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COMMISSION

AGENDA MEMORANDUM Item No. 8e

ACTION ITEM Date of Meeting March 14, 2023

DATE: March 6, 2023

TO: Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director

FROM: Krista Sadler, Technology Delivery Director

SUBJECT: Network Firewall Support Memo

Contract Value: \$3,500,000

ACTION REQUESTED

Request Commission authorization for the Executive Director to execute a contract for Network Firewall support for a period not-to-exceed ten years in an amount not-to-exceed \$3,500,000 over the ten-year period. There is no funding request associated with this authorization.

SUMMARY

A network firewall is comprised of software and equipment that grants or rejects network access between an untrusted zone such as the Internet and an internal network. The Port network, through which our financial, human resource, maintenance, project management, and many other critical systems communicate, is constantly inundated with cyber security threats and our network firewalls are designed to protect our internal network resources from these external security vulnerabilities and advanced threats. A long-term support contract is critical for maintaining a healthy cyber security defense.

Annual support costs fluctuate depending on the age of our firewalls resulting in higher fees for 2023 due to the age of our system. A refresh project is planned in the next year that will again reduce the estimated costs for a few years. The estimated ten-year cost for network firewall support is \$3,500,000. Annual costs will be budgeted in the Information and Communication Technology Budget.

There are no attachments to this memo.

Template revised April 12, 2018.