

**Tarrant County Hospital District Board of Managers Officers' Questions  
Raised About the Expedited Approval Process For the Following Two  
Purchases and Responses From the Administration and the General Counsel's  
Office**

**Baluster Purchase Order Questions and Answers:**

Is this an actual necessity or a back up plan to a backup plan?

It says delivered October 9<sup>th</sup>? That seems pretty definitive if these are urgently needed is October 9<sup>th</sup> too late? It would seem that this could be added to our July agenda... is it that much of a rush given delivery is 4 months away?

Terms are net 30... when does that clock start? From date of invoice or date of delivery?

*In the last 3 weeks we have not been sent our normal shipment of gowns from our normal supplier. Our goal has been to maintain a 60 day supply of gowns on hand, and without the typical weekly receipts we have seen these numbers drop. However, we do expect to receive the back ordered gowns this week. As we begin to see numbers of covid patients rise, I would like to get this purchase order placed to provide operations some reassurance this PPE is available. We expect the gowns would be received 30-45 days from the date of the order.*

*Due to the long lead times we are experiencing, I would like to set this in motion as soon as possible. We have been working on this specific purchase for two weeks and were unable to get it on the agenda for the last finance committee. Every day that goes by is a lost opportunity and JPS runs the risk of other facilities jumping in front of JPS in line for purchasing to obtain this PPE.*

What about the October 9th date on the purchase order?

*The deliver by date is October 9 because of the language in the Terms and conditions that we can cancel the contract if it is not delivered in a timely manner. This date allowed them more flexibility as we negotiated the cancelation clause. However, they are currently estimating delivery in 30-45 days.*

If it is a necessity was it identified out of the new group we have for procurement?

*GEP did not specifically source this purchase, as we have purchased from Baluster previously.*

What is the price difference between our "normal covid" channels vs this new supplier?

*These gowns are at a \$4.48 price point. We did purchase 30,000 to gain the more favorable pricing from this vendor. This is competitive with our other gown purchases in the last few*

*months. In today's market, we have looked at gowns priced from \$2.50 to \$12 each. We have not paid over \$5 per gown however. Pre covid, gowns had cost us about \$0.25.*

In response to Board member Nguyen's previous concern with masks does this order meet the FDA cleared criteria?

*I did check with DT last week and he had no issues with this gown purchase or this company. The manufacturer on this order is FDA approved.*

## **Interlocal Agreement with City of Fort Worth for Prescription Copays Questions and Answers:**

Is this limited to COVID-19 medications are is this for any medication the household member may need?

*The credit can be used for any medication.*

Is JPS liable for non-JPS patients' additional cost for prescriptions if the City of Fort Worth copay does not cover the cost for the entire prescription?

*JPS is not liable for the additional cost if the \$300 does not cover the entire cost for the medication for any non-JPS patients.*

*If JPS Connection patients is approved for this program by the City the \$300 will be full payment for copay and Connections will cover the remaining cost of the medication.*