bid and be awarded the contract if the local bidder's bid was within 5% of the lowest responsible non-local bid.

Ms. Koutz noted that in addition to working with Chambers of Commerce to provide educational workshops for local vendors, Solano County had partnered with the Small Business Development Center at Solano Community College to provide workshops, free of charge, focused on the local vendors competing for County contracts and that workshops were held to educate local vendors on how to successfully respond to the County's solicitation of bids.

Kanon Artiche, County Architect, reviewed the Job Ordering Contract (JOC) Program for Capital Projects which was a competitively bid contract for construction services based upon competitively bid unit prices on an annual basis and utilized, by law, primarily for renovation work. Mr. Artiche outlined efforts to assist and attract the local community and small businesses for the JOC Program and noted that they would continue to provide workshops to assist with educating the local market place.

Matt Tuggle, Department of Resource Management, noted that State and federal dollars were restrictive and did not allow for a Local Preference Policy; however, the federal government was pursuing local businesses that qualified for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise status to be awarded work and that they were being solicited by contractors.

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