DICKINSON COUNTY

PROCUREMENT POLICY

June, 2006
ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.101 Purposes, Rules of Construction.

(1) **Interpretation.** This Code shall be construed and applied to promote the following purposes and policies.

(2) **Purposes and Policies:**
(a) to simplify, clarify and modernize Dickinson County procurement;
(b) to permit the continued development of procurement policies and practices;
(c) to make the procurement procedures among the various Dickinson County departments as consistent as possible;
(d) to provide for increased public confidence in the procedures followed in Dickinson County procurement;
(e) to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of all persons who deal with the Dickinson County procurement system;
(f) to provide increased economy in Dickinson County procurement activities and to maximize to the fullest extent practicable the purchasing value of public funds available to Dickinson County;
(g) to foster effective broad-based competition within the free enterprise system;
(h) to protect the financial interest of all Dickinson County taxpayers;
(i) to provide safeguards for the maintenance of a procurement system of quality and integrity.

(3) **Singular-Plural and General Rules.** In this Code, unless the context requires otherwise:
(a) words in the singular number include the plural, and those in the plural include the singular; and
(b) words of a particular gender include any gender and the neuter, and when the sense so indicates, words of the neuter gender may refer to any gender.

1.102 Supplementary General Principles of Law Applicable.

Unless displaced by the particular provisions of this Code, the principles of law and equity, including the Uniform Commercial Code of Kansas, the law merchant, and law relative to capacity to contract, agency, fraud, misrepresentation, duress, coercion, mistake or bankruptcy shall supplement the provisions of this Code.

1.103 Requirement of Good Faith.

This Code requires all parties involved in the negotiation, performance, or administration of Dickinson County contracts to act in good faith.
1.104 Application of this Code.

(1) **General Application.** This Code applies only to contracts solicited or entered into after the effective date of this Code unless the parties agree to its application to a contract solicited or entered into prior to the effective date.

(2) **Application to Dickinson County Procurement.** This Code shall apply to every expenditure of public funds from local taxes or fees, and from federal or state assistance moneys except as otherwise specified by Dickinson County acting through the Board of County Commissioners, except that this Code shall not apply to either grants, or contracts between Dickinson County and its political subdivision or other governments. Nothing in this Code or in regulations promulgated hereunder shall prevent any governmental body or political subdivision from complying with the terms and conditions of any grant, gift, bequest or cooperative agreement.

This Code shall apply to all contractual services including professional services defined in article 4, and will be negotiated on an annual basis.

This Code shall apply to all Dickinson County departments, except that the Board of County Commissioners may permit optional use of selected portions of the regulations as the Board sees fit.

Whereas, adoption of an annual budget for the county and funding to meet the statutory obligations of the county are, by statute, the exclusive prerogative and responsibility of the board of county commissioners; and once a budget of an elected officials office is approved including necessary expenses, that the elected official cannot be required to obtain advance approval for purchases within the limits of the budget regardless of the amount. If an expenditure falls outside of the budget i.e. over budget, then the elected official must request advance approval of the board of county commissioners regardless of the amount. The board must approve the expenditure if it is necessary to carry out the duties of the elected officials statutory duties. The Capital Asset Plan budget is assembled for the county operation as a whole and is not considered to be a part of an elected or appointed officer’s budget.

1.105 Severability.

If any provision of this Code or any application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or application of this Code which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Code are declared to be severable.

1.106 Effective Date.

This Code shall become effective upon adoption by the Dickinson County Board of County Commissioners.
1.201 Definitions

The words defined in this Section shall have the meanings set forth below whenever they appear in this Code, unless:

(a) the context in which they are used clearly requires a different meaning; or
(b) a different definition is prescribed for a particular Article or provision.

(1) **Advertisement for Bids** means all documents, whether attached or incorporated by reference, utilized for soliciting bids.

(2) **Bid** means an offer to furnish specified goods used for services at a specified price under specified condition.

(3) **Business** means any corporation, partnership, individual, sole proprietorship, limited liability corporation, joint stock company, joint venture or any other private legal entity.

(4) **Capital Asset Plan** means a comprehensive expenditure plan approved by the county commissioners for asset purchases with an asset life of over one year and expenditure amounts of over $2500.

