RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-671

MEETING: November 26, 2019

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mike Van Loben Sels, Acting Fire Chief

RE: Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Adopt a Resolution Accepting the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) Grant in the Amount of $20,000 from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign CAL FIRE Agreement #7FG19069.

The VFA grant is a Federal Block Grant program administered in California by CAL FIRE. The grant’s purpose is to enable volunteer fire departments to purchase safety equipment so they can stay in compliance with National Fire Protection Association safety standards while engaged in firefighting activities.

The acceptance of this year’s grant will enable MCFD to purchase twelve (12) sets of structural firefighting ensembles and thirty six (36) sets of wildland fire web gear that comply with current safety regulations. This grant will effectively decrease the Fire Departments purchase price of the new gear to half.

This is a grant program that the Mariposa County Fire Department (MCFD) annually participates in and budgets for the local match requirement. This grant is instrumental for updating gear to better protect our fighters.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board of Supervisors has approved the same grant in previous years.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
MCFD will lose the available grant funds to replace the Structural Firefighting ensembles and wildland fire web gear sets.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
This is a 50/50 match using funds in the fire department budget line- safety equipment in the amount of $20,000.

ATTACHMENTS:
2019_Grant Agreement (PDF)
2019_VFA Application (PDF)
Resolution - Action Requested 2019-671

2019_VFA Grant Award 7FG19069 (PDF)
2019_VFA Instructions (PDF)
2019_Form AD1048 (PDF)
2019 VFA Resolution Template and Instructions (DOCX)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey
State of California
Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
Cooperative Fire Programs
GRANT AGREEMENT

APPLICANT: MARIPOSA COUNTY
PROJECT TITLE: Volunteer Fire Assistance Program
GRANT AGREEMENT: 7FG19069

PROJECT PERFORMANCE PERIOD IS from Upon Approval through June 30, 2020.
Under the terms and conditions of this Grant Agreement, the applicant agrees to complete the project as
described in the project description, and the State of California, acting through the Dept. of Forestry & Fire
Protection, agrees to fund the project up the total state grant amount indicated.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Cost-share funds awarded to provide assistance to rural areas in upgrading
their capability to organize, train, and equip local forces for fire protection.

Total State Grant not to exceed $20,000.00 (or project costs, whichever is less)
*The Special and General Provisions attached are made a part of and incorporated into this Grant Agreement.

MARIPOSA COUNTY
By
Signature of Authorized Representative
Miles Minetrey
Title
Board Chiar, Mariposa County
Date Nov 26 2019

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
AND FIRE PROTECTION
By
Title: Gabrielle Avina
Staff Chief, Cooperative Fire Programs
Date 12-10-19

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDING

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I hereby certify upon my personal knowledge that budgeted funds are available for this encumbrance.

SIGNATURE OF CAL FIRE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

STEVEN W. DAHLEM
COUNTY COUNSEL
VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Natural Resources Agency

Agreement for the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program of the
Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into ON THE LAST SIGNATORY DATE ON PAGE 6, by and between the STATE of California, acting through the Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection hereinafter called “STATE”, and MARIPOSA COUNTY hereinafter called “LOCAL AGENCY”, covenants as follows:

RECATALS:

1. STATE has been approved as an agent of the United States Department of Agriculture, (USDA), Forest Service for the purpose of administering the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act (CFAA) of 1978 (PL 95-313, United States Code, Title 16, Chapter 41, Section 2010 et seq., Volunteer Fire Assistance Program), hereinafter referred to as “VFA”, and

2. The VFA has made funds available to STATE for redistribution, under certain terms and conditions, to LOCAL AGENCY to assist LOCAL AGENCY to upgrade its fire protection capability, and

3. LOCAL AGENCY desires to participate in said VFA.

NOW THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed between the parties as follows:

4. APPROVAL: This Agreement is of no force or effect until signed by both parties and approved by the Department of General Services, if required. LOCAL AGENCY may not commence performance until such approval has been obtained.

5. TIMELINESS: Time is of the essence in this Agreement.

6. FORFEITURE OF AWARD: LOCAL AGENCY must return this Agreement and required resolution properly signed and executed to STATE at the address specified in paragraph 11, with a postmark no later than December 1, 2019 or LOCAL AGENCY will forfeit the funds.

