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## LOCAL CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD

### PUBLIC CONTRACT EXEMPTIONS, DESIGNATIONS, SPECIAL PROCUREMENTS, AND RULES

#### 20.085 General.

(1) Purpose and Authority. These rules establish public contract exemptions, class special procurements, designations, and rules for Lane County, Oregon (hereafter, the County). Except as otherwise provided in LM Chapter 20, the powers and duties of the local contract review board (LCRB) set forth in ORS 279A, B, and C shall be exercised and performed by the Lane County Board of County Commissioners on behalf of Lane County. The model rules adopted by the Oregon Attorney General do not apply to Lane County, unless specifically adopted in these rules. The applicable rules are those contained in LM Chapters 20, 21, and 60 (regarding sale of personal/surplus property). The County Administrator, with the assistance of the Office of Legal Counsel as requested, shall be delegated the authority to review future amendments to the Attorney General model rules to evaluate the need to modify these Chapter 20 rules in order to comply with statutory changes. If the evaluation suggests modification may be necessary, proposed amendments shall be submitted to the LCRB for consideration.

(2) The County Administrator and Department Directors are authorized to further delegate the authority provided to them by these rules.

(3) Statutory Authority. These rules are authorized by ORS 279C.335(2) and ORS 279B.085 and the Lane County Charter.

(4) An adversely affected party must file any available protest or appeal under LM Chapter 20 or 21 before seeking judicial review of the County's process, solicitation, contractor selection or award decisions. All administrative protests must be exhausted prior to judicial review. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05; 05-3-9-21, 3.9.05)*

#### 20.090 Findings.

Adoption of these rules and the exemptions herein are supported by the findings of the Board of County Commissioners adopted by Order 05-2-16-\_\_\_. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

#### 20.091 Construction and Interpretation.

OAR Chapter 137, including but not limited to OAR 137 Divisions 46, 47, 48, and 49 may be used to further interpret Lane County's public contracting rules in Lane Manual Chapters 20 and 21, when an ambiguity exists or to further explain the manner in which the County may interpret its rule. When used as such, the reference shall be: "See OAR \_\_\_." *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 04-6-30-12, 6.30.04; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

#### 20.095 Definitions.

As used hereafter, unless the context requires otherwise:

Authorization is used to reflect the LCRB's decision to approve a special procurement. It may instead, or in addition, be used to describe a particular County employee's delegated authority to act.

Bid is a competitive offer in which price, delivery (or project completion) and conformance to specification and invitation to bid will be the predominant award criteria.

Board means the Board of Commissioners of Lane County.

Change Order means a written order authorizing a change in either plans, specifications, or quantities within the scope of the original contract.

Competitive Bidding means the issuing of invitations to bid which follow the formal process for advertising, bid, and bid opening required by ORS Chapter 279 and these rules.

Competitive Quotes or Quotes means the solicitation by the County of offers from competing vendors. The solicitation may be by advertisement or by the County initiating a request to vendors to make an offer. The solicitation and the offer may be in writing or oral.

Cost includes not only the product price but also other items of expense such as the actual or reasonably estimated costs related to quality or conversion, and may include such actual or estimated items as shipping, delivery, set-up, installation and training.

County means the County of Lane, a political subdivision of the State of Oregon. Unless the context requires otherwise, "County" also shall refer to the officer or employee empowered to authorize a purchase.

Extra Work means item(s) of work not provided for in the original contract as awarded, but determined by the County to be essential to the proper completion of the contract.

Invitation to Bid means the solicitation of competitive offers in which specification, price and delivery (or project completion) will be the predominant award criteria.

LCRB means the Lane County Board of County Commissioners, acting as the local contract review board for Lane County.

Non-Public Improvement Contract. See LM 21.101(1).

Personal Property means everything subject to ownership which is not real property and has exchangeable value.

Personal Service Agreements means the types of agreements described in LM Chapter 21.

Project means a specific plan or task with clearly defined limits.

Public Agency or Public Contracting Agency means any agency of the State of Oregon or any political subdivision thereof authorized by law to enter into public contracts and any public body created by intergovernmental agreement.

Public Contract means any purchase, lease or sale by the County of personal property, public improvements or services including agreements which are for personal services.

Request for Proposal (RFP) means the solicitation of written competitive proposals, or offers, to be used as a basis for making an acquisition, or entering into a contract when specification and price will not necessarily be the predominant award criteria. Also includes as preliminary phases of an RFP process, the "Request for Information" (RFI), "Request for Qualifications" (RFQ), and "Letter of Intent" (LOI) processes.

Requirements Contract means an agreement in which the contractor agrees to supply some or all of the County's requirements that arise for item(s) or service within a specified time period.

Service means work performed to meet a demand or need, especially work that is not connected with manufacturing a product.