(5) **Change Order** means a written order signed by the Board of County Commissioners, directing the contractor to make changes authorized by the Board of County Commissioners.

(6) **Commodity** means truck load quantities of liquid asphalt, bituminous mixtures, portland cement, concrete, paper, bridge materials, road aggregates, fuel, sign materials, and paint.

(7) **Construction** means the process of building, altering, repairing, improving or demolishing any public structure or building, or other public improvements of any kind to any public real property. It does not include the routine operation, routine repair or routine maintenance of existing structures, buildings or real property.

(8) **Contract** means all types of Dickinson County agreements, regardless of what they may be called, for the procurement of equipment, supplies, services or construction.

(9) **Contract Modification** means any written alteration in specifications, delivery point, rate of delivery, period of performance, price, quantity or other provision of any contract accomplished by mutual action of the parties of the contract.

(10) **Contractor** means any person, partnership or corporation having a contract with Dickinson County.

(11) **Cost-Reimbursement Contract** means a contract under which a contractor is reimbursed for costs which are allowable in accordance with the contract terms and the provisions of this Code, and a fee, if any.

(12) **Data** means recorded information, regardless of form or characteristic.
(13) **Designee** means a duly authorized representative of a person holding a superior position.

(14) **Employee** means an individual drawing a salary from Dickinson County, whether elected or appointed.

(15) **Established Catalog Price** means the price included in a catalog, price list, schedule or other form that:
(a) is regularly maintained by a manufacturer, supplier or contractor;
(b) is either published or otherwise available for inspection by customers; and
(c) state prices at which sales are currently or were last made to buyers constituting the general buying public for the supplies or services involved.

(16) **Governmental Body** means any department, commission, council, board, bureau, committee, agency, corporation or other establishment or official of any city, township, county, state or nation.

(17) **Grant** means the furnishing by the State of Kansas, the Federal Government of assistance, or non profit organizations whether financial or otherwise, to support any Dickinson County program.

(18) **May** denotes the permissive.

(19) **Parts** mean individual pieces of equipment already owned by Dickinson County, purchased to repair the County owned equipment.

(20) **Person** means any business, individual, committee, club, other organization or group of individuals.

(21) **Procurement** means buying, purchasing, renting, leasing, or otherwise acquiring any supplies, services, equipment or construction. It also includes all functions that pertain to the obtaining of any supply, service, equipment or construction, including description of requirements, selection or solicitation of sources, preparation and award of contract, and all phases of contract administration.

(22) **Procurement Officer** means any Dickinson County employee or official duly authorized to enter into and administer contracts, and make written determinations with respect thereto.

(23) **Project Quantity** means a quantity of material large enough to complete an entire construction project. Material quantities needed to do maintenance work are not considered to be project quantities.

(24) **Proposal** means putting forward an offer to provide equipment, a service, good or construction. Dickinson County selects a proposal for acceptance based on a number of predetermined criteria.
(25) **Purchase Description** means the words used in a solicitation to describe the supplies, services or construction to be purchased, and includes specifications attached to, or made a part of, the solicitation.

(26) **Purchasing Agency** means any Dickinson County department which is authorized by this Code to enter into contracts.

(27) **Regulation** means a governmental body’s statement, having general or particular applicability and future affect, designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy, or describing organization, procedures or practice requirements.

(28) **Request for Proposal** means a written document wherein Dickinson County requests interested vendors to submit proposals for providing a service, good or construction as described in the Request for Proposal.

(29) **Responsible Bidder or Offeror** means a person who has the capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirement, and the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance.

(30) **Responsive Bidder** means a person who has submitted a bid which conforms in all material respects to the Invitation for Bids.

(31) **Sealed Bids** means a bid sealed in an envelope and opened at an appointed time and place.

(32) **Services** means the furnishing of labor, time, or effort by a contractor, not involving the delivery of a specific end product other than reports which are incidental to the required performance.

(33) **Shall** denotes the imperative.

(34) **Supplies** means all property, including but not limited to equipment, materials, printing, insurance and leases of real property, excluding land or a permanent interest in land.