7. GRANT AND BUDGET CONTINGENCY CLAUSE: It is mutually understood between the parties that this Agreement may have been written for the mutual benefit of both parties before ascertaining the availability of congressional appropriation of funds, to avoid program and fiscal delays that would occur if the Agreement were executed after that determination was made.
This Agreement is valid and enforceable only if sufficient funds are made available to the STATE by the United States Government for the State Fiscal Year 2019 for the purpose of this program. In addition, this Agreement is subject to any additional restrictions, limitations, or conditions enacted by the Congress or to any statute enacted by the Congress that may affect the provisions, terms, or funding of this Agreement in any manner.

The parties mutually agree that if the Congress does not appropriate sufficient funds for the program, this Agreement shall be amended to reflect any reduction in funds.

The STATE has the option to invalidate the Agreement under the 30-day cancellation clause or to amend the Agreement to reflect any reduction in funds.

8. **REIMBURSEMENT**: STATE will reimburse LOCAL AGENCY, from funds made available to STATE by the Federal Government, an amount not to exceed on a 50/50 matching funds basis, for the performance of specific projects and/or purchase of specific items identified in Proposed Project, Application for Funding, attached hereto. Reimbursement will be only for those projects accomplished and/or items purchased between THE LAST SIGNATORY DATE ON PAGE 1 and JUNE 30, 2020. This sum is the sole and maximum payment that STATE will make pursuant to this Agreement. LOCAL AGENCY must bill STATE at the address specified in paragraph 11, with a postmark no later than September 1, 2020 in order to receive the funds. The bill submitted by LOCAL AGENCY must clearly delineate the projects performed and/or items purchased. A vendor’s invoice or proof of payment to vendor(s) must be included for items purchased.

9. **LIMITATIONS**: Expenditure of the funds distributed by STATE herein is subject to the same limitations as placed by the VFA, upon expenditure of United States Government Funds. Pursuant to Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 3016.32 subject to the obligations and conditions set forth in that section; title to any equipment and supplies acquired under this Agreement vests with the LOCAL AGENCY. For any equipment items over $5,000, the federal government may retain a vested interest in accordance with paragraph 16 below.

10. **MATCHING FUNDS**: Any and all funds paid to LOCAL AGENCY under the terms of this Agreement, hereinafter referred to as “VFA Funds”, shall be matched by LOCAL AGENCY on a dollar-for-dollar basis, for each project listed on attachment(s) hereto identified as “Proposed Project”. No amount of unpaid “contributed” or “volunteer” labor or services shall be used or consigned in calculating the matching amount “actually spent” by LOCAL AGENCY. LOCAL AGENCY shall not use VFA Funds as matching funds for other federal grants, including Department of Interior (USDI) Rural Fire Assistance grants, nor use funds from other federal grants, including USDI Rural Fire Assistance grants, as matching funds for VFA Funds.
11. **ADDRESSES:** The mailing addresses of the parties hereto, for all notices, billings, payments, repayments, or any other activity under the terms of the Agreement, are:

**LOCAL AGENCY:**
Mariposa County Fire Department  
P.O. Box 162  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
Attention: Fire Chief  
Telephone Number(s): 209-966-4330  
FAX Number: 209-966-0252  
E-mail: bernie.quinn@fire.ca.gov

**STATE:**
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Grants Management Unit, Attn: Megan Esfandiary  
P. O. Box 944246  
Sacramento, California 94244-2460  
PHONE: (916) 653-3649

12. **PURPOSE:** Any project to be funded hereunder must be intended to specifically assist LOCAL AGENCY to organize, train, and/or equip local firefighting forces in the aforementioned rural area and community to prevent or suppress fires which threaten life, resources, and/or improvements within the area of operation of LOCAL AGENCY.

13. **COMBINING:** In the event funds are paid for two or more separate, but closely related projects, the 50/50 cost-sharing formula will be applied to the total cost of such combined projects.

14. **OVERRUNS:** In the event that the total cost of a funded project exceeds the estimate of costs upon which this Agreement is made, LOCAL AGENCY may request additional funds to cover the Agreement share of the amount exceeded. However, there is no assurance that any such funds are, or may be, available for reimbursement. Any increase in funding will require an amendment.

