



WASHOE COUNTY

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CM/ACM
Finance h/a
DA
Risk Mgt. n/a
HR n/a
Grant Mgt. n/a

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 28, 2016

DATE: June 8, 2016
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Aaron Kenneston, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Program
(775) 337-5898, Akenneston@WashoeCounty.us

THROUGH: Al Rogers, Management Services Director

SUBJECT: Approve the creation of an intermittent hourly position, Fire Protection Officer (Gerlach) at pay grade FEII to provide fire suppression and emergency services to the area of unincorporated Washoe County that is located north of Township 22 and includes the town of Gerlach, Nevada. The cost of the position will be fully offset within the adopted annual County Manager's budget with existing funding or with a (SAFER) grant at a total estimated cost of [\$0]. (Washoe Commission District 5)

SUMMARY

This report recommends the Board of County Commission approve the creation of an intermittent hourly Fire Protection Officer (Gerlach) position in the Office of the County Manager to provide fire suppression and emergency services to the area of unincorporated Washoe County that is located North of Township 22 and includes Gerlach, Nevada.

The position will serve to provide continuity of operations for Gerlach Fire Services to maintain the fire station and equipment, recruit volunteers and develop a sustainable program, and ensure coverage for medical and fire issues in the large geographic area when one of the two full-time positions must leave the area and a volunteer is not available.

Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

The Washoe County Commission approved the creation of two (2) new positions including one (1) Fire Services Community Coordinator at pay grade NN and one (1) Fire Protection Officer at pay grade II on April 26, 2016.

AGENDA ITEM # 5H9

BACKGROUND

This Board of County Commissioner's approved staffing of the Gerlach station with the new Fire Services Community Coordinator and Fire Protection Officer beginning in the new fiscal year 2017. The two job class specifications were submitted to the State of Nevada to receive PERS public safety eligibility approval.

By implementing this Fire Services Community Coordinator (FSCC) and Fire Protection Officer (FPO) model, the County now has direct representatives to work with the community, establish mutual aid agreements with surrounding communities, maintain facilities and equipment, as well as recruit and establish a sustainable organization with training for volunteers.

During the stand-up period of this new model it will be extremely important to have two representatives on-site at all times because ambulance service requires a driver and an attendant. During the first 60-90 days in particular an intermittent Fire Protection Officer is necessary to provide coverage if one of the full-time employees must leave the area and a volunteer is not available. It is anticipated that the need and frequency of the intermittent hourly employee will decrease as volunteers are recruited and trained, but will be limited to working a maximum of 1,039 hours per fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPACT

If approved, the anticipated start date of the new position is July 1, 2016. It is anticipated that the adopted FY17 Fire Suppression budget is sufficient in supporting costs associated with the position.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the creation of an intermittent hourly position, Fire Protection Officer (Gerlach) at pay grade FEII to provide fire suppression and emergency services to the area of unincorporated Washoe County that is located north of Township 22 and includes the town of Gerlach, Nevada. The cost of the position will be fully offset within the adopted annual County Manager's budget with existing funding or with a (SAFER) grant at a total estimated cost of [\$0]; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget adjustments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *“move to approve the creation of an intermittent hourly position, Fire Protection Officer (Gerlach) at pay grade FEII to provide fire suppression and emergency services to the area of unincorporated Washoe County that is located north of Township 22 and includes the town of Gerlach, Nevada. The cost of the position will be fully offset within the adopted annual County Manager's budget with existing funding or with a (SAFER) grant at a total estimated cost of [\$0]; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget adjustments.*