

DEPARTMENT: Fire Protection

BY: Jim Wilson, Fire Chief
PHONE: 209-966-4330

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Authorize the Fire Chief to apply for FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG). The grants will consist of four separate applications. Due to major guideline revisions, two of the applications will be presented as regional project partnerships with Mariposa County and Mariposa Public Utility District (MPUD) to purchase vital firefighter safety and operational equipment beneficial to both agencies.

The grants will require a 5% cost share and expenditures proposed in the FY 08/09 budget would meet the match requirement. The 5% cost share for the two partnership grants will be pro-rated to reflect equipment distribution between departments.

The grants will allow the purchase of two (2) new Rescue units; twenty (20) Thermal Imaging Cameras equipped with two (2) Mobile Monitors and four (4) Transmitters; Personal Protection Gear and Pagers. The grants will require a total 5% cost share of \$53,634 for the county of Mariposa.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Board has approved grant applications in the past allowing the purchase of new safety equipment and apparatus. Approval is requested in advance of the grant guideline publication to avoid delays in submitting applications.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Forgo an opportunity to purchase new fire equipment.

Financial Impact? (X) Yes () No	Current FY Cost: \$	Annual Recurring Cost: \$
Budgeted In Current FY? () Yes () No () Partially Funded		
Amount in Budget: \$		List Attachments, number pages consecutively
Additional Funding Needed: \$53,634		[1-2] Preliminary Request
Source:		
Internal Transfer		
Unanticipated Revenue	_____ 4/5's vote	
Transfer Between Funds	_____ 4/5's vote	
Contingency	_____ 4/5's vote	
() General () Other		

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 08-94 Ord. No. _____
Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: _____
Absent: _____
 Approved
 Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
 No Opinion
Comments:

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

By: _____
Deputy

CAO: 



COUNTY OF MARIPOSA

P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222

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MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: JIM WILSON, Fire Chief

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board *MW*

SUBJECT: Authorize the Fire Chief to Submit Four Grant Applications for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) Program. The Grants will Require a 5% Cost Share and Expenditures Proposed in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget Would Meet the Match Requirements

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on March 18, 2008

ACTION AND VOTE:

Item 1 – Jim Wilson, Fire Chief, provided input on the grant process and priority rating information they received; and he advised that the request for rescue units has been changed to an application for an engine/water tender. (M)Bibby, (S)Pickard, item 1 was approved, with the change/Ayes: Unanimous.

CA-1 Authorize the Fire Chief to Submit Four Grant Applications for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) Program. The Grants will Require a 5% Cost Share and Expenditures Proposed in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget Would Meet the Match Requirements (Fire Chief)

Cc: Chris Ebie, Auditor
File

Preliminary Request--Permission to Apply 2008 Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program

Grant Program: The Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program was authorized by Congress and funded effective fiscal year 2001 to assist fire departments with funding major firefighter safety and operational equipment as well as fire apparatus that is beyond the budgetary means of local agencies. It has been an overwhelmingly successful program that has, in the past, benefited both Mariposa County Fire and Mariposa Public Utility District (MPUD).

Background: Currently, the AFG program is divided into two major categories. They are:

- Firefighter Safety and Operations
- Fire Apparatus

In 2006 MPUD submitted a successful grant for a new ICS Type 3 Fire Engine. That apparatus was delivered this month. In 2007, MCFD was successful with four different AFG grants totaling more than \$1.5 million.

Final 2008 application guidelines have now been published with an application deadline of April 4, 2008. Per the explanation below, County Fire is proposing four separate applications. Board policy requires advance permission to apply for grants. However, there is very little time left to actually write the complex narratives.

In 2008, FEMA grant program managers will once again focus emphasis on two primary goals:

- Regional project partnerships
- Firefighter safety

These grant requests will meet both goals.

Proposal: Based on emphasis placed on regional project partnerships, a local agency may participate in as many joint applications as there are members in that partnership. In addition, each local agency may apply individually in both grant categories. FEMA's required local match is determined by the population of the community. Since the total population for Mariposa County is under 20,000, all grant awards qualify for the lowest possible matching percentage—five percent.

Following participation in a regional FEMA conference call and a needs evaluation by senior officers from both County Fire and MPUD, the local partnership is proposing four grant applications. They are as follows:

- 1. Regional Partnership-Lead Agency to be MPUD:** Replace aging and overweight Rescue 22. There is but one Rescue for the entire south side of the County. It currently carries vehicle extrication equipment, rescue equipment, reserve breathing air, scene lighting and specialized structure fire equipment. There is much more that needs to be transported to an emergency scene but the current vehicle cannot handle the load. Proposed purchase to be:
Total Cost for Grant #1 (including sales tax)--\$310,000
- 2. Regional Partnership-Lead agency to be MCFD:** Purchase a Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) for each front line engine and truck plus one for each command

vehicle. In addition, purchase two mobile command centers and four TIC transmitters to enable the Incident Commander to observe what the TIC is detecting inside the structure.

- a. 20-Bullard Model T-3 Thermal Imaging Cameras (2 to MPUD, 18 to MCFD)
- b. 2-Mobile Command Centers-Monitor interior activity (Both to MCFD)
- c. 4-TIC Transmitters (All to MCFD)

Total Cost for Grant #2 (including sales tax and shipping)--\$269,670

Note: The five percent local match will be prorated based on the dollar amount of equipment to be owned by each agency.

- 3. **MCFD Application for Firefighter Operations & Safety:** Purchase sufficient structure and wildland personal protection equipment (PPE) and pagers to equip seventy firefighters. With the current growth in the volunteer roster, it is extremely difficult to maintain adequate PPE through the general fund.

Total Cost for Grant #3 (including sales tax and shipping)--\$240,974

- 4. **MCFD Application for Fire Apparatus:** Replace aging and overweight Rescue 26. There is but one Rescue for the entire north side of the County. It currently carries vehicle extrication equipment, rescue equipment, reserve breathing air, scene lighting and specialized structure fire equipment. There is much more that needs to be transported to an emergency scene but the current vehicle cannot handle the load. Proposed purchase to be:

Total Cost for Grant #4 (including sales tax)--\$310,000

Request: As stated above, grant application deadline is April 4, 2008. A considerable amount of staff time will be required to write four justification narratives. Consequently, advance permission is requested to begin work. If one or all of the applications are successful, a preliminary award letter is sent to the local agency. The agency and its elected officials then have 30 days to accept or reject each grant award. In the case of the two regional partnership applications, both elected bodies would be required to approve the award(s).

With a five percent match requirement, the FEMA-AFG program offers small rural agencies the best financing leverage available. Without grant funding, it will take many years to replace this equipment.

AFG Budget

<u>Grant Project</u>	<u>Federal</u>	<u>MCFD</u>	<u>MPUD</u>	<u>Total</u>
Rescue 22	294,500	13,950*	1,550*	310,000
Thermal Imaging	256,187	12,135*	1,348*	269,670
PPE and Pagers	228,925	12,049	N/A	240,974
Rescue 26	294,500	15,500	N/A	310,000
Totals	1,074,112	53,634	2,898	1,130,644

* Based on allocation of equipment MCFD assumes 90% & MPUD 10% of the grant match (5% of total project cost).