15. **UNDERRUNS:** In the event that the total cost of a funded project is less than the estimate of costs upon which this Agreement is made, LOCAL AGENCY may request that additional eligible projects/items be approved by STATE for Agreement funding. However, there is no assurance that any such approval will be funded. Approval of additional projects/items, not listed on the Proposed Project application, made by STATE, will be in writing and will require an amendment.

16. **FEDERAL INTEREST IN EQUIPMENT:** The Federal Government has a vested interest in any item purchased with VFA funding in excess of $5,000 regardless of the length of this Agreement, until such time as the fair market value is less than $5,000. The VFA percentage used to purchase the equipment will be applied to the sale price and recovered for the Government during the sale. This percentage will remain the same even following depreciation. The Federal Government may not have to be reimbursed if the disposal sale amounts to a fair market value of less than $5,000. LOCAL AGENCY will notify STATE of the disposal of such items.
17. **EQUIPMENT INVENTORY**: Any single item purchased in excess of $5,000 will be assigned a VFA Property Number by the STATE. LOCAL AGENCY shall forward a copy of the purchase documents listing the item, brand, model, serial number, any LOCAL AGENCY property number assigned, and a LOCAL AGENCY contact and return address to STATE at the address specified in paragraph 11. The STATE will advise the LOCAL AGENCY contact of the VFA Property Number assigned.

18. **AUDIT**: LOCAL AGENCY agrees that the STATE, the Department of General Services, the Bureau of State Audits, or their designated representative shall have the right to review and to copy any records and supporting documentation pertaining to the performance of this Agreement. LOCAL AGENCY agrees to maintain such records for possible audit for a minimum of three (3) years after final payment, unless a longer period of records retention is stipulated. LOCAL AGENCY agrees to allow the auditor(s) access to such records during normal business hours and to allow interviews of any employees who might reasonably have information related to such records. Further, LOCAL AGENCY agrees to include a similar right of the State of California to audit records and interview staff in any subcontract related to performance of this Agreement. (GC 8546.7, PCC 10115 et seq., CCR Title 2, Section 1896).

19. **DISPUTES**: In the event of any dispute over qualifying matching expenditures of LOCAL AGENCY, the dispute will be decided by STATE and its decision shall be final and binding.

20. **INDEMNIFICATION**: LOCAL AGENCY agrees to indemnify, defend, and save harmless, the STATE, its officers, agents, and employees, from any and all claims and losses, accruing or resulting to any and all contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, laborers, and any other person, firm or corporation furnishing or supplying work services, materials, or supplies in connection with the performance of this Agreement, and from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any person, firm or corporation who may be injured or damaged by LOCAL AGENCY in the performance of this Agreement.

21. **DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS**: LOCAL AGENCY will comply with the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1990 and will provide a drug-free workplace by taking the following actions:

a. Publish a statement notifying employees that unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited and specifying actions to be taken against employees for violations.

b. Establish a Drug-Free Awareness Program to inform employees about:

1) the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

2) the person's or organization's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
3) any available counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs; and,

4) penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.

c. Every employee who works on the proposed Agreement will:

1) receive a copy of the company's drug-free workplace policy statement; and,

2) agree to abide by the terms of the company's statement as a condition of employment on the Agreement.

Failure to comply with these requirements may result in suspension of payments under the Agreement or termination of the Agreement or both and LOCAL AGENCY may be ineligible for funding of any future State Agreement if the department determines that any of the following has occurred: (1) the LOCAL AGENCY has made false certification, or violated the certification by failing to carry out the requirements as noted above. (GC 8350 et seq.)

22. **TERM:** The term of the Agreement SHALL COMMENCE ON THE LAST SIGNATORY DATE ON PAGE 1 and continue through June 30, 2020.

23. **TERMINATION:** This Agreement may be terminated by either party giving 30 days written notice to the other party or provisions herein amended upon mutual consent of the parties hereto.

24. **AMENDMENTS:** No amendment or variation of the terms of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in writing, signed by the parties and approved as required. No oral understanding or Agreement not incorporated in the Agreement is binding on any of the parties.

25. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR:** LOCAL AGENCY, and the agents and employees of LOCAL AGENCY, in the performance of this Agreement, shall act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees or agents of the STATE or the Federal Government.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility
and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions

This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 7
CFR part 3017, Section 3017.510, Participants' responsibilities. The regulations were published as Part IV of the
January 30, 1989, Federal Register (pages 4722-4733). Copies of the regulations may be obtained by contacting the
Department of Agriculture agency with which this transaction originated.

