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Karen S. Boeger
Director

TO: File CS210181001

DATE: August 5, 2020

FROM: Karen Boeger 

RE: Emergency Procurement

RSMo 34.045 defines an emergency as a situation in which “there exists a threat to life, property, public health or public safety or when immediate expenditure is necessary for repairs to state property in order to protect against further loss of, or damage to, state property, to prevent or minimize serious disruption in state services or to ensure the integrity of state records.”

As explained in the attached email from Todd Richardson, who oversees the State’s COVID-19 Fusion Cell cross-departmental team, the McChrystal Group was engaged to assist the state and external stakeholders in providing critically-needed project management support for a comprehensive response to the public and private COVID-19 needs identified throughout the Missouri healthcare system. The State of Missouri and other external key stakeholders are responsible for coordinating a unified State response to the health crisis created by COVID 19. The McChrystal Group has supported that unified response by providing management and structure to enable better use of data and information, and to help coordination across State departments and with external stakeholders. These efforts are critical to informing decision-makers and the state’s ability to execute a more comprehensive response to COVID-19.

Missouri Foundation for Health, a private foundation, joined in to support this project because of the foundation’s commitment to equity and its mission of improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities most in need. The Missouri Foundation for Health provided the funding to retain McChrystal Group thru May 31, 2020. The McChrystal Group has developed a deep understanding of the state’s data system, personnel, and response efforts. They are also helping lead a number of scenario-based exercises and problem solving sessions that are informing and improving coordination with external partners. These efforts include, but are not limited to, school reopening, expansion of testing capability, and contact tracing. The state’s efforts to coordinate a unified state response to COVID-19 must continue. For the reasons outlined, the State of Missouri needs to continue using the McChrystal Group. These services constitute an emergency procurement as defined by Chapter 34.045 RSMo

The emergency procurement is further supported by the Federal Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak and State Executive Orders 20-02, 20-04, 20-10, and 20-12 as well as my March 16, 2020 emergency procurement authorization to the state agencies which has been extended through December 30, 2020 consistent with the Executive Order 20-12.

I am therefore proceeding with the award of the emergency contract through the end of the calendar year which aligns with the term of the emergency declaration.

Boeger, Karen

From: Richardson, Todd
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 1:32 PM
To: Boeger, Karen
Cc: Steelman, Sarah
Subject: Covid Response Support

Dear Karen:

The McChrystal Group was engaged to assist the state and external stakeholders in providing project management support for a comprehensive response to the public and private COVID-19 needs identified throughout the Missouri healthcare system. As you are aware, Covid-19 has presented an ever evolving set of issues and present a threat to life and the public welfare of every Missourian.

The State of Missouri and other external key stakeholders are responsible for coordinating a unified State response to the health crisis created by COVID 19. The McChrystal group has supported that unified response by providing management and structure to enable better use of data and information, and to help coordination across State departments and with external stakeholders. These efforts are critical to informing decision-makers and our ability to execute a more comprehensive response to COVID-19.

The State along with the external stakeholders are tackling issues that impact the entire healthcare system in Missouri such as: assessing the supply and demand of medical supplies and equipment, securing PPE, assessing the capacity of available hospital beds, providing alternative solutions for care, designing community testing and tracing, securing testing supplies and lab availability – to name a few.

This is part of a broader collective effort, in which Missourians are stepping up to contribute to effectively responding to the pandemic, so when state officials reached out to Missouri Foundation for Health to help, they were pleased to help, just as others are doing in a variety of ways every day all across the state.

Missouri Foundation for Health, a private foundation, joined in to support this project because of the foundation's commitment to equity and its mission of improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities most in need.

The Missouri Foundation for Health provided the funding to retain McChrystal Group thru May 31, 2020. Since that time there has been a significant effort to find additional private funding. That effort has been unsuccessful.

The McChrystal Group has developed a deep understanding of our data system, personnel, and response efforts. They are also currently helping lead a number of scenario-based exercises and problem solving sessions that are informing and improving coordination with external partners. These efforts include, but are not limited to, school reopening, expansion of testing capability, and contact tracing. The State of Missouri needs to continue using the The McChrystal Group for all the reasons stated above. The COVID-19 challenge has intensified in the last month. Our efforts to coordinate a unified state response continues. These problems cause a threat to life, public health and safety and constitute an emergency procurement as defined by Chapter 34.045 RSMo. It is my recommendation that we move expeditiously to continue their services.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Todd

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