

Contract

Continued from A1

there is no guarantee the city will not see another hurricane or disaster this year.

Councilman Thomas Kinlaw III expressed concern Port Arthur — a city of almost 60,000 — does not have a grant writer on staff.

Once the recent workshop ended, the council took on three action items involving Ardurra.

- Contract with Ardurra Group for project management and reporting services associated with the Texas General Land Office 2019 HUD Infrastructure Competition Project, replacing brick manholes in various parts of the city. Funding

for the services is 100 percent reimbursable under the grant and not to exceed \$50,000.

- Contract with Ardurra Group LLC for the project management and reporting services associated with the U.S. Department of Transportation and Fed-

eral Highway Administration Safe Streets for All Grants.

Funding for the services is 100 percent reimbursable under the grant and not to exceed \$350,000.

- Contract renewal with Ardurra for assistance with the American Rescue

Plan Act Program/ Grant Management Services.

The contract is for a not-to-exceed \$180,000 per annum, and funds are available in the American Rescue Plan Fund Account.

This is a fourth-year (third renewal) contract.

Guardians

Continued from A1

Center is committed to developing strong scholars and champions in disaster research and using science to lead the nation in the Gulf of Mexico and communicating the science and reaching new learners.

Guardians of the Gulf Coast

The next generation of guardians is a multi-year funded project of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine.

The Texas A&M University team is hosting Camp D.A.S.H., which stands for

disaster, advocacy, sustainability and health.

The five-day free camp is held July 8- 2 on the college campus, though seating is limited.

Career paths

Dr. Benika Dixon, assistant professor and an epidemiologist, told the students healthcare is a bridge to emergency management.

“Public health intervention plays a pivotal role in preventing the spread of disease and minimizing health risks that occur from climate change and disasters,” Dixon said.

“So when we think about whether it’s a hurricane or earthquake, or even a pandemic and what we’ve gone through with COVID,

we often see lack of access to resources, such as clean water issues around sanitation. This often leads to surges or increases in disease. So that’s what we do as epidemiologists.”

Charles X. White, CEO of Charity Productions, said this is a three-year program and at the end of the third year they are trying to target at least 200 plus students who have been through the program, which includes the curriculum and summer camp and is open to schools across Southeast Texas.

“This project enlarges and diversifies the field of disaster management through developing youth leaders knowledgeable in climate change and it’s effect on our communi-



Mary Meaux/The News

Tekoa High School students stand and are recognized during the program.

ty disaster resilience. We want to improve educational pathways that lead students from high school to college and, eventually,

into the variety of careers that address climate resilience.”

Charity Productions was awarded a grant and

is providing coursework from the National Incident Management System related to disaster management.

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