**1.301 Public Access to Procurement Information.**

To the extent allowed by Kansas law, procurement information shall be a public record and shall be available to the public.
ARTICLE 2 – SOURCE SELECTION AND CONTRACT FORMATION

2.201 Methods of Source Selection.

Unless otherwise authorized by law, all Dickinson County contracts shall be awarded by competitive bidding, pursuant to Section 2-202 (Competitive Sealed Bidding), except as provided in:

(a) Section 2.203 (Competitive Proposals);
(b) Section 2.204 (Small Purchases);
(c) Section 2.205 (Sole Source Procurement);
(d) Section 2.206 (Emergency Procurements);
(e) Section 2.207 (Commodities Purchases);
(f) Section 2.208 (Used Equipment Purchases);
(g) Section 2.209 (Parts Purchases);
(h) Section 2.210 (Competitive Selection Procedures for Non-Professional); or
(i) Article 4, Procurement of Professional Services.

2.202 Competitive Sealed Bidding.

(1) **Conditions for Use.** Contracts shall be awarded by competitive sealed bidding for all procurement except as otherwise provided in Section 2.201 (Methods of Source Selection).

(2) **Advertisement for Bids.** An Advertisement for Bids shall be issued to all possible suppliers, local and remote, and shall include a purchase description, and all contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement. Efforts shall be made to receive at least three (3) bids with the emphasis to solicit bids from minority and/or women-owned businesses, where available and in county businesses.

(3) **Public Notice.** Adequate public notice of the Advertisement for Bids shall be given a reasonable time prior to the date set forth herein for the opening of bids, in accordance with Board of County Commissioners’ regulations or State Law. Purchasing Agency will issue notice by publication in the official Dickinson County newspaper, a reasonable time prior to bid opening, mailed notice and notice to known vendors by FAX or email.

(4) **Bid Opening.** Bids shall be opened publicly in the presence of one or more witnesses at the time and place designated in the Advertisement for Bids. Bids over $20,000 shall be opened by the Board of County Commissioners. The amount of each bid, and such other relevant information as may be specified, together with the names of each bidder shall be recorded; the record and each bid shall be open to public inspection.
(5) **Bid Acceptance and Bid Evaluation.** Bids shall be unconditionally accepted without alteration or correction, except as authorized in this Code. Bids shall be evaluated based on the criteria set forth in the Advertisement for Bids, which may include criteria to determine acceptability such as an inspection, testing, quality, workmanship, delivery and suitability for a particular purpose. Those criteria that will affect the bid price and be considered in evaluation for award shall be objectively measurable, such as discounts, transportation costs and total or life cycle costs. The Advertisement for Bids shall set forth the evaluation criteria to be used. *No criteria may be used in bid evaluation that is not set forth in the Advertisement for Bids.*

(6) **Correction or Withdrawal of Bids; Cancellation of Awards.** Correction or withdrawal of inadvertently erroneous bids before or after award, or cancellation of awards or contracts based on such bid mistakes, shall be permitted as decided by the Board of County Commissioners. After bid opening, no changes in bid prices or other provisions of bids prejudicial to the interest of Dickinson County or fair competition shall be permitted. Except as otherwise provided, all decisions to permit the correction of bids, the withdrawal of bids, or to cancel awards or contracts based on bid mistakes, shall be supported by a written determination made by the Purchasing Agency and approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

(7) **Award.** The contract shall be awarded within fourteen (14) working days by written notice to the lowest and/or best bidder whose bid meets the requirements and criteria set forth in the Advertisement for Bids. In the event all bids for a construction project exceed available funds as certified by the Dickinson County Accountant, and the lowest responsive and responsible bid does not exceed such funds by more than five percent, the Board of County Commissioners may in situations where time or economic considerations preclude reconciliation of work of a reduced scope to negotiate an adjustment of the bid price, including changes in the bid requirements, with the low responsive and responsible bidder, in order to bring the bid within the amount of available funds.

(8) **Multi-step Sealed Bidding.** When it is considered impractical to initially prepare a purchase description to support an award based on price, an Advertisement for Bids may be issued requesting the submission of no priced offers to be followed by an Advertisement for Bids limited to those bidders whose offers have been qualified under the criteria set forth in the first solicitation.

