



MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, February 1, 2023
9:00 a.m.

Woolfolk Office Building, Room 145

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Approval of Minutes from the January 4, 2023 Public Procurement Review Board Meeting**
- III. **Approval of per diem and expenses for the February 1, 2023 meeting and for any additional expenses incurred prior to the March 1, 2023 meeting**
- IV. **Reports**
 - A. **OPTFM Emergency Purchases Reported to the Board**
 - B. **OPTFM Sole Source Purchases Reported to the Board**
 - C. **OPTFM Staff Approvals Reported to the Board**
 - D. **BOB Staff Approvals Reported to the Board**
 - E. **OPSCR Emergency Contracts Reported to the Board**
 - F. **OPSCR Sole Source Contracts Reported to the Board**
 - G. **OPSCR Staff Approvals Reported to the Board**
 - H. **OPSCR and OPTFM Quarterly Legislative Reports**

Summary of Request: OPSCR has prepared reports to be filed with the Committees on Accountability, Efficiency, and Transparency of the Mississippi State Senate and Mississippi House of Representatives, as required by Miss. Code Ann. § 27-104-7(2)(o)(vi) and Sections 3-206.07, 3-207, and 7-111 of the PPRB OPSCR Rules and Regulations.

- 1. **Emergency Contracts Report**
- 2. **Sole Source Contracts Report**

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

V. DFA Office of Purchasing, Travel and Fleet Management (OPTFM)

A. Consideration of Governing Authority Contracts for Board Action

1. **Requesting Governing Authority:** Forrest County School District

Supplier: Synergetics DCS, Inc., S.H.O.T.S Computers

Term: One-time purchase

Total Value: \$304,038.08

Summary of Request: Forrest County School District was granted an exemption from reverse auction on August 2, 2022, for the procurement of an E-Rate Category 2 Project. They advertised for competitive sealed bids for the purchase and received two (2) bids. The District wishes to award to Synergetics DCS, Inc. for access points and to S.H.O.T.S. Computers for the fiber cabling and fiber modules.

Staff Recommendation: OPTFM recommends approval of the contracts.

B. Consideration of State Agency Contracts for Board Action

1. **Requesting Agency:** Mississippi State University (MSU)

Supplier: DIH Technology

Contract #: 880008650

Term: 2/1/2023 through 2/1/2024

Total Value: \$630,657.00

Summary of Request: MSU is requesting approval for the sole source purchase of a Motek gait real-time analysis interactive lab. The grant funding this research was written for this specific system. MSU advertised the proposed sole source in compliance with Section 3.109.02 of the OPTFM Procurement Manual. No objections to the sole source were received.

Staff Recommendation: OPTFM recommends approval of the request.

2. **Requesting Agency:** Mississippi State University (MSU)

Supplier: Radius Holdings, LLC

Contract #: 880008656

Term: 2/1/2023 through 2/1/2024

Total Value: \$630,657.00

Summary of Request: MSU is requesting approval for the sole source purchase of a resin transfer mold press. MSU believes that this piece of equipment is a crucial research tool for their Advanced Composites Training Center. MSU advertised the proposed sole source in compliance with Section 3.109.02 of the OPTFM Procurement Manual. No objections to the sole source were received.

Staff Recommendation: OPTFM recommends approval of the request.

3. **Requesting Agency:** University of Mississippi (UM)

Supplier: MTS Systems Corporation

Contract #: 880008661

Term: 2/1/2023 through 2/1/2024

Total Value: \$2,395,206.00

Summary of Request: UM is requesting approval for the sole source purchase of servo-hydraulic mechanical testing frames, testing simulators and associated fixturing. UM states that it is crucial for this new MTS testing system to be compatible with the MTS systems already in place at the School of Engineering and at the Medical Center. UM advertised the proposed sole source in compliance with Section 3.109.02 of the OPTFM Procurement Manual. No objections to the sole source were received.

Staff Recommendation: OPTFM recommends approval of the request.

4. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Suppliers: Kirk Auto World

Contract #: 4000604534

Total Value: \$756,800.00

Term: One-time Purchase

Summary of Request: DPS has issued a purchase order to purchase twenty (20) Dodge Durango Police Pursuit Vehicles. DPS is purchasing these from a state contract vendor. The twenty (20) vehicles are additions for the Capitol Police fleet.

