

CHAPTER 97.

[Senate Bill No. 159.]

COUNTIES—CONTRACT AND PURCHASE PROCEDURE.

AN ACT relating to counties; and amending section 36.32.250, chapter 4, Laws of 1963 as amended by section 1, chapter 113, Laws of 1965 and RCW 36.32.250.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

RCW 36.32.250
amended.

Section 1. Section 36.32.250, chapter 4, Laws of 1963 as amended by section 1, chapter 113, Laws of 1965, and RCW 36.32.250 are each amended to read as follows:

Counties.
Contract and
purchase
procedure.

No contract or purchase shall be entered into by the board of county commissioners or by any elected or appointed officer of such county until after bids have been submitted to the board of county commissioners upon specifications therefor. Such specifications shall be in writing and shall be filed with the clerk of the board for public inspection, and an advertisement thereof stating the date after which bids will not be received, the character of the work to be done, or material, equipment, or service to be purchased, and that specifications therefor may be seen at the office of the clerk of the board, shall be published in the county official newspaper. Such advertisement shall be published at least once in each week for two consecutive weeks prior to the last date upon which bids will be received and as many additional publications as shall be determined by the board. The bids shall be in writing, shall be filed with the clerk, shall be opened and read in public at a meeting of the board on the date named therefor in said advertisement, and after being opened, shall be filed for public inspection. No bid shall be considered for public work unless it is accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of a surety bond, postal money order, cash, cashier's check, or certified check

in an amount equal to five per cent of the amount of the bid proposed. The contract for the public work or purchase shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; taking into consideration the quality of the articles or equipment to be purchased. Any or all bids may be rejected for good cause. The board shall require from the successful bidder for such public work a contractor's bond in the amount and with the conditions imposed by law. Should the bidder to whom the contract is awarded fail to enter into the contract and furnish the contractor's bond as required within ten days after notice of the award, exclusive of the day of notice, the amount of the bid deposit shall be forfeited to the county and the contract awarded to the next lowest and best bidder. The bid deposit of all unsuccessful bidders shall be returned after the contract is awarded and the required contractor's bond given by the successful bidder is accepted by the board. In the letting of any contract or purchase involving less than one thousand dollars advertisement and competitive bidding may be dispensed with on order of the board of county commissioners. Notice of intention to let contracts or to make purchases involving amounts exceeding five hundred dollars and less than one thousand dollars, shall be posted by the board of county commissioners on a bulletin board in its office not less than three days prior to making such purchase or contract. Wherever possible, supplies shall be purchased in quantities for a period of at least three months, and not to exceed one year. Supplies generally used throughout the various departments shall be standardized insofar as possible.

NOTE: See also section 16, chapter 144, Laws of 1967 ex. sess.

Passed the Senate February 27, 1967.

Passed the House March 8, 1967.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1967.