2.203 **Competitive Proposals.**

(1) **Conditions for Use.** When the Board of County Commissioners has determined the use of competitive proposals is advantageous to Dickinson County, a contract may be entered into by competitive sealed proposals. The Board of County Commissioners may provide that it is either not practicable nor advantageous to Dickinson County to procure specified types of supplies, services, equipment or construction by competitive sealed bidding, competitive FAX or email bidding.
(2) **Request for Proposals.** Proposals shall be solicited through a Request for Proposals.

(3) **Public Notice.** Adequate public notice of the Request for Proposals shall be given in the manner as provided herein.

(4) **Receipt of Proposals.** Proposals shall be opened so as to avoid disclosure of contents to competing offerors during the process of negotiation. A Register of Proposals shall be prepared by the Administration Department and shall be open for public inspection after contract award.

(5) **Evaluation Factors.** The Request for Proposals shall state the relative importance of price and other evaluation factors.

(6) **Discussion with the Responsible Purchasing Agency and Revisions to Proposals.** As provided in the Request for Proposals, and under regulations promulgated by the Board of County Commissioners, the Board of County Commissioners may conduct discussions with responsible offerors. Offerors shall receive fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of proposals, and such revisions may be permitted after submissions and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers. In conducting discussions, there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

(7) **Award.** Award shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to Dickinson County, taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation. The contract file shall contain the basis on which the award is made.

### 2.204 Small Purchases.

(1) Any non-office technology related procurement valued at less than $2,500.00 may be made in accordance with small purchase procedures, provided, however, these procurement requirements shall not be artificially divided so as to constitute a small purchase under this Section. Small purchase procedures require the Purchasing Agency to approve any purchase ranging in size from no cost, to $2,500.00. Small purchases must be in aggregate within the Dickinson County’s published budget. Vouchers with matching invoices are submitted to the County Clerk for payment with proper Purchasing Agency authorization. Competitive bidding is not required for small purchases.

(2) All office technology related purchases, to include, but not be limited to all hardware, software, and peripheral devices shall be ordered through the Data Processing Manager, Administration Department, regardless of which fund the expense is charged against. The Data Processing Manager, Administration
Department, shall coordinate these office technology-related purchases to ensure that uniform, standardized, and necessary equipment is purchased, to obtain competitive pricing, and schedule installation of the new equipment. Exceptions to this requirement include cables, printer cartridges, and other consumable goods, which the Data Processing Manager, Administration Department, will assist with, if the Purchasing Agency so wishes.

2.205 **Sole Source Procurement.**

A contract may be awarded for equipment, a supply, service, or construction item without competition when the Purchasing Agency reports to the County Commissioners in writing there is only one source for the required supply, service or construction item. This report must be submitted to the County Accountant before procurement takes place.

2.206 **Emergency Procurements.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code the Purchasing Agency may make or authorize others to make emergency procurements when there exists a threat to public health, welfare, or safety under any emergency condition provided that such emergency procurements shall be made with such competition as is practicable under the circumstances. A written determination of the basis for the emergency and for the selection of the particular contractor shall be included in the departmental purchase file and a copy given to the County Accountant.

2.207 **Commodities Purchases.**

Commodities in less than project quantities such as road rock, fuel, plant delivery asphalt or sand may be purchased at the daily posted price. Project quantities shall be competitively bid.

2.208 **Used Equipment Purchases.**

When it is determined that it is in the best interest of Dickinson County, used equipment may be purchased directly from the owner of the used equipment. Price shall be determined by negotiation. Prices paid for used equipment shall not reflect a premium based on values for used equipment as published by the appropriate used equipment price guide.

2.209 **Parts Purchase.**

Parts for equipment repairs may be purchased from the equipment manufacturers at the quoted prices and considered a sole source procurement. Parts shall be competitively bid when over $2,500 if multiple parts suppliers are available. Major repair parts that exceed $2500 will be reviewed by the County Accountant for funding issues and best practices.
2.210 Any procurement that is currently listed on Dickinson County’s Equipment Purchase Plan and/or Capital Plan in excess of $2500 will follow the competitive sealed bidding as stated in 2.202.

