

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON
ACTING AS THE PUBLIC CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD

ORDER NO. 04-123

Approving an Exemption from the Competitive Bid Process to Contract with RAINS Net for the Purchase and Installation of the Connect and Protect Program

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. The Board, acting as the Multnomah County Public Contract Review Board to review, pursuant to PCRB Rule 300-0050, a request from the Office of Emergency Management for an exemption from the formal competitive bid process to contract with RAINS Net for the purchase and installation of the Connect and Protect program.
- b. Multnomah County Emergency Management recently received \$100,000 as part of the FY04 State Homeland Security Program grant. The funds are to be used for the purchase and installation of the Connect and Protect program from RAINS Net.

RAINS Net is a private/public partnership formed to accelerate development and deployment of innovative technology for homeland security. Its Connect and Protect program is the nation's first automated alert notification system for homeland security and emergency response serving schools, building managers and other key local public safety stakeholders.

There are three reasons why an exemption is required:

1. The grant received from the State specifies the use of the funds for the purchase of Connect and Protect from RAINS Net.
2. Connect and Protect will be used for public benefit. It will be used as a critical component of Emergency Management's Alert Response and Recovery System. This multi-hazard approach integrates the secure alert and notification of people and organizations of events and hazards while allowing for a customized response and recovery effort. This has not been tried in Multnomah County before and the use of this technology allows for the testing of the concept.
3. RAINS Net is a Portland not-for-profit consortium of technology companies formed to provide solutions for the homeland security market. The technology platform they have developed uses a "best of breed" approach from these firms that cannot be found from one single source. It is currently in use through the 911 system.

Emergency Management seeks to have the product in place and operational prior to a series of emergency exercises taking place in October and November, 2004.

This project will require the use of \$100,000 of State Homeland Security funds, which is already awarded.

- c. This exemption request is in accord with the requirements of Multnomah County Public Contract Review Board Administrative Rule 300-0050.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Orders:

The exemption from formal competitive bid process to contract with RAINS Net for the purchase and installation of the Connect and Protect program be approved.

ADOPTED this 19th day of August, 2004.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON, ACTING
AS THE PUBLIC CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD

Diane M. Linn, Chair

REVIEWED:

AGNES SOWLE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By

John Thomas, Assistant County Attorney