Service Contract means a contract that calls primarily for a contractor's time and effort rather than for an end product.

Special Procurement means a contracting procedure for non-public improvement contracts that differs from bidding, request for proposals, small procurements, and intermediate procurements which might otherwise apply. It refers to "class special procurement" and "contract-specific" special procurement as defined in ORS 279B.085,

unless otherwise specified. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 04-6-30-12, 6.30.04; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05; 05-3-9-21; 3.9.05)*

## **DESIGNATIONS, EXEMPTIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

### **20.096 Sole Source Designation.**

A contract for a public improvement project may be awarded based on sole source when covered by another LM Chapter 20 exemption or in accordance with LM 20.265(1). For non-public improvement contracts, if there is only one source for goods or services, or a class of goods or services of the quality required by the County, a contract may be awarded to that source without competition. Department Directors are delegated authority to make sole source determinations for contracts equal to or less than \$50,000, subject to any review and reversal by the County Administrator, in his or her discretion. This authority may be further delegated. The County Administrator, or his or her designee, is delegated authority to make sole source determinations for contracts exceeding \$50,000. Sole source determinations shall be made in accordance with procedures established in LM 21.111. *(Revised by Order No. 05-2-16-8, Effective 2.28.05)*

### **20.097 Personal Service Contracts Designation.**

Personal service contracts are and shall be designated in accordance with this rule, and the procedures for screening and selection in LM 21.117 and 21.118 shall be followed. The Department Directors shall be delegated the authority to determine whether a particular type of contract or service falls within the following, except that the County Administrator may in his or her discretion, review and reverse a Department's determination.

(1) Pursuant to ORS 279A.055, a personal service contract is one:

(a) Primarily based on a special trust and confidence between the County and contractor; or

(b) Where the services the County or contractor seek for themselves are primarily based on the special or unique expertise or knowledge; particular experience; or the exercise of discretionary judgment skills, and for which the quality of the service depends on attributes that are unique to the service provider; or

(c) Where the County is purchasing services for clients and (a) and (b) above are met for the client, rather than County.

Examples of personal service contractors include, but are not limited to: consultants with special expertise in a particular area; architects; engineers; land surveyors; landscape architects; professionals providing facilities or land use planning services, environmental impact testing and analysis, construction management services, appraisals, timber cruise services; attorneys; auditors; accountants; medical personnel (including physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurses), licensed mental health therapists; artists, designers, data processing consultant; contracts for services of a specialized, creative and research-oriented nature; educators; investigators.

(3) The following are examples which are not considered personal services: a contract, even though in a professional capacity, if predominately for a product; a service to supply labor which is of a type that can generally be done by a competent person or is primarily a custodial care service; a contract for a trade-related activity such as repair or maintenance for buildings or equipment. *(Revised by Order No. 05-2-16-8, Effective 2.28.05)*

### **20.098 Electronic Advertising.**

It is likely to be more cost effective for the County to publicly advertise bid and request for proposal competitive processes, including for public improvement contracts, by

publishing the ad electronically on the web, rather than paying the cost of advertising in a newspaper of general circulation in Lane County. The same conclusion applies to other public notices required to be provided under LM Chapter 20 or LM Chapter 21. The County is authorized to electronically advertise as long as procedures in LM 21.105(3) are followed. *(Revised by Order No. 05-2-16-8, Effective 2.28.05; 05-3-9-21; 3.9.05)*

## GENERAL EXEMPTIONS

### **20.100 General Statutory/Regulatory Exemptions and Exclusions.**

(1) County contracts are not required to be based upon a County competitive bidding or request for proposal process if a state or federal statute or regulation provides otherwise, or directs that another selection process be used. The County will comply with any limits or conditions to competitive selection required by state or federal law or regulation. Examples of such contracts include, but are not limited to the following:

(a) Contracts between contracting agencies or between contracting agencies and the federal government;

(b) Contracts between entities covered by ORS 190.010, or intergovernmental agreements.

(c) Contracts for public improvements if the value of the contract is less than \$5,000;

(d) Public improvement contracts not exceeding \$100,000, or \$50,000 in the case of a contract for a highway, bridge or other transportation project made pursuant to competitive quotes;

(e) Intermediate procurements;

(f) Grants;

(g) Contracts for professional or expert witnesses or consultants to provide services or testimony relating to existing or potential litigation or legal matters in which a public body is or may become interested;

(h) Acquisitions or disposals of real property or interests in real property;

(i) Sole source expenditures when rates are set by law or ordinance for purposes of source selection;

(j) Contracts for employee benefit plans as provided in ORS 243.105(1), 243.125(4), 243.221, 243.275, 243.291, 243.303 and 243.565;

(k) Insurance and service contracts as provided for under ORS 414.115, 414.125, 414.135 and 414.145;

(l) Contracts for repair, maintenance, improvement or protection of property obtained by the Director of Veterans' Affairs under ORS 407.135 and 407.145(1).