Staff Recommendation: OPTFM recommends approval of the request.

VI. DFA Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management (BOB/RPM)

A. Consideration of BOB Change Order for Board Action

Using Agency: Mississippi Veterans Affairs

Project Number: GS# 507-053

Project Title: New Crypt Field (Newton)

General Contractor: Diversified Construction Services, Inc

Original Contract Sum: \$3,058,000.00

Net Change by Previous Change Orders: \$740,861.62

Total Value of Award before this Change Order: \$3,798,861.62

Total Value of this Change Order: \$170,411.61

Construction Days to Date [Term]: 686 (including 189 for this CO)

Change Order Scope: The Change Order is for extension of the contract time and direct overhead expense due to latent conditions, extensive design changes, weather and other items beyond the control of the Contractor during the construction period.

Note: Board Action is required when cumulative Change Orders exceed 25% of original bid.

Staff Recommendation: BOB recommends PPRB approval contingent upon a fully executed Change Order.

B. RPM New Leases

1. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services

Lease #: 725-243-26A

Lessor: St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Term: 03-01-2023 thru 02-28-2026

Total Yearly Cost: \$70,000.00

Previous Yearly Cost: N/A

Cost PSF: \$11.01 Inclusive

Previous Cost PSF: N/A

Total Space per Occupant: N/A

Federal Funds: 80%

Square Footage Proposed: 6,359

Previous Square Footage: N/A

Address of Property: 310 N. Cleveland Ave., Long Beach, MS

Purpose of Lease: This space will house the Office of the Community Rehabilitation Center for the Long Beach area.

Note: This is a three (3) year lease with no renewals. This lease was advertised and only one (1) response was received.

Staff Recommendation: RPM recommends approval of this lease.

2. **Requesting Agency:** Mississippi Attorney General

Lease #: 075-361-33A

Lessor: 2330 University, LLC.

Term: 08-01-2023 thru 07-31-2033

Total Yearly Cost: \$140,628.00

Previous Yearly Cost: N/A

Cost PSF: \$22.00 Inclusive

Previous Cost PSF: N/A

Total Space per Occupant: 247

Federal Funds: 75%

Square Footage Proposed: 6,392

Previous Square Footage: N/A

Address of Property: 2330 University Ave., Oxford, MS.

Purpose of Lease: This lease will enable the MS Office of the Attorney General to provide a central north Mississippi office space for attorneys and investigators living in north Mississippi. This will be an extension of the services provided through the primary offices located in the Walter Sillers Building in Jackson Mississippi. This authorization allows a collaborative base of operations to conduct the business of the Attorney General in north Mississippi for federal and state required programs including but not limited to: Child Protective Services, Cyber Crimes and Internet Crimes Against Children, Alcohol and Tobacco Enforcement, Criminal and Civil Litigation, Medicaid Fraud Control, Officer involved Shootings, Human Trafficking Initiative and North Mississippi Collaborative Task Forces with MBI/FBI Task Forces. Building on the relationship with the University of Mississippi Law School, there will be expanded intern and extern opportunities for those studying law, paralegal studies, and criminal justice.

Note: This is a ten (10) year lease with two (2) five (5) year renewal options. The rental rate for the first five (5) year option will be at \$153,408.00 per year or \$24.00 Inclusive psf. The rental rate for the second five (5) year option will be at \$166,200.00 per year or \$26.00 Inclusive psf.

This lease has been advertised twice. On the latest advertisement five (5) responses were received along with one (1) withdrawal.

Staff Recommendation: RPM recommends approval of this lease.

C. RPM Amended Leases

1. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Secretary of State

Lease #: 775-412-24B

Lessor: Douglas M. Wright, Jr.

Term: 03-01-2023 thru 02-29-2024

Total Yearly Cost: \$6,000.00

Cost per square foot: \$5.45 Inclusive

Previous Yearly Cost: \$6,000.00

Previous Cost PSF: \$5.45 Inclusive

Total Space per Occupant: 220

Federal Funds: 0

Square Footage Proposed: 1,100

Previous Square Footage: 1,100

Address of Property: 2844 Traceland Dr., Tupelo, MS.

Purpose of Lease: This is the north Mississippi office for the Secretary of State.

