



For Immediate Release
October 20, 2003

PORT AUTHORITY COMMISSION DELIVERS SECURITY MATTERS

HOUSTON – The Port of Houston Authority Commission approved several recommendations involving contract awards, bids and proposals, professional services and general administrative and operational matters during its meeting on Monday, October 20. Chairman Jim Edmonds presided over the meeting.

The commission evaluated proposals for a three-year, professional services contract for unarmed, uniformed security gate officer services at PHA's terminal gates and cruise terminal parking lot. The PHA security committee had reviewed and evaluated 17 proposals that were submitted for contract consideration. U.S. Security Associates received the commission's top ranking for participation in contract negotiations. Terrace Security and Andy Frain Security were ranked second and third, respectively.

Under the Texas Water Code, the procurement of security gate officer services is exempt from competitive sealed bidding because the services are considered necessary to preserve or protect the public health or the safety of the residents of the district or the port authority.

In a related matter, the commission evaluated qualifications for a design/build contract for PHA security infrastructure enhancements – including design and installation of systems for access control, closed-circuit television surveillance, fencing, lighting, gate entrances, emergency response and evacuation. PHA's engineering department had reviewed and evaluated nine proposals that were submitted for contract consideration. TRC Customer-Focused Solutions received the commission's top ranking for participation in contract negotiations. Black & Veatch and Raytheon Company were ranked second and third, respectively. The estimated amount of the contract award is expected to be approximately \$12 million.

Under legislation enacted earlier this year, Texas ports are authorized to execute design-build construction contracts. The legislation (HB 3028) was co-authored by State Sen. Juan Hinojosa and State Rep. Joe E. Moreno.

The next meeting of the PHA Commission is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Monday, November 17 in the 4th floor board room at the PHA Executive Office Building located at 111 East Loop North (Exit 29 off Loop 610).

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The Port of Houston Authority owns and operates the public facilities located along the Port of Houston, the 25-mile long complex of diversified public and private facilities designed for handling general cargo, containers, grain and other dry bulk materials, project and heavy lift cargo, and other types of cargo. Each year, more than 6,600 vessels call at the port, which ranks first in the U.S. in foreign waterborne tonnage, second in overall total tonnage, and sixth largest in the world. The Port Authority plays a vital role in ensuring navigational safety along the Houston Ship Channel, which has been instrumental in Houston's development as a center of international trade. The Barbours Cut Container Terminal and Central Maintenance Facility are the first of any U.S. port facilities to develop and implement an innovative Environmental Management System that meets the rigorous standards of ISO 14001. Additionally, the port is an approved delivery point for Coffee "C" futures contracts traded on the New York Board of Trade's Coffee, Sugar & Cocoa Exchange. For more information, please visit www.portofhouston.com