(BEFORE COMPLETING CERTIFICATION, READ INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE)

(1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor
its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or
voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

(2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this
certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Mariposa County Fire Department  7FG19069
Organization Name  PR/Award Number or Project Name

Mike van Loben Sels, Fire Chief
Name(s) and Title(s) of Authorized Representative(s)

Signature(s)  11/30/19  Date

Form AD-1048 (1/92)
State of California  
Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)  
Cooperative Fire Programs  
GRANT AGREEMENT

APPLICANT: MARIPOSA COUNTY  
PROJECT TITLE: Volunteer Fire Assistance Program  
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Total State Grant not to exceed $20,000.00 (or project costs, whichever is less)

*The Special and General Provisions attached are made a part of and incorporated into this Grant Agreement.

MARIPOSA COUNTY  
Applicant

By

Signature of Authorized Representative
Miles Minetry

Title
Board Chair, Mariposa County

Date NOV 26, 2019

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

By

Title: Gabrielle Avina
Staff Chief, Cooperative Fire Programs

Date

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SIGNATURE OF CAL FIRE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

DATE

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

STEVEN W. DAHLEM
VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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Natural Resources Agency

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**LOCAL AGENCY:**
Mariposa County Fire Department  
P.O. Box 162  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
Attention: Fire Chief  
Telephone Number(s): 209-966-4330  
FAX Number: 209-966-0252  
E-mail: bernie.quinn@fire.ca.gov

**STATE:**
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Grants Management Unit, Attn: Megan Esfandiary  
P. O. Box 944246  
Sacramento, California 94244-2460  
PHONE: (916) 653-3649

12. **PURPOSE:** Any project to be funded hereunder must be intended to specifically assist LOCAL AGENCY to organize, train, and/or equip local firefighting forces in the aforementioned rural area and community to prevent or suppress fires which threaten life, resources, and/or improvements within the area of operation of LOCAL AGENCY.

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19. **DISPUTES**: In the event of any dispute over qualifying matching expenditures of LOCAL AGENCY, the dispute will be decided by STATE and its decision shall be final and binding.

20. **INDEMNIFICATION**: LOCAL AGENCY agrees to indemnify, defend, and save harmless, the STATE, its officers, agents, and employees, from any and all claims and losses, accruing or resulting to any and all contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, laborers, and any other person, firm or corporation furnishing or supplying work services, materials, or supplies in connection with the performance of this Agreement, and from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any person, firm or corporation who may be injured or damaged by LOCAL AGENCY in the performance of this Agreement.

21. **DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS**: LOCAL AGENCY will comply with the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1990 and will provide a drug-free workplace by taking the following actions:

   a. Publish a statement notifying employees that unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited and specifying actions to be taken against employees for violations.

   b. Establish a Drug-Free Awareness Program to inform employees about:

      1) the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

      2) the person's or organization's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
3) any available counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs; and,

4) penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.

c. Every employee who works on the proposed Agreement will:

1) receive a copy of the company's drug-free workplace policy statement; and,

2) agree to abide by the terms of the company's statement as a condition of employment on the Agreement.

Failure to comply with these requirements may result in suspension of payments under the Agreement or termination of the Agreement or both and LOCAL AGENCY may be ineligible for funding of any future State Agreement if the department determines that any of the following has occurred: (1) the LOCAL AGENCY has made false certification, or violated the certification by failing to carry out the requirements as noted above. (GC 8350 et seq.)

22. **TERM:** The term of the Agreement SHALL COMMENCE ON THE LAST SIGNATORY DATE ON PAGE 1 and continue through June 30, 2020.

23. **TERMINATION:** This Agreement may be terminated by either party giving 30 days written notice to the other party or provisions herein amended upon mutual consent of the parties hereto.

24. **AMENDMENTS:** No amendment or variation of the terms of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in writing, signed by the parties and approved as required. No oral understanding or Agreement not incorporated in the Agreement is binding on any of the parties.

25. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR:** LOCAL AGENCY, and the agents and employees of LOCAL AGENCY, in the performance of this Agreement, shall act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees or agents of the STATE or the Federal Government.