Note: This is a one (1) year month to month lease with three (3) one (1) year options to renew with the same terms and conditions. The Secretary of State has had an office at this location since 03-01-2022. This lease is contingent upon receipt and approval of an executed lease.

Staff Recommendation: RPM recommends approval of this lease, contingent upon receipt and approval of an executed lease.

2. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services

Lease #: 725-612-26A

Lessor: JA Properties

Term: 03-01-2023 thru 02-28-2026

Total Yearly Cost: \$105,750.00

Previous Yearly Cost: \$105,750.00

Cost PSF: \$9.00+ Utilities & Janitorial

Previous Cost PSF: \$9.00 + Utilities & Janitorial

Total Space per Occupant: N/A

Federal Funds: 80%

Square Footage Proposed: 11,750

Previous Square Footage: 11,750

Address of Property: 1032 Center Point Blvd., Pearl, MS.

Purpose of Lease: There are four MDRS offices within this location: the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind, the Office of Special Disability Programs, and the Office of Business Development.

Note: This is a three (3) year lease with no renewals. The Agency has been at this location since April of 2008.

Staff Recommendation: RPM recommends approval of this lease.

D. Parchman Farming New Leases:

Sunflower County

Tract	Winning Bidder	Acres	Lease Amount	Year
26	C & B Farms, LLC.	307.61	\$43,600.00	1/8
27	C & B Farms, LLC.	368.65	\$52,500.00	1/8

Note: This request is based on recommendation from the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC), Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman, MS, and the MDOC Division of Agricultural Enterprises. MDOC requests PPRB approve the new leases listed above. These leases are presented for consideration from a bid that took place on 12-17-2022. There were no protests to the bid. This request is also contingent upon the execution of the farming leases.

Staff Recommendation: RPM recommends approval of these new farmland leases, contingent upon receipt of executed leases.

E. Parchman Farmland Assignment

Consider a request from Mississippi Department of Corrections to assign/sub-lease approximately 379.76 acres of tracts 4 (fields 1, 2, 3, 11) located in the Mississippi State Penitentiary Farmland in Sunflower County, Mississippi from William E. Livingston to Joshua Chandler for the 2023 crop year per paragraph 18 of the original lease regarding assignments. All terms and conditions, including the yearly rental amounts per acre will remain the same as in the original lease between the Lessee and the State of Mississippi. The Lessee and Assignee will both be responsible for the tract(s) until expiration of the lease term which is January 14th, 2024. Should the PPRB decide not to approve the Assignment/Sub-Lease, the Lessee will retain the tract(s) completely. The total yearly amount of the assigned lease is \$29,317.47.

Staff Recommendation: RPM recommends approval of this lease assignment.

F. Wildlife Farming Lease

1. Consider a request from the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks to award the following Wildlife Management Area Farmland Lease for the 2023 crop year. A check for the full rent was delivered to Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks for the year 2023 at the bid opening and will be held by MDWFP until PPRB approval of this lease. This request from the MDWFP includes a lease for one (1) year in duration for grain crop only, with four (4) options to renew by mutual agreement between the Lessee and Lessor, one year at a time, in writing by October 1st of the given year with payment for renewal no later than December 1st of the given year.

Black Prairie: WMA- Farm #'s 4135 (Lowndes County)
Bid Date: January 17, 2023, 11:00:00 AM
Acreage: 1,580±
Lessee: Kyle Knight Farms, LLC
Bid Amount: \$86,501.00

Selection: Highest of two (2) submittals

Note: This is a one (1) year lease with four (4) one (1) year options to renew.

Staff Recommendation: RPM recommends approval of this lease.

VII. DFA Office of Personal Service Contract Review (OPSCR)

A. Petition for Relief from Competitive Sealed Bidding

1. **Requesting Agency:** Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

RFx Number: 3180001960

Procurement Request: Request for Proposals

Anticipated Term: May 4, 2023 - November 30, 2024

Anticipated Contract Amount: \$150,000.00

Summary of Request: The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks is seeking one Contractor to update the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). The selected Contractor will use federal guides to research and develop this plan, allowing the Agency to continue receiving federal financial assistance. The Agency contends the use of an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to select a Contractor is neither practicable nor advantageous because Price is not the only factor which needs to be evaluated. The Agency needs Offerors to develop a proposal demonstrating understanding and development of the scope of services and the Agency needs to comparatively evaluate the Offerors' experience, expertise, and demonstrated ability to provide the service. Offerors will be evaluated on Technical factors weighted at 20%; Management factors weighted at 20%; Workload and Timeline weighted at 15%; References weighted at 10%; and Cost (Price) factors weighted at 35%.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