(m) Contracts specifically exempt or authorized as a special procurement under LM Chapter 20 or under state law.

(n) Cooperative procurements covered by ORS 279A.200 - ORS 279A.220.

(o) Personal service contracts. See ORS 279B.050(4); ORS 279A.070.

(p) Contracts in which a public entity such as Lane County is permitted to award without bidding or request for proposals provided the entity adopts its own rules covering the selection process (e.g., ORS 279B.065 (small procurements), ORS 279C.335(5) (emergency), ORS 279A.180 (purchases through certain federal government programs). *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 04-6-30-12, 6.30.04; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05; 05-12-14-9, 1.1.06)*

**20.105 Dollar Amount of Contract - Not to Exceed \$100,000.**

(1) The County may let public contracts not to exceed \$100,000 for the purchase of goods materials, supplies, and/or services without formal competitive bidding when the following conditions are complied with:

(a) The contract is for a single project and is not a component of or related to any other project in any one single year; and

(b) When the amount of the contract does not exceed \$5,000 for non-public improvements or is less than \$5,000 for public improvements, the County may contract by direct selection, without competitive selection, subject to the requirements and procedures in LM 21.109. However, competitive quotes in accordance with (c) below are encouraged, particularly for new purchases or projects.

(c) When the amount of the contract exceeds the amounts in (b), but do not exceed \$100,000 (except for public improvement contracts for highway, bridge or other transportation projects), the County shall obtain a minimum of three (3) competitive quotes or proposals, subject to the requirements and procedures in LM 21.110. For highway, bridge or other transportation projects a minimum of three competitive quotes is required for contracts \$5,000 or greater but not exceeding \$50,000 pursuant to LM 21.110 procedures. If three (3) quotes are not available for purchases covered by this rule, a lesser number will suffice provided that a written record is made of the effort to obtain the quotes. The County shall keep a written record of the source and amount of quotes received.

(2) The County may let personal service contracts in accordance with LM 21.117 and LM 21.118, and subject to any waiver by the County Administrator. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 04-6-30-12, 6.30.04; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05; 05-3-9-21, 3.9.05; 05-12-14-9, 1.1.06)*

**20.110 Contract Amendments (Including Change Orders under Extra Work).**

(1) Any contract amendment or change order (except for personal services) which increases the original contract price may be made with the contractor without further competitive process if either of the following conditions are met:

(a) The original contract was let by competitive process authorized by these rules; rates, unit prices or bid alternates were provided that established the cost for extra or additional work; and a binding obligation exists on the parties covering the terms and conditions of the extra or additional work; or

(b) The amount of the aggregate cost increase resulting from all amendments does not exceed 25 percent of the amount proposed and accepted through competitive selection for the initial contract; with the exception of contracts for the renovation or remodelings of buildings which may have aggregate amendments not exceeding 33 percent of this amount. Amendments made pursuant to LM 20.110(1)(a) above of this rule are not included in computing the aggregate amount under this section.

(2) Subject to any waiver, an amendment to a personal service contract may be executed without further competitive process when it is equal to or less than 50 percent of the original contract amount, or in the event of multiple amendments, where the aggregate of the amendments is equal to or less than 50 percent. In addition, if the amendment is related to continuation of a project as provided in LM 21.118(8), no additional competitive process is required. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

**20.115 Life Cycle Costing.**

(1) In determining the lowest responsible competitor in the award of a contract, the County may use the concept of life cycle costing if it complies with LM

20.115(2) below. As used in this rule, life cycle costing means determining the cost of a product for its useful life.

(2) (a) Prior to the time of writing specifications for the product, the County shall identify those factors which will have cost implications over the life of the product;

(b) The written solicitation or invitation shall set out clearly the factors and methodology to be used in life cycle cost adjustments;

(c) The results of life cycle costing adjustments shall be applied to the base and any applicable alternate bids, proposals or quotes, and the competitor whose total results in the lowest ownership cost, taking into account the life cycle costing adjustments, shall be considered the lowest responsible competitor. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

### **20.120 Price Regulated Items or Services.**

The County may, without competitive bidding or quotes, contract for the purchase of goods or services, where the rate or price for the goods or services being purchased is established by Federal, State, or regulatory authority. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

### **20.125 Price Set by Federal Contracts.**

(1) When the price of goods and services has been established by a contract with an agency of the federal government pursuant to a federal contract award, the County may purchase the goods and services from the supplier without subsequent competitive bidding. In exercising this authority under this exemption, the County shall:

(a) Include in the contract file a letter or memoranda from the appropriate federal agency granting permission to purchase under federal contract;

