

the NAHRO e-procurement system NEWS

March / April 2006

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Project-based e-Procurement On Its Way!

During the 2006 NAHRO Legislative Conference, the Small Agencies Task Force (SATF) was given a live demonstration of the new project-based procurement functionality in the e-Procurement system.

Transpire CEO Dionne Roberts, who conducted the demonstration, noted that “the new upgrades to the system were very well received, and the group had some great suggestions about additional enhancements”. Ms. Roberts went on to say that those suggestions were being developed and should be operational by early April,

2006.

The new upgrade will allow agency users of the system to assign their purchases to specific projects in the system and then download reports by project of all purchasing done through e-Procurement. This is meant to assist agencies as they transition to asset management, especially smaller and medium sized agencies that may not be able to afford new software.

For example, an agency might make an award to a local vendor for 30 line items of plumbing supplies. In tracking these supplies in the system, the agency would have 3 options:

1. Assign the entire order to one project;
2. Assign different line items in the order to different projects; or
3. Assign a particular line item to more than one project—ie. 15 pvc elbows to Project A, and 10 to Project B.

The system will also allow revisions, so that agencies can update information as needed.

With the feedback provided by the Small Agency Task Force, this upgrade is on schedule to go live in e-Procurement in early Summer.

In the meantime, we encourage you to check out the calendar on Page 3 and stop by to see a demonstration at any of the events we will be attending. We are always looking for additional suggestions, and look forward to seeing you soon!

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THE STATS: 2006

Bids Published: 211

Bids Awarded: 133

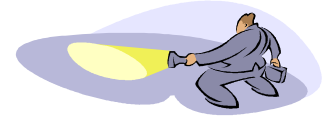
Value of Bids Awarded

\$589,508.74



VENDOR SPOTLIGHT

Yeager & Boyd, LLC



Over the last two years, the number of vendors in the e-Procurement has more than doubled. That is largely due to the many service providers that have joined as the RFP component has grown.

Yeager and Boyd, LLC is one of those service providers, providing Public Housing auditing and consulting services for over 25 years.

Ron Jones, Vice-President of Yeager & Boyd, said that



“during (these 25 years), we

have written numerous proposals. With e-Procurement, our firm can view the proposal rankings and prices even if we are not selected. We have used this valuable information to improve our proposal packages and to be competitive, if possible, with our cost of providing professional services. E-Procurement is a great procurement tool for Housing Authorities and service providers.”

E-Procurement Salutes the Leaders Circle

Four times a year, Transpire reviews the most frequent users of the e-Procurement, and these agencies are given status in the e-Procurement Leaders Circle. This spring, we salute the following leaders in our industry:

Mr. Dick Allen, Yakima Housing Authority *Yakima, WA*

Ms. Mary Bigness, Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino *San Bernardino, CA*

Mr. Richard Collins, Housing Authority of the City of Savannah *Savannah, GA*

Mr. Donald Costello, Housing Authority of Mayfield *Mayfield, KY*

Mr. Craig Garrelts, Hocking Metropolitan Housing Authority *Logan, OH*

Ms. Doris Gathings, Housing Authority of the City of Aberdeen *Aberdeen, MS*

Mr. Parviz Ghadiri, Housing Authority of the City of Las Vegas *Las Vegas, NV*

Mr. John Hamm, Madison County Housing Authority *Collinsville, IL*

Ms. Anne Hartsell, Housing Authority of the City of Georgetown *Georgetown SC*

Ms. Lupita Hernandez, Housing Authority of the City of Calexico *Calexico, CA*

Ms. Barbara Holston, Fort Worth Housing Authority *Fort Worth, TX*

Ms. Linda Jennings, West Valley Housing Authority *Dallas, OR*

Ms. Maggie Lamont, Northeast Oregon Housing Authority *La Grande, OR*

Mr. Montez Martin, Charleston County Housing and Redevelopment Authority *Charleston, SC*

Mr. Don McGlamory, Brun-

wick Housing Authority, *Brunswick, GA*

Mr. Michael McLoughlin, Chelsea Housing Authority *Chelsea, MA*

Ms. Carolyn Roark, Portsmouth Metropolitan Housing Authority *Portsmouth, OH*

Ms. Renee Rooker, Walla Walla Housing Authority *Walla Walla, WA*

Mr. Ed Sido, Housing Authority of the County of San Joaquin *Stockton, CA*

Mr. Guillermo Vallejo, Imperial Valley Housing Authority *Brawley, CA*

Ms. Marlene Walsh, North Adams Housing Authority *North Adams, MA*

Ms. Elaine Wiseman, Kearney Housing Agency *Kearney, NE*

THANK YOU!