2.211 Competitive Selection Procedures for Non-Professional Services.

(1) **Conditions of Use.** Non-professional services, i.e., services provided that do not require public measures of competency of the products shall be procured in accordance with this Section. Professional Services exempt from this section are: accounting, architecture, construction management, engineering, law, medicine, land use planning and surveying.

(2) **Statement of Qualifications.** The relevant services may submit statements of interest in providing such types of services. The Purchasing Agency may specify a uniform format for statements of qualifications. Persons may amend these statements at any time by filing a new statement.

(3) **Public Announcement and Form of Request for Proposals.** Adequate notice of the need for such services shall be given by the Purchasing Agency through a Request for Proposals. The Request for Proposals shall describe the services required, list the type of information and data required of each offeror, and state the relative importance of particular qualifications.

(4) **Discussions.** The Purchasing Agency may conduct discussions with any offeror who has submitted a proposal to determine such offeror's qualifications for further consideration. Discussions shall not disclose any information derived from proposals submitted by other offerors.

(5) **Award.** Award shall be made to the offeror determined in writing by the Purchasing Agency to be best qualified based on the evaluation factors set forth in the Request for Proposals, and negotiation of compensation determined to be fair and reasonable. If compensation cannot be agreed upon with the best qualified offeror, then negotiations will be formally terminated with the selected offeror. If proposals were submitted by one or more offerors determined to be qualified, negotiations may be conducted with such other offeror or offerors, in the order of their respective qualification ranking, and the contract may be awarded to the offeror then ranked as best qualified if the amount of compensation is determined to be fair and reasonable.

2.301 Cancellation of Advertisements for Bids and Requests for Proposals.

An Advertisement for Bids, a Request for Proposals or other solicitation may be cancelled, or any or all bids or proposals may be rejected in whole or in part as may be specified in the solicitation, when it is in the best interests of Dickinson County.
2.4 ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

2.401 Approval of Accounting System.

Except with respect to firm fixed-price contracts, no contract type shall be used unless it has been approved by the Dickinson County Attorney or Counselor and it has been determined by the contracting Purchasing Agency that:

(a) the proposed contractor's accounting system will permit timely development of all necessary cost data in the form required by the specific contract type contemplated; and

(b) the proposed contractor's accounting system is adequate to allocate costs in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

2.402 Cost or Pricing Data.

(1) Contractor Certification. A contractor shall submit cost or pricing data and shall certify that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the costs or pricing data submitted were accurate, complete, and current as of a mutually determined specified date prior to the date of:

(a) the pricing of any contract awarded by competitive sealed proposals or pursuant to the sole source procurement authority where the total contract price is expected to exceed a maximum amount established by the Purchasing Agency; or

(b) the pricing of any change order or contract modification which is expected to exceed an amount established by the Purchasing Agency.

(2) Price Adjustment. Any contract, change order, or contract modification under which a certificate is required shall contain a provision that the price to Dickinson County including profit or fee, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which Dickinson County finds that such price was increased because the contractor-furnished costs or pricing data were inaccurate, incomplete or not current as of the date agreed upon between the parties.

(3) Cost or Pricing Data Not Required. The requirements of this Section need not be applied to contracts:

(a) where the contract price is based on adequate price competition;
(b) where the contract price is based on established catalog prices or market prices;
(c) where contract prices are set by law or regulation; or
(d) where it is determined in writing in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board of County Commissioners that the requirements of this Section may be waived; and the reasons for such waiver are stated in writing.
2.403 Right to Audit Records.

(1) **Audit of Cost or Pricing Data.** Dickinson County may, at reasonable times and places, audit the books and records of any person who has submitted cost or pricing data to the extent that such books and records relate to such cost or pricing data. Any person who receives a change order, or contract modification for which cost or pricing data are required, shall maintain such books and records that relate to such cost or pricing data for three years from the date of final payment under the contract, unless a shorter period is otherwise authorized in writing.