B. Consideration of Contracts for Board Action

1. **Requesting Agency:** Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration

Supplier: Warner, Inc., dba ServiceMaster One Call

Contract #: 8200049542

Term: 03/01/2020 - 02/29/2024

Total Value: \$697,467.84

**Renewal
\$174,366.96**

Summary of Request: The term of the original contract was three (3) years with two (2) optional one-year renewals. The Contractor currently provides custodial services and on-site management for the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum and the Mississippi History Museum. The agency submitted Amendment One to exercise the first renewal year and update several clauses as required under the PPRB OPSCR Rules and Regulations. All other terms and conditions of the original contract remain the same.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request, contingent upon receipt of the required Certificate of Insurance.

2. **Requesting Agency:** Ellisville State School

Supplier: Woods Professional, LLC

Contract #: 8200061315

Term: 04/01/2022 - 03/31/2024

Total Value: \$186,368.00

**Renewal
\$93,184.00**

Summary of Request: The term of the original contract was one (1) year, with four (4) optional one-year renewals. The Contractor currently provides speech pathology services at the Long Beach campus and the community homes in Gautier, Biloxi, Wiggins, and Poplarville. The Agency submitted Amendment One to exercise the first renewal year. All other terms and conditions of the original agreement remain the same.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request, contingent upon receipt of the required Certificate of Insurance.

3. Requesting Agency: Ellisville State School

Term: 04/01/2022 – 03/31/2024

Total Value: \$1,600,000.00 (per contract)

**Renewal
\$800,000.00**

Summary of Request: The term of each contract was one (1) year with four (4) optional one-year renewals. The Contractors provide nurse staffing services. Amendment Three was submitted to exercise the first renewal period. All other terms and conditions of the original contract remain the same.

i. Supplier: HMP Nursing Services, Inc.

Contract #: 8200061292

Total Value: \$1,600,000.00

**Renewal
\$800,000.00**

ii. Supplier: Prime Care Nursing

Contract #: 8200061293

Total Value: \$1,600,000.00

**Renewal
\$800,000.00**

iii. Supplier: Supplemental Medical Services, Inc. dba Stafflink

Contract #: 8200061294

Total Value: \$1,600,000.00

**Renewal
\$800,000.00**

iv. Supplier: TD Medical Solutions, LLC

Contract #: 8200061296

Total Value: \$1,600,000.00

**Renewal
\$800,000.00**

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request, contingent upon receipt of the required Certificates of Insurance.

4. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Veterans Affairs

Supplier: Betty Ruth Hawkins

Contract #: 8200065903

Term: 02/01/2023 – 01/30/2024

Total Value: \$90,000.00

**New
\$90,000.00**

Summary of Request: The term of the contract is one (1) year with one (1) optional one-year renewal. Ms. Hawkins will be paid \$7,500.00 per month to serve as the Director of the Mississippi Statewide Incarcerated Veterans Program, HUM-V. The Contractor was selected through a Request for Proposals (RFP) with one (1) respondent. The Agency requests an exception to PPRB OPSCR Rules and Regulations Section 3-202.06.4 Advertising Time. The RFP was not

published on the Agency's website the same day as the newspaper advertisement. OPSCR has reviewed the request and has no concerns that granting the exception would affect the competition, fairness, or transparency of the procurement. The RFP was available to all potential offerors through the procurement portal on the same day as the first newspaper advertisement.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request, contingent upon granting the exception to Section 3-02.06.4.

5. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Department of Human Services

Supplier: L4 Security Group

Contract #: 8200059832

Term: 03/01/2023 - 02/28/2025

Total Value: \$300,000.00

New

\$300,000.00

Summary of Request: The term of the contract is two (2) years with three (3) optional one-year renewals. The Contractor will be paid \$19.50 per hour to provide interior, exterior, and emergency security guard services. The Contractor was selected through an IFB with three respondents resulting in one contract awarded to the lowest bidder.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

6. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services

Supplier: Topps Private Investigation & Security Firm, LLC

Contract #: 8200067012

Term: 02/01/2023 - 01/31/2025

Total Value: \$1,073,440.00

New

\$1,073,440.00

Summary of Request: The term of the contract is two (2) years with one (1) optional two-year renewal. The Contractor will provide professional security services at the Agency's office located in Jackson, Mississippi. The Contractor was selected through an Invitation for Bids (IFB) with six (6) respondents. One (1) bid was submitted after the submission deadline, one (1) vendor was deemed nonresponsive for failure to submit the required letter of intent, and two (2) vendors were deemed nonresponsive for failure to meet the minimum qualifications. Of the two (2) responsive and responsible vendors, the Contractor submitted the lowest price.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

7. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Department of Revenue

Supplier: Ruan Transport Corporation

Contract #: 8200066932

Term: 03/01/2023 - 02/28/2027

Total Value: \$45,000,000.00

New

\$45,000,000.00

Summary of Request: The term of the contract is four (4) years with two (2) optional four-year renewals. The Contractor will serve as Third-Party Warehouse Operator to oversee warehousing and distribution operations of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division located in Gluckstadt, Mississippi, as required under Senate Bill 2844 (2022 Regular Session). The Contractor was selected through a Request for Proposals with four (4) respondents. The contract was awarded to the highest scoring proposal.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

8. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Supplier: Waste Management of Mississippi, Inc.

Contract #: 8200066892

Term: 02/05/2023 - 02/04/2027

Total Value: \$850,000.00

New

\$850,000.00

Summary of Request: The term of the contract is four (4) years with one (1) optional one-year renewal. The Contractor will provide waste management services on an as-needed basis for events at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds Complex. The Contractor was selected through a Request for Proposals as required by Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-13(r) with two (2) respondents. The contract was awarded to the highest scoring proposal.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request, contingent upon receipt of the required Certificate of Insurance.

9. Requesting Agency: Mississippi State Hospital

Supplier: Trilandra Edwards

Contract #: 10130852

Term: 07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023

Total Value: \$0.00

Termination

(-) \$96,096.00

Summary of Request: The term of the original contract was one (1) year with no optional renewals. The contract worker provided nursing services. The Agency issued a Stop Work Order effective December 21, 2022, and has elected to exercise its contractual right to terminate the contract upon PPRB approval.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

10. Requesting Agency: Mississippi State Hospital

Term: 06/20/2023 – 06/19/2027

Total Value: \$1,248,000.00 (per contract)

New

\$1,248,000.00

Summary of Request: The term of each contract is four (4) years with one (1) optional renewal. The Contractors are psychologists who will complete court-ordered forensic mental health evaluations in various criminal proceedings. The Contractors were selected through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to which they were the only two respondents.

i. **Supplier:** William Criss Lott, Ph.D.

Contract #: 8200066850

ii. **Supplier:** Robert Storer, Ph.D. dba Psychological Services

Contract #: 8200066852

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

11. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

Term: 02/06/23 – 02/05/24

Total Value: \$3,000,000.00 (each)

New

\$3,000,000.00

Summary of Request: The term of the contracts is one (1) year with four (4) optional one-year renewals. The Contractors will be paid hourly rates to provide technical assistance with Community Development Block Grants, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation, and the Emergency Management Performance Grant following natural or man-made disasters. The Contractors were selected through a Request for Proposals (RFP) with eleven (11) respondents. The Agency requests an exception to Section 3-203.04.2(k) of the PPRB OPSCR Rules and Regulations for failure to include a statement that the RFP, its amendments, the offeror's proposal and the Best and Final Offer shall constitute the contract. OPSCR has reviewed this request and has no concerns that granting it will affect the competition, fairness, or transparency of the procurement.

- i. **Supplier:** Tetra Tech, Inc.
Contract #: 8200066228

- ii. **Supplier:** TF Rankin & Associates, Inc.
Contract #: 8200066229

- iii. **Supplier:** Postlethwaite and Netterville, APAC
Contract #: 8200066240

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request, contingent upon granting of the exception to Section 3-203.04.2(k).

12. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Division of Medicaid

Supplier: The University of Southern Mississippi, School of Social Work

Contract #: 8200067028

Term: 02/03/2023 - 02/02/2024

Total Value: \$273,548.00

New

\$273,548.00

Summary of Request: The term of the contract is one (1) year with one (1) optional one-year renewal. The Contractor will provide training workshops, consultations, and technical assistance to assist in expanding a person-centered system of care in Mississippi. The Agency contracted directly with the University of Southern Mississippi without soliciting the private sector pursuant to PPRB OPSCR Rules and Regulations Section 3-102.04, Procuring Services Offered by Governmental Entities Not Under Purview of the PPRB. The Agency Head compared the budget proposal to the cost of services provided by private sector vendors providing similar services and determined the price is below fair market value.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

C. Preapproved Vendor List

1. Requesting Agency: Mississippi Division of Medicaid

Service: Medicaid Management Information System Third Party Liability

Effective Dates of PVL: 12/07/2022–12/31/2022

Renewable Through: 12/31/2031

Summary of Request: Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 27-104-7(2)(i) and Section 3-208 of the PPRB OPSCR Rules and Regulations, the Public Procurement Review Board may, in its discretion, establish a preapproved list (PVL) of providers of various personal and professional

services for set prices with which state agencies may contract without bidding or prior approval from the board.

NASPO ValuePoint is a national cooperative purchasing consortium serving statewide procurement officials who are members of the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO). DFA is the primary member of NASPO for the State of Mississippi. The Requesting Agency requests the Board establish the NASPO ValuePoint Medicaid Management Information System Third Party Liability portfolio as a PVL.

The vendors in that portfolio were selected through a Request for Proposals (RFP) conducted by the lead state, Georgia, which resulted in six (6) offerors being placed in the portfolio, one of which cannot provide services in Mississippi. The vendors recover Medicaid expenditures from third parties who are liable to pay the medical expenses, such as tort subrogation, trusts and estates, other benefit programs, or private health insurance. The vendors also manage the health insurance premium assistance program which enhances the Agency's cost avoidance efforts. The Master Agreements with each of the vendors listed below have fixed pricing for implementation costs and management of the health insurance premium assistance program, and fixed contingency rates for the recovery services.

OPSCR has reviewed this request and the procurement conducted by the State of Georgia. OPSCR recommends the following suppliers be placed on the PVL. A Participating Addendum including clauses relevant to and required for entities contracting with the State of Mississippi will be executed by DFA on behalf of state agencies.

Suppliers: BRSi, LP dba Benefit Recovery
Conduent State Healthcare, LLC
HHS Technology Group, LLC
Health Management Systems, Inc.
Stellarware Corporation

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

D. Request for Exception to PPRB OPSCR Rules and Regulations

1. Requesting Agency: Mississippi State Department of Health

Procurement Type: Emergency Procurement

Regulation: Section 3-207.02

Summary of Request: Section 3-207.02 of the PPRB OPSCR Rules and Regulations reads in relevant part "The term of an emergency contract shall be limited to the time necessary to meet the emergency, but in no circumstances shall the term exceed one year." The Agency is requesting an exception to the one-year time limitation such that the Agency can contract with a vendor through an emergency contract to update the State Health Plan in its entirety. The State Health Plan establishes criteria and standards for health-related activities which require Certificate of Need (CON) review in an effort to meet the priority health needs identified by the department.

The Agency has previously issued a Requests for Proposals (RFP) for this service on two separate occasions but did not receive any proposals in response to either solicitation. This

work requires specialized knowledge, and the number of capable vendors is limited. The Agency received feedback from qualified vendors that they were either unavailable to do the work or in some cases did not have time to prepare a proposal due to other commitments.

Because of the hospital crisis in rural areas, the Agency Head has determined that an emergency exists such that the delay incident to undertaking a third competitive procurement would threaten the health and safety of individuals and the protection of property. It is critical that the Agency update the State Health Plan chapters regarding rural hospitals and healthcare in order for the State to adequately confront the crisis.

However, it is not possible for the entire State Health Plan to be updated within a single year. Based on feedback from the vendor community, the Agency believes it will take approximately two (2) years to complete the State Health Plan. For continuity in providing this service and the final updated State Health Plan, the Agency is requesting an exception to the one-year limitation on emergency contracts. The Agency is currently making an effort to obtain competitive pricing under the circumstances by requesting an estimate of the cost of services from the qualified vendors.

Staff Recommendation: OPSCR recommends approval of this request.

VIII. Other Business

A. Next Regular PPRB Meeting March 1, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

IX. Adjournment