(b) Include in the contract file documentation showing the cost savings to be gained from anticipated purchases from the federal contract, based on at least two (2) other quotes, or if two are not available, one will suffice provided that a written record is made of the effort to obtain the quotes. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

### **20.128 Client/Patient Services.**

The County may contract for direct client services without competitive selection where the County Department:

(1) Reasonably believes after inquiring that no qualified providers are likely to participate in competitive selection; and

(2) Will include on a list all qualified providers willing to consider taking client referrals on an as-needed basis; and

(3) Will select a qualified provider from the list as a client need arises, based on criteria including, but not limited to, client and family needs, quality/type of appropriate care, availability of service at the time it is needed, and cost. *(Revised by Order 02-12-4-4, Effective 12.04.02)*

### **20.130 Request for Proposal.**

The County may, at its discretion, use a request-for-proposal competitive selection process for:

(1) Procuring goods or services relating to non-public improvement contracts for any amount, or

(2) Personal service contracts, except as otherwise required for qualification based selection, or

(3) Public improvement contracts as authorized by ORS 279C.335 or by separate exemption covered by LM Chapter 20 rule, if not covered by (1), (2), or (3), or

(4) For any other contract which is not required to be formally competitively bid. The RFP process is set forth in LM 21.107. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

### **20.135 Requirements and Price Agreements.**

(1) The County may enter into requirements contracts whereby it agrees to purchase requirements for an anticipated need at a predetermined price providing the following conditions are complied with:

(a) The contract must be let by a competitive procurement process pursuant to the County's public contracting rules.

(b) The term of the contract including renewals does not exceed three years.

(2) When the price of goods or services has been established by a requirements contract, the County may purchase the goods and services from the supplier without subsequent competitive process.

(3) The County may use the requirements contract between a contractor and another public contracting agency when a formal interagency agreement exists between the two public agencies, or

(4) The County may execute its own requirements contract directly with a contractor, relying upon a prior competitive selection process used by another public agency to select the same contractor for a similar purpose as long as:

(a) The prior solicitation documents or contract explicitly allows for other public agency use; and

(b) The County verifies the validity of the prior process with respect to its own contracting need, and

(c) The prior competitive selection process occurred within the past 3 years.

(5) Where the County anticipates an ongoing business relationship with a particular contractor, i.e. computer company, and where the contractor requests an umbrella contract with general terms which only apply if specific purchases are made and reflected in a separately executed attachment, the umbrella contract is exempt from competitive bidding or quote requirements if:

(a) It provides that the contract may be canceled upon 30 days written notice by the County at its discretion; and

(b) Each specific purchase is considered separately for competitive selection pursuant to the applicable County public contracting rules. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

## **EXEMPTIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS BY TOPIC**

### **20.155 Advertising Contracts.**

The County may purchase advertising without competitive bidding or quotes. This includes, but is not limited to, space for advertising and legal notices in newspapers and other publications, and radio and television spots. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

### **20.160 Construction Manager/General Contractor.**

The County may use a request-for-proposal procedure for the selection of construction manager/general contractor firms (CM/GC) who will be required to establish guaranteed

maximum prices for constructing public improvements, subject to the following conditions:

(1) Contractual requirements are stated clearly in the solicitation document. The contract shall describe the methods by which the CM/GC shall competitively select other contractors and subcontractors to perform the work of the improvement. Further, the contract shall describe the methods by which the CM/GC and its affiliated or subsidiary entities, if any, may compete to perform the work of the improvement; such methods shall include, at a minimum, public opening of sealed bids at a pre-announced time and place.

(2) Evaluation criteria to be applied in selecting the CM/GC firm are stated clearly in the solicitation document. Criteria used to identify the CM/GC firm which best meets the public contracting needs may include, but are not limited to, cost, quality, experience relevant to the improvement to be constructed, and time required to commence and complete the improvement. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

### **20.165 Copyrighted Materials.**

The County may contract for the purchase of copyrighted materials without competitive bidding or quotes if there is only one known supplier. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

### **20.170 Election Supplies and Services.**

The County is exempt from competitive bidding or quote requirements for the printing of official ballots, including sample and test ballots, ballot envelopes, and including polling place and drop site signs. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 04-6-30-12, 6.30.04)*

### **20.175 Equipment Repair and Overhaul.**

(1) Contracts for equipment repair, overhaul, or maintenance may be let without formal competitive bidding or quotes, subject to the following conditions:

(a) Service and/or parts required are unknown and the cost cannot be determined without extensive preliminary dismantling or testing; or

(b) Service and/or parts required are for sophisticated equipment for which specially trained personnel are required and such personnel are available from only one source.