(2) **Contract Audit.** Dickinson County shall be entitled to audit books and records of a contractor or any subcontractor under any negotiated contract or subcontract other than a firm fixed-price contract to the extent that such books and records relate to the performance of such contract or subcontract. Such books and records shall be maintained by the contractor for a period of three years from the date of final payment under the prime contract and by the subcontractor for a period of three years from the date of final payment under the subcontract, unless a shorter period is otherwise authorized in writing.

2.5 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

2.501 Performance Bonds.

Personal property or equipment performance bonds and or warranties will be required of vendors selling personal property or equipment. The bond shall be for the amount of the purchase and shall be good for 1 year after the Board of County Commissioners agrees to purchase the personal property or equipment.

2.502 Types of Contracts.

Subject to the limitations of this Section, any type of contract which will promote the best interests of Dickinson County may be used; provided that the use of a cost-plus-a-percentage-of-cost contract is prohibited unless a maximum, not to exceed amount is predetermined. A cost-reimbursement contract with a "maximum, not to exceed" may be used only when a determination is made in writing that such contract is likely to be less costly to Dickinson County that any other type; or that it is impracticable to obtain the supplies, services, equipment or construction required except under such a contract.
2.503 Multi-Term Contracts.

(1) **Specified Period.** Unless otherwise provided by law, a contract for supplies or services may be entered into for any period of time deemed to be in the best interests of Dickinson County provided the term of the contract and conditions of renewal or extension, if any, are included in the solicitation; and funds are available for the first fiscal period at the time of contracting. Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds therefore.

(2) **Determination Prior to Use.** Prior to the utilization of a multi-term contract, it shall be determined in writing:

(a) that estimated requirements cover the period of the contract and are reasonably firm and continuing; and
(b) that such a contract will serve the best interests of Dickinson County by encouraging effective competition.

(3) **Cancellation Due to Unavailability of Funds in Succeeding Fiscal Periods.** When funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal period, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any non-recurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the supplies or services delivered under the contract. The cost of cancellation may be paid from any appropriations available for such purposes.

2.504 Right to Inspect Plant.

Dickinson County may, at reasonable times, inspect the part of the plant or place of business of a contractor or any subcontractor which is related to the performance of any contract awarded or contemplated to be awarded by Dickinson County.

2.505 Reporting of Anti-competitive Practices.

When for any reason collusion or other anti-competitive practices are suspected among any bidders or offerors, a notice of the relevant facts shall be transmitted to the Dickinson County Attorney and to the Kansas Attorney General.

2.6 RECORDS

2.601 Retention of Procurement Records.

All procurement records shall be retained for five (5) years. All retained documents shall be made available as public records upon request.
2.602 Record of Procurement Actions Taken.

(1) Contents of Record. The Purchasing Agency shall maintain a record listing all contracts made for a minimum of five years. The record shall contain:

(a) each contractor's name;
(b) the amount and type of each contract; and
(c) a listing of the supplies, services or construction procured under each contract.
ARTICLE 3 - SPECIFICATIONS

3.101 Definitions of Terms Used in this Article.

(1) Specification means the description of the physical or functional characteristics, or of the nature of a supply, service, equipment or construction item. It may include a description of any requirement for inspecting, testing or preparing a supply, service, equipment or construction item for delivery. Specification will include all brands and models to accomplish the desired purpose of the procurement. Specification should not be detailed to the extent it limits the number of bids obtainable.

3.201 Duties of the Board of County Commissioners.

The Board of County Commissioners may promulgate regulations governing the preparation, maintenance and content of specifications for supplies, equipment and construction required by Dickinson County.

3.202 Duties of the Purchasing Agency.

The Purchasing Agency shall prepare issue, revise, maintain and monitor the use of specifications for supplies, services, equipment and construction required by each Dickinson County Department.

3.203 Maximum Practicable Competition.

All specifications shall seek to promote an economy purchase for the purposes intended, and shall encourage competition in the market in the process of satisfying Dickinson County's needs, and shall not be unduly restrictive.
ARTICLE 4 - PROCUREMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

4.101 Definitions of Terms Used in this Article.

(1) Accounting, Architecture, Engineering, Legal, Medical, Planning and/or Land Surveying Services are those professional services within the scope of the practice of accounting, architecture, engineering, law, planning, land surveying or medicine as defined by the laws and regulations of the State of Kansas.

