

HOPEWELL VALLEY FIRE DISTRICTS COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT

This Agreement made and entered into this 12 day of April, 2012, by and between Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 ("Lead Agency"), Hopewell Borough Fire District No. 1 and Pennington Borough Fire District No. 1 (collectively, the "parties"), who desire to participate in the Hopewell Valley Fire Districts Cooperative Pricing System.

W I T N E S S E T H

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)*, specifically authorizes two or more contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services and enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement for its administration; and

WHEREAS, Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 is conducting a voluntary Cooperative Pricing System with other contracting units; and

WHEREAS, this Cooperative Pricing System is to effect substantial economies in the provision and performance of goods and services; and

WHEREAS, all parties hereto have approved the within Agreement by Resolution in accordance with the aforesaid statute; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of all parties to enter into such Agreement for said purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF the promises and of the covenants, terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, it is mutually agreed as follows:

1. The goods or services to be priced cooperatively may include Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (packs, cylinders, masks, accompanying accessories) and such other items as two or more participating contracting units in the system agree can be purchased on a cooperative basis.
2. The items and classes of items which may be designated by the participating contracting units hereto may be purchased cooperatively for the period commencing with the execution of this Agreement and continuing until terminated as hereinafter provided.
3. The Lead Agency, on behalf of all participating contracting units, shall upon approval of the registration of the System and annually thereafter in January of each succeeding year publish a legal ad in such format as required by *N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.9(a)* in its official newspaper normally used for such purposes by it to include such information as:

(A) The name of Lead Agency soliciting competitive bids or informal quotations.

(B) The address and telephone number of Lead Agency.

(C) The names of the participating contracting units.

(D) The State Identification Code assigned to the Cooperative Pricing System.

(E) The expiration date of the Cooperative Pricing System.

4. Each of the participating contracting units shall designate, in writing, to the Lead Agency, the items to be purchased and indicate therein the approximate quantities desired, the location for delivery and other requirements, to permit the preparation of specifications as provided by law.

5. The specifications shall be prepared and approved by the Lead Agency and no changes shall be made thereafter except as permitted by law. Nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent changes in specifications for subsequent purchases.

6. A single advertisement for bids or the solicitation of informal quotations for the goods or services to be purchased shall be prepared by the Lead Agency on behalf of all of the participating contracting units desiring to purchase any item.

7. The Lead Agency, when advertising for bids or soliciting informal quotations, shall receive bids or quotations on behalf of all participating contracting units. Following the receipt of bids, the Lead Agency shall review said bids and on behalf of all participating contracting units, either reject all or certain of the bids or make one award to the lowest responsible bidder or bidders for each separate item. This award shall result in the Lead Agency entering into a Master Contract with the successful bidder(s) providing for two categories of purchases:

(A) The quantities ordered for the Lead Agency's own needs, and

(B) The estimated aggregate quantities to be ordered by other participating contracting units by separate contracts, subject to the specifications and prices set forth in the Lead Agency's Master Contract.

8. The Lead Agency shall enter into a formal written contract(s) directly with the successful bidder(s) only after it has certified the funds available for its own needs.

9. Each participating contracting unit shall also certify the funds available only for its own needs ordered; enter into a formal written contract, when required by law, directly with the successful bidder(s); issue purchase orders in its own name directly to successful vendor(s) against said contract; accept its own deliveries; be

invoiced by and receive statements from the successful vendor(s); make payment directly to the successful vendor(s) and be responsible for any tax liability.

10. No participating contracting unit in the Cooperative Pricing System shall be responsible for payment to the vendor(s) for any items ordered or for performance by any other participating contracting unit. Each participating contracting unit shall accordingly be liable only for its own performance and for items ordered and received by it and none assumes any additional responsibility or liability.
11. The provisions of Paragraphs 7, 8, 9, and 10 above shall be quoted or referred to and sufficiently described in all specifications so that each bidder shall be on notice as to the respective responsibilities and liabilities of the participating contracting units.
12. No participating contracting unit in the Cooperative Pricing System shall issue a purchase order or contract for a price which exceeds any other price available to it from any other such system in which it is authorized to participate or from bids or quotations which it has itself received.
13. The Lead Agency reserves the right to exclude from consideration any good or service if, in its opinion, the pooling of purchasing requirements or needs of the participating contracting units is either not beneficial or not workable.
14. The Lead Agency shall appropriate sufficient funds to enable it to perform the administrative responsibilities assumed pursuant to this Agreement. Upon future written agreement of the parties, the Lead Agency may charge an agreed upon administrative fee to ensure that each participating party contributes its pro rata share of the administrative costs incurred by the Lead Agency. Unless and until such an agreement is reached, the Lead Agency will assume responsibility for the costs associated with its administrative responsibilities.
15. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent any party from bidding, awarding and/or entering into contracts for the purchase of goods or services individually on its own behalf.
16. The Director of the Division of Local Government Services within the State Department of Community Affairs shall be notified within thirty (30) days of any change in the designated Lead Agency, unless otherwise mandated by law.
17. This Agreement shall become effective immediately upon the execution of this Agreement by all participating parties subject to the review and approval of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services and shall continue in effect for a period not to exceed five (5) years from said date unless any party to this Agreement shall give written notice of its intention to terminate its participation. Termination shall be effective on the thirtieth (30th) day following receipt of written

notice of a party's intention to terminate its participation. The withdrawal of any member in the Cooperative Pricing System shall not invalidate this Agreement.

18. All records and documents maintained or utilized pursuant to terms of this Agreement shall be identified by the System Identifier assigned by the Director, Division of Local Government Services, and such other numbers as are assigned by the Lead Agency for purposes of identifying each contract and item awarded.
19. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the respective parties hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be signed and executed by their authorized corporate officers and their respective seals to be hereto affixed the day and year above written.

FOR THE LEAD AGENCY:

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

BY:

(NAME AND TITLE))

Michael Chipowsky, Chairman Hopewell Township
Fire District

FOR THE PARTICIPATING UNITS:

HOPEWELL BOROUGH FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

BY:

(NAME AND TITLE)

C. SCHUYLER MOREHOUSE, CHAIRMAN

Hopewell Borough
Fire District

PENNINGTON BOROUGH FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

BY:

(NAME AND TITLE)

MARK BLACKWELL, Chairman

Pennington Borough
Fire District