(2) If the contract exceeds \$100,000, the County shall document in its procurement file the reasons why competitive bids or quotes were deemed to be impractical. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

### **20.180 Food Service Contracts.**

(1) For purposes of this rule, food service means a contract in which the contractor agrees to perform for the County all of the following functions: the purchase, preparation, and service of meals and related services.

(2) Contracts for food services (excluding for jail and juvenile detention facilities) may be let without formal competitive bidding subject to the following conditions:

(a) Prior to the selection of a contractor, the County has made reasonable efforts to inform known companies providing food services of the subject matter of the contract and solicits proposals including public advertisement pursuant to LM 21.105(3).

(b) The contractor is selected on the basis of the most competitive offer considering cost, quality of the product and the service to be rendered.

(3) Contracts for jail and juvenile detention facility food items are exempt from competitive bidding. The County should, where feasible, obtain competitive quotes. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

### **20.185 Gasoline, Diesel Fuel, Heating Oil, Lubricants and Asphalts.**

The County is exempt from formal competitive bidding requirements for the purchase of gasoline, diesel fuel, heating oil, lubricants and asphalts, if the County seeks a minimum of three (3) competitive quotes, makes its purchases from the least expensive source, and retains written justification for the purchase made. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

### **20.190 Oil or Hazardous Material Removal.**

(1) The County may enter into public contracts without competitive bidding when ordered to cleanup oil or hazardous waste pursuant to the authority granted the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) under ORS Chapter 466, especially ORS 466.605 through 466.680 and this order necessitates the prompt establishment and performance of the contract in order to comply with the statutes regarding spill or release of oil or hazardous material that have created an emergency condition. Comprehensive cleanup rules are set forth at OAR 340-122-0205 to 340-122-0360. In exercising its authority under this exemption the County shall:

(a) To the extent reasonable under the circumstances, encourage competition by attempting to make informal solicitations or to obtain informal quotes from potential suppliers of goods or services;

(b) Make written findings describing the circumstances requiring cleanup or a copy of the DEQ order ordering such cleanup;

(c) Record the measures taken under LM 21.111(2) above to encourage competition, the amount of the quotes or proposals obtained, if any, and the reason for selecting the contractor selected.

(2) The County shall not contract pursuant to this exemption in the absence of an order from the Department of Environmental Quality to cleanup a site with a time limitation that would not permit hiring a contractor under the usual competitive bidding procedures. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 04-6-30-12, 6.30.04; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

### **20.195 Office Copier Purchases.**

(1) The County may enter into multiple price agreements or requirements contracts for either the purchase or lease of office copying equipment. Except for this multiple award exemption, such agreements shall otherwise conform to the requirements of LM 20.135(1) above.

(2) In exercising this exemption the County shall fully consider the operating capabilities, limitations and cost of each brand or model and select that brand which will produce the best combination of performance and cost per copy for each application. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

### **20.200 Laboratory and Medical Supplies.**

The County is not required to purchase laboratory and medical supplies on the basis of a single award to the lowest responsible bidder, but instead may purchase different brands of the same item by awarding contracts, after competitive bidding, to the lowest responsible bidder for each brand. The County may specify medical and laboratory supplies by brand name if the County finds a medical or scientific basis for the specification. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

**20.205 Purchases of Hospital and Medical Supplies and Equipment.**

Purchases of hospital and medical supplies and equipment through a legally established purchasing cooperative are exempt from competitive bidding or quotes if the County is a member of such cooperative. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

**20.206 Library and Reading Materials.**

(1) The County may purchase library circulation materials, such as books, videos, tapes and CDs, without competitive bidding or quotes.

(2) The County may purchase subscriptions for newspapers and periodicals, including journals, magazines, and similar publications without competitive bidding or quotes. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

**20.207 Purchases of Used Personal Property.**

The County may purchase used personal property for \$50,000 or less without competitive bidding or quotes if the County has determined that the direct purchase without competitive bidding will result in cost savings. For purchases of used personal property over \$50,000, three (3) competitive quotes shall be obtained. If three (3) quotes are not available, a written record must be made of the attempt to obtain quotes. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

**PRODUCTS SPECIFYING BRAND NAME****20.210 Specification of Particular Brand Names or Products.**

(1) Specifications for public improvement contracts shall not expressly or implicitly require any product of any particular manufacturer or seller except pursuant to an exemption under LM 20.215 below (Brand Name or Mark Exemption Applications), LM 20.220 below (Copyrighted Materials), LM 20.225 below (Single Manufacturer or Compatible Products), LM 20.230 below (Product Pre-qualification), and LM 20.200 above (Laboratory and Medical Supplies).

