

Agenda Item #: 35-2

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

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Meeting Date: June 5, 2007 Consent Workshop Regular Public Hearing

Submitted by: FIRE RESCUE

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I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to:

(A) ratify the Chairperson's signature on a grant application to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's 2007 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program in the amount of \$380,000, including a local match of \$76,000; and

(B) authorize the County Administrator or his designee (Division Chief of Training) to act as the County's representative for the purpose of electronically signing and submitting the Grant Application via the Department of Homeland Security's website.

Summary: The 2007 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program is a competitive grant program designed to assist local fire departments in protecting citizens and firefighters against the effects of fire and fire-related incidents. This grant program funds activities such as purchasing firefighting equipment, personal protection equipment, training, firefighting vehicles, and firefighter/first responder safety projects. If awarded this grant, funds would be used to purchase forty thermal imaging cameras (TIC's) and provide a minimum of eight hours of training for all 1,250 firefighters in their care, use, and maintenance. TIC's are an immediate safety tool to quickly identify fire conditions, determine structural integrity, identify trapped or missing fire victims and firefighters, identify the need for ventilation, and evaluate effective overhaul. The grant rules require submission of this grant applications by electronic format in order to assure an efficient review and competitive scoring of all grants submitted under this program.
Countywide (SB)

Background and Justification: This grant, in the amount of \$380,000, will be utilized to purchase forty thermal imaging cameras (TIC's) and provide a minimum of eight hours of training for all 1,250 firefighters in their care, use, and maintenance. TIC's have been proven to assist Firefighters in detecting fires hidden in void spaces, search rooms faster to locate potential victims and detect structural collapse potential. TIC's are also useful in locating victims ejected from vehicles and liquid levels in closed containers. Currently, 6 out of 45 first response engines have a TIC. If awarded this grant, TICs will be placed in-service on all first response engines and personnel will receive the associated training. Due to the population of Palm Beach County, the Grant Rules require the County to fund 20% of the total grant amount. If awarded, the grant-matching requirement will be \$76,000, which will be funded from Fire Rescue's contingency reserve.

The deadline for submission of this grant application to the grantor was May 4, 2007. Due to the preparation time, submittal deadlines, and BCC meeting dates the grant had to be submitted prior to full Board approval. The approval, signed by the Chairperson, indicated staff would bring this item to the Board on June 5, 2007. If awarded this grant, Fire Rescue will submit an agenda item for the grant award and a budget amendment to acknowledge receipts of the funds.

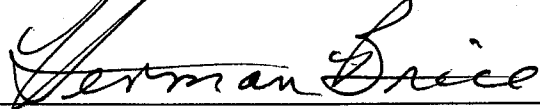
Attachments:

1. Grant application and related documentation
2. Approval memo signed by the Chairperson

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Recommended By:  5-17-07
Deputy Chief Date



Approved By:  5-18-07
Fire-Rescue Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

	Fiscal Years 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Capital Expenditures	<u>380,000</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	<u>(304,000)</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>76,000</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes ___ No **X**

Budget Account No.: Fund ___ Dept ___ Unit ___ Object ___

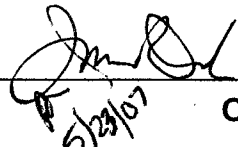

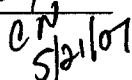
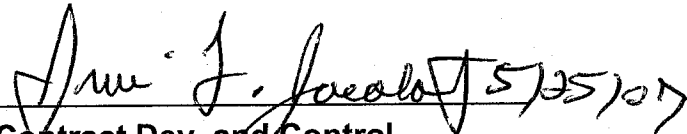
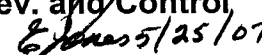
B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

This grant requires a 20% match of \$76,000, which will be funded from the Fire Rescue Main MSTU contingency reserve.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: 

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

 5-24-07
 OFMB  5/24/07
 5/24/07
 5/25/07
 Contract Dev. and Control
 5/25/07

B. Legal Sufficiency:

 5-25-07
 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.