4.402 Professional Services.

(1) Applicability. Professional services shall be procured as provided in this Section except when the cost of such services is less than $5,000 or when a state of emergency exists.

(2) Policy. It is the policy of Dickinson County to publicly announce all requirements for services and to negotiate contracts for professional services on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualification of the type of services required, and at fair and reasonable prices.

(3) Professional Services Selection Committee. In the procurement of professional services, the Board of County Commissioners shall encourage firms engaged in the lawful practice of their profession to submit a statement of qualifications and performance data. The Purchasing Agency and the Board of County Commissioners shall comprise the professional services Selection Committee for each professional services contract over $5,000. The selection of professional service contractors for projects under $5,000 shall be made by the Purchasing Agency. The Selection Committee shall evaluate statements of qualifications submitted by firms interested in the proposed contract. The Selection Committee shall select in order of preference, based upon the published criteria, no less than two firms deemed to be the most highly qualified to provide the services required. Efforts shall be made to solicit minority and women-owned businesses, where available.
Negotiation. The Purchasing Agency shall negotiate a contract with the highest qualified firm for professional services at compensation which the Purchasing Agency determines in writing to be fair and reasonable to Dickinson County. In making this decision, the Purchasing Agency shall take into account the estimated value, the scope, the complexity and the professional nature of the services to be rendered. Should the Purchasing Agency be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the most qualified, at a price the Purchasing Agency determines to be fair and reasonable to Dickinson County, negotiations with that firm shall be formally terminated. The Purchasing Agency shall then undertake negotiations with the second most qualified firm. Failing accord with the second most qualified firm, the Purchasing Agency shall formally terminate negotiations. The Purchasing Agency shall then undertake negotiations with the third most qualified firm. Should the Purchasing Agency be unable to negotiate a contract at a fair and reasonable price with any of the selected firms, the Purchasing Agency shall select additional firms in order of their competence and qualifications, and the Purchasing Agency shall continue negotiations in accordance with this Section until an agreement is reached.
Article 5 – MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS FOR
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

5.101 Contract Clauses and Their Administration.

(1) Contract Clauses. The Board of County Commissioners may promulgate
regulations permitting or requiring the inclusion of clauses providing for
adjustments in prices, time of performance, or other contract provisions as
appropriate covering the following subjects:

(a) the unilateral right of Dickinson County to order in writing:
   (i) changes in the work within the scope of the contract;
   (ii) temporary stopping of work or delaying performance;
(b) variations occurring between estimated quantities of work in a
    contract and actual quantities.

(2) Price Adjustments.

(a) Adjustments in price pursuant to this Section shall be computed in one
    or more of the following ways:

   (i) by agreement on a fixed price adjustment before
       commencement of performance;
   (ii) by unit prices specified in the contract or subsequently
       agreed upon;
   (iii) by the costs attributable to the events or situations under
        such clauses with adjustments of profit for fee, all as
        specified in the contract or subsequently agreed upon;
   (iv) in such other manner as the contracting parties may
        mutually agree; or
   (v) in the absence of agreement by the parties, by a unilateral
       determination by Dickinson County of the costs
       attributable to the events or situations under such clauses with
       adjustments or profits or fee, all as computed by Dickinson
       County.

(3) Additional Contract clauses. The Board of County Commissioners
may promulgate regulations including but limited to, regulations
permitting or requiring the inclusion in Dickinson County contracts of
clauses providing for appropriate remedies and covering the following
subjects:

   (a) liquidated damages as appropriate;
   (b) Specified excuses for delay or non-performance;
   (c) termination of the contract for default;
   (d) termination of the contract in whole or in part for the convenience
       of Dickinson County
Modification of Clause. The Department Head may vary the clauses promulgated by the Board of County Commissioners under Subsection (1) and Subsection (3) of this Section for inclusion in any particular Dickinson County contract; provided that any variations are supported by a written determination that states the circumstances justifying such variation provided the Board of County Commissioners approves such variation and provided that notice of any such material variation be stated in the Advertisement for Bids or Request for Proposals.