(2) If there is no other practical method of specification, the County may designate a particular brand name, make, or product supplied by, or "approved equal," or "equivalent," or similar language, "or equal," but this practice should be avoided whenever practicable. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 04-6-30-12, 6.30.04; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

**20.215 Brand Name or Mark Exemption Applications.**

(1) LM 21.112 covers brand name procedures for non-public improvement contracts. This rule covers the LCRB granting an exemption for a brand name or make for current and contemplated future purchases for public improvement contracts. Applications shall contain the following information:

(a) A brief description of the contract or contracts to be covered. The description should include contemplated future purchases.

(b) The brand name, mark, or product to be specified.

(c) The reasons the County is seeking the exemption.

(2) The LCRB may grant exemptions if any of the following conditions are met:

(a) The exemption is not likely to encourage favoritism in awarding public improvement contracts or substantially diminish competition, or

(b) The specification of a product by brand name or mark, or the product of a particular manufacturer or seller would result in substantial cost savings to the County, or

(c) There is only one manufacturer or seller of the product of the quality required, or efficient utilization of existing equipment or supplies requires acquisition of compatible equipment or supplies, or

(d) Efficient utilization of existing equipment or supplies requires acquisition of compatible equipment or supplies. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

#### **20.220 Copyrighted Materials.**

The County may specify a copyrighted product. This exemption does not include patented or trademark goods. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

#### **20.225 Single Manufacturer or Service Provider.**

(1) If there is only one manufacturer or seller of a product or service of the quality required or if the efficient utilization of the existing equipment or supplies requires a compatible product of a particular manufacturer or seller, the County may specify such particular product subject to the following conditions:

(a) The product is selected on the basis of the most competitive offer considering quality and cost.

(b) It follows the procedure in LM 20.111(2). *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

#### **20.230 Product Pre-Qualification.**

(1) When it is impractical to create specific design or performance specifications for a type of product to be purchased, the County may specify a list of approved products by reference to particular manufacturers or sellers in accordance with the following product pre-qualification procedure:

(a) The County has made reasonable efforts to notify known manufacturers or vendors of competitive products of its intention to accept applications for inclusion in its list of pre-qualified products. Notification shall be in accordance with LM 21.105(3) and may include advertisement in a trade journal of statewide distribution when possible. In lieu of advertising, the County may notify vendors and manufacturers appearing on an appropriate list maintained by the County.

(b) The County permits application for pre-qualification of similar products up to 5 days prior to advertisement for bids on the product.

(2) Manufacturers and vendors shall have the opportunity to submit goods where testing or examination is necessary or desirable. The decision to pre-qualify the goods shall be based on the results of tests or examinations. If an application for inclusion in a list of pre-qualified products is denied, or an existing pre-qualification is revoked, the County shall notify the applicant in writing. The applicant may appeal to the County Administrator. The appeal must be filed with the department soliciting the product within 5 days of mailing of the denial or revocation. The appeal must state the grounds for appeal. The County Administrator shall decide the matter on the written record within 7 days. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

#### **20.235 Insurance Contracts.**

(1) Contracts for insurance where either the annual or aggregate premium exceeds \$100,000 must be let by formal competitive bidding or by one of the following:

(a) Agent of Record: The public contracting agency may appoint a licensed insurance agent (agent of record) to perform insurance services in connection

with more than one insurance contract. Among the services to be provided is the securing of competitive proposals from insurance carriers for all coverages for which the agent of record is given responsibility:

(i) Prior to the selection of an agent of record, the County shall make reasonable efforts to inform known insurance agents in the competitive market area that it is considering such selection. These efforts shall include a public advertisement pursuant to LM 21.105(3). The advertisement shall generally describe the nature of the insurance that the public contracting agency will require. If the amount of the annual premium for insurance, other than employee benefits insurance, is likely to exceed \$100,000 per year, such notice shall also include a public advertisement in at least one insurance trade publication of general circulation in the state;

(ii) Any appointment period shall not exceed three years. Agents may serve more than one appointment period. Agents must qualify for appointment prior to each period as if each appointment period were the first;

(iii) In selecting an agent of record, the County shall select the agent(s) most likely to perform the most cost-effective services.

(b) Specific Proposals for Insurance Contracts: The County may solicit proposals from licensed insurance agents for the purpose of acquiring specific insurance contracts subject to the following conditions:

(i) The County shall make reasonable efforts to inform known insurance agents in the competitive market area of the subject matter of the contract, and to solicit proposals for providing the services required in connection with the contract. Such efforts shall include public advertisements pursuant to LM 21.105(3). If the amount of annual premium for insurance, other than employee benefits insurance is likely to exceed \$100,000 per year, such notice shall also include a public advertisement in at least one insurance trade publication of general circulation in the state;

(ii) The County shall select an agent on the basis of the most competitive offer considering coverage, premium cost, and service to be provided.