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

Tulsa (OK) Housing Authority



Just six months ago, the Tulsa Housing Authority joined the e-Procurement system. Since then, they have been an avid user, one we expect to see in the Leader's Circle (see page 2) next quarter.

They have become such a user because they have been willing to try new things. Don Hammons of THA notes that, "The Housing Authority recently experimented with NAHRO's E-Procurement system by creating a request for bids for a contract for plumbing fixtures. Normally this request would receive only one bid from a local vendor. By utilizing E-Procurement, the Authority received several bids and eventually executed

contracts with three vendors."

Further, the Authority is using the system for services, as well as supplies. The Authority, Mr. Hammons reports, "has now



utilized the E-Procurement system to procure contracts for audit services, asset management

training, strategic plan consulting, and telephone service. By using E-Procurement, the Authority has an efficient tool to document procurement and access a much larger pool of vendors."

We are glad to see such a new agency making the most of the e-Procurement system, and encourage all users to do the same.

As always, we are here to help as you take on new opportunities in the system. Just call 866-526-9266, and we will be happy to walk you through all you need to know to make your job easier.

2006 e-Procurement Events

During 2006, we will continue participating in NAHRO conferences at the National, Regional and Chapter level.

To increase awareness of where we will be and what we will be doing, we will be updating our 2006 e-Procurement Calendar here on a regular basis.



April

- Exhibit and e-Procurement session at Texas NAHRO Conference
- Exhibit at Pacific Northwest Regional Council Conference
- E-Procurement session at Michigan NAHRO Conference

May

- Exhibit at Pacific Southwest Regional Conference
- Presentation at North Central Regional Council Conference

June

- Session at Mountain Plains Regional Council

conference

- Exhibit and session at Southwest Regional Council conference
- Exhibit at Southeast Regional Council Conference

July

- Presentation at NAHRO Summer Conference
- 1/2 day training at NAHRO Summer Conference

October

- Presentation at NAHRO National Conference
- 1/2 day training at NAHRO National Conference in

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Our Purpose

To add value to communities through service to NAHRO members by developing and sustaining appropriate business lines of benefit to NAHRO members.

We will develop new tools and approaches to unresolved challenges, and meet the needs within the affordable housing and community development industry.

We will identify and promote partnerships across sectors that can assist communities in meeting their goals, and in doing so recommit to serving the members of NAHRO, first and foremost.



CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Customer support is

available at no charge by calling

toll free, 866-526-9266, from 8 a.m. Eastern to

5 p.m. Pacific. We can assist you with putting up bids, RFPs, contacting vendors and any other software questions.

Got Ideas?

The e-Procurement News is distributed bi-monthly by Transpire, Inc.

If you have information or ideas, send them to droberts@nahro.org or fax them to 202-289-8181.

NEED *PROCUREMENT* TRAINING?

NAHRO's Procurement & Contract Management Seminar

Procurement's more than placing orders or processing requisitions. It's a major operation in any housing authority – a management-driven cost control center that requires constant attention and education.

Your agency will benefit from this session whether it's a one-person, one-desk operation or a sprawling enterprise.

May 8-9, 2006
Chattanooga, TN

August 7-8, 2006
Chicago, IL

NAHRO's Advanced Procurement Seminar

Are you ready to take your procurement process to the next level? With budgets tightening because of dwindling resources, we hear more and more, do less with more. This course, designed for procurement professionals, goes beyond the basics and focuses on how to increase effectiveness and efficiency in your procurement operations.

June 26-27, 2006
NYC, NY

September 25-26, 2006
Atlanta, GA

For more information go to: <http://www.nahro.org/professional/seminars.cfm>