RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2021-671

MEETING: December 14, 2021

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mike Van Loben Sels, Acting Fire Chief

RE: Approve the Submittal of an Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grant

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Authorize the Fire Chief to Submit an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Application through FEMA for reimbursement costs up to $549,389.14 with a match of $27,469.46 for total of $576,858.60 for Purchase of Replacement Self Contained Breathing Apparatus; Approve Grant Agreement; and Authorize the Fire Chief to Sign the Agreement if Awarded (Subject to Approval as to Legal Form by County Counsel).

The AFG grant is a program administered by FEMA. The grant’s purpose is to enable rural fire departments to purchase safety equipment so they can stay in compliance with National Fire Protection Association safety standards while engaged in firefighting activities.

Currently Mariposa County Fire utilizes Honeywell SCBA packs and bottles. This is required safety equipment to work in and around IDLH (Immediate dangerous to life and health) per NFPA 1500. Additionally Honeywell went out of business thus we have no ability to support repairs or replacement of packs or parts. The bottles utilized are coming upon their lifecycle and in need of replacement over the next 2 years. Currently these packs are beginning to show signs of wear with 10 packs that are out of service and no ability to repair. With needing to purchase replacement bottles and packs, Fire would like to change over to SCOTT brand who is a known reputable company and utilized by Cal Fire who is the largest cooperating agency we respond with. Total replacement vs partial over the next 2 years would reduce the need to train on two different style of pack, eliminate two different fit testing requirements, as well as better purchase price buying in bulk.

The approval to apply for this grant could enable Mariposa County Fire Department (MCFD) to purchase Ninety (90) new Scott X3 PRO Air-pack (SCBA) and Ninety (90) Carbon Wrapped 4500 psi/45 minute Cylinders. This grant will effectively purchase these required safety equipment for the Department with 5% match that has been budgeted towards this purchase.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
In early-2008 Mariposa County Fire Department (MCFD) purchased 99 new, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) compliant SCBAs using Federal Emergency Management Agency-Assistance for Firefighters Grant (FEMA-AFG) funds.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Mariposa County Fire Department will lose the available grant funds to replace its SCBA's and will seek alternative means to purchase.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
This is a request for up to $576,858.60 through an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (FEMA AFG) with a 5% match of $27,469.46 that is allocated and available within the Fire Department Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:
FEMAGO - Application (MHTML)
SF424_4_Fed_Assist_form view (PDF)
SF424A-V1. budget view (PDF)
SF424B-V1.1 non construction view (PDF)
SFLLL_2.0-V2. lobbyist view (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Rosemaric Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: Tom Sweeney, District II Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Sweeney, Long, Forsythe, Menetrey