(2) Contracts for insurance where either the annual or aggregate premium is less than or equal to \$100,000 may be let by informal quotes. *(Revised by Order No. 05-2-16-8, Effective 2.28.05)*

#### **20.240 Employee Benefit Insurance.**

The County may purchase employee benefit insurance without competitive bidding or quotes. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

#### **20.245 Investment Contracts.**

Public contracting agencies may, without competitive bidding, contract for the purpose of the investment of public funds or the borrowing of funds by a public agency when such investment or borrowing is contracted pursuant to duly enacted statute, ordinance, charter, or constitution. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98)*

#### **20.250 Litigation Services.**

(1) The County may purchase the following types of personal services without a competitive process when County Counsel deems it necessary to do so: expert witnesses, consultants, arbitrators, mediators, investigators or other specialized personnel. This may include for the purpose of providing services or testimony relating to existing or potential litigation or legal matters in which a public body is or may become interested.

(2) To the extent practicable, County Counsel shall develop and maintain a list of qualified experts, consultants, and other specialized personnel eligible to be retained.

(3) Selection criteria shall include, but are not limited to, education and specialized training, experience, demeanor, cost and availability.

(4) Multiple contracts for similar services are authorized. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05)*

## **EXEMPTIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS AS CIRCUMSTANCES ARISE**

### **20.255 Emergency Contracts.**

The County may execute contracts without a competitive process if an emergency exists and requires prompt execution of a contract to remedy the condition. An emergency is generally defined, but not limited to, a set of circumstances creating a substantial risk of loss, damage, interruption of services or threat to public health or safety that could not have been reasonably foreseen or is beyond the control of the County or its employees. The resulting contract would be necessary under these circumstances to preserve public funds, property, or the uninterrupted provision of government services. The County Administrator is delegated authority to declare an emergency and execute a contract(s) to remedy it not to exceed \$100,000. The Board of County Commissioners, sitting as the local contracting agency, shall declare an emergency and award any contract exceeding \$100,000. The contract shall be executed within 60 days unless the LCRB grants an extension. The procedures in LM 21.128 shall be followed in exercising the authority delegated under this rule. *(Revised by Order No. 05-2-16-8, Effective 2.28.05)*

### **20.265 LCRB Exemption for Other Public Improvement Contracts and Special Procurements.**

(1) The LCRB may exempt a particular public improvement contract, or a category of contracts, from the bidding requirements of ORS 279C.335, which are not otherwise exempt under these rules. The request for exemption shall contain the following information and draft findings where appropriate:

- (a) The nature of the project;
- (b) The financial impact including estimated cost of the project, operational, budget and financial data and funding sources;
- (c) A narrative description of the cost savings anticipated by the exemption from competitive bidding, and the reasons competitive bidding would be inappropriate;
- (d) Public benefits;
- (e) Value engineering;
- (f) Specialized expertise required;
- (g) Public safety;
- (h) Market conditions;
- (i) Technical complexity;
- (j) Funding sources;
- (k) Proposed alternative contracting and purchasing practices to be employed; and
- (l) The estimated date by which it would be necessary to let the contract.

(2) The LCRB may require such additional information as it deems necessary to determine whether a specific contract, or a category of contracts, is to be exempt from competitive bidding.

(3) Consideration of the applicable information in LM 20.265(1) and (2) will be documented in findings and include the following standard:

(a) It is unlikely that such exemption will encourage favoritism in the awarding of public contracts or substantially diminish competition for public contracts; and

(b) The awarding of public contracts pursuant to the exemption will result in substantial cost savings to the public contracting agency considering the type, cost, amount of the contract, number of persons available to bid and such other factors as may be deemed appropriate.

(4) For a class exemption, the LCRB findings will identify a limited class by factors that distinguish it from the County's overall construction program, and not solely by funding source or method of procurement.

(5) The LCRB may approve a special procurement for a particular non-public improvement contract, or a category of contracts, to allow procurement other than through an otherwise applicable process including competitive bidding (ORS 279B.055), request for proposals (ORS 279B.060), small procurement (ORS 279B.065), and intermediate procurement (ORS 279B.070). The written request for approval of a special procurement shall include:

(a) A description of the goods or services or the class of goods or services to be acquired; and,

(b) A description of the proposed contracting procedure; and,

(c) A description of the circumstances that justify the use of a special procurement.

(6) The LCRB may require such additional information as it deems necessary to determine whether a specific contract, or category of contracts under (4), should be procured by a process other than one that would be applicable.

(7) Application of the information in LM 20.265(4) and (5) must demonstrate that the special procurement would meet the following standard:

(a) It is unlikely to encourage favoritism in the awarding of public contracts or to substantially diminish competition for public contracts; and

(b) Either result in substantial cost savings to the contracting agency or to the public, or otherwise substantially promote the public interest in a manner that could not practicably be realized by complying with requirements under ORS 279B.055, 279B.060, 279B.065, 279B.070, including any rules adopted thereunder.

(8) Public Notice. Public notice of a request for special procurement shall be provided through the standard public notice for Lane County Board of Commissioners/LCRB meetings. Public notice of the approval of a special procurement shall be the date of the oral decision to approve at the LCRB meeting, unless otherwise provided by the LCRB.

(9) An affected person or entity may protest the LCRB's decision to approve a special procurement. The affected person or entity shall deliver a written protest to the County department within ten days after the public notice of the oral decision to approve, unless the LCRB provides a different protest period in its public notice.

(10) Untimely filed protests in (9) will not be considered.

(11) A written protest shall include a statement of the legal and factual grounds for the protest, a description of the resulting harm to the affected person, and the relief requested.

(12) For protests covered by (9) above, the County department may prepare a response within three days. If the County department concurs with the protest, in whole or in part, it may revise the proposed special procurement accordingly, or withdraw the request. If it does not concur, the LCRB will consider the protest at the time set for considering the request for special procurement for a protest under (9) on a future LCRB agenda as soon as reasonably practicable. The LCRB shall consider the written record,

including but not limited to, any County department analysis and submissions by the affected person or entity, and any oral testimony. The LCRB may revise the special procurement, in whole or in part, or deny or sustain the protest.

(13) A contract may not be awarded until after the running of the protest period or completion of protest process in (9) above. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 04-6-30-12, 6.30.04; 05-2-2-8, 2.2.05; 05-12-14-9, 1.1.06)*

## **APPEAL FROM PREQUALIFICATION DECISION OR DEBARMENT**

### **20.270 Prequalification and Debarment Appeals.**

A prospective bidder or proposer may appeal a Department's decision to debar or disqualify, or revise or revoke prequalification. See ORS 279B.425 and ORS 279C.450.

(1) A prospective bidder or proposer shall file a written appeal within 3 days after receiving notice of the County's decision. The appellant shall include a detailed statement of the grounds for the appeal.

(2) The Department shall schedule the appeal to be heard before the LCRB, or a designee, as soon as reasonably possible, notify the appellant of the time and place for the hearing, prepare a written response, and provide it to the appellant and to the LCRB. The Department shall also submit the written record to the LCRB.

(3) There shall be a de novo review of the notice of denial, revocation or revision of prequalification or notice of debarment and any evidence provided by the parties. The LCRB shall apply the standards of responsibility in determining disqualification in (5) below or criteria for debarment in (6) below.

(4) The hearing and appeal decision shall occur within 30 days after receiving the notice from the Department. The LCRB shall provide written reasons for the decision in a final order, and include any allocation of costs for the hearing.

(5) In determining whether the standards of responsibility have been met, the LCRB shall consider whether one or more of the following criteria have been met:

(a) Non-availability of appropriate financial, material, equipment, facility and personnel resources and expertise, or ability to obtain resources and expertise necessary to indicate capability to meet contractual responsibilities;

(b) Unsatisfactory record of performance;

(c) Unsatisfactory record of integrity;

(d) Not legally qualified to contract;

(e) Failure to supply all necessary information in connection with the inquiry concerning responsibility;

(f) Whether contractor has been debarred.

(6) In determining whether to debar a prospective bidder or proposer from consideration of award of the County's contracts for up to 3 years, the decision-maker shall consider whether one or more of the following have been met:

(a) Conviction of a criminal offense as an incident in obtaining or attempting to obtain or performing pursuant to a public or private contract or subcontract;

(b) Conviction under state or federal law or embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, receiving stolen property or any other offense indicating lack of business integrity or business honesty that currently, seriously and directly affects responsibility as a contractor;

(c) Conviction under state or federal antitrust statutes;

(d) Violation of a contract provision and debarment was listed as a potential penalty in the terms of the contract;

(e) Failure to carry workers' compensation or unemployment insurance as required by statute. *(Revised by Order No. 05-2-16-8, Effective 2.28.05)*

## **BID SECURITY AND BONDS**

### **20.275 Bid Security and Bonds.**

(1) Contracts, other than those for public improvements and construction contracts as defined in ORS 279C.320(1), are exempt from the bid security requirements of ORS 279B.050 and performance and payment bond requirements provided that the County may require bid, performance, or payment security, in its discretion, regardless of this exemption.

(2) Contracts for public improvements and construction contracts as defined in ORS 279C.320(1) which do not exceed \$100,000 (except for highway, bridge and other transportation projects which do not exceed \$50,000) are exempt from bid security, and performance and payment bond requirements provided that the County may require such security in its discretion, regardless of this exemption. ORS 279C.390. *(Revised by Order No. 98-12-2-1, Effective 12.2.98; 05-2-16-8, 2.28.05; 05-3-9-21; 3.9.05)*