



Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Grants and Finance Committee

Minutes

May 19, 2022, 10:30 A.M.

Regional Emergency Operations Center
5195 Spectrum Boulevard, Reno, Nevada

1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (Non-action item)

Chair Brian Taylor called the meeting to order at 10:30a.m. A quorum was established:

PRESENT: Andy Ancho – RFD; Brian Taylor – REMSA; Roy Anderson – WCSD; Nick Klaich - SFD; Shyanne Schull – WCRAS; Ryan Rizzuto - TMFPD; Zebulon Nomura – TMFPD; Jason Woodard – SPD; Kelly Echeverria – WCEM; and Andrea Esp – WCHD

ABSENT: Marc Bello – WCSO; Dale Carnes - RTAA; Tracy Moore – WCSD; Jon McNamara – RFD; Ian Dasmann – TMWA; Elizabeth Kunz – RPD; Jim Nelligan – NLTFPD; and Eric Millette – SFD.

Also present: Wade Carter - Legal; Francisco Ceballos - Secretary/Treasurer;

2. PUBLIC COMMENT –

Jason Woodard clarified that he is present and apologized for arriving a little late.

3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 17, 2022, GRANTS & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES [FOR POSSIBLE ACTION] – Brian Taylor, Chair

Brian Tayler noted some changes needed to the minutes document from March 17th. He said Nick Klaich should be noted as representing Sparks Fire Department, not Truckee Meadows Fire. Aaron White was noted and should be changed to Aaron Wike. Brian also requested that the PIO from North Lake be changed to North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District. He also asked that Wade Carner be changed to Carter.

It was moved by Brian Taylor, seconded by Kelly Echeverria to approve the minutes with the suggested changes.

There was no public comment.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW AND APPROVAL [FOR POSSIBLE ACTION] – Prioritization and approval by the LEPC Grants and Finance Subcommittee on Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Mid Cycle, COVID and United We Stand (UWS) grant applications submissions from LEPC disciplines. Approved applications will be submitted to SERC. – Francisco Ceballos, LEPC Secretary\Treasurer

Francisco began with the Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Mid Cycle grant application which had a focus on COVID-19 related materials. The City of Reno Fire Department submitted an application for \$42,000, primarily for PPE to create multiple layers of protection against exposure to COVID. The funds would be for gloves which can be worn by firefighters during EMS calls.

Kelly Echeverria asked for clarification on what the grant is meant to be used for. Francisco explained that the requirements were relatively open as long as applicants are seeking materials which are related to COVID-19 protection. Francisco explained that he clarified with SERC on limitations for the grant and found that it was left open as long as it is related to COVID. Brian Taylor asked if the grant still needs to be related to hazardous materials as HMEP grants usually are. Francisco said that it can be for any PPE purposes for this grant related to Coronavirus. Kelly added that usually HMEP funds are meant to be used for training or exercise. Francisco said he can clarify with SERC again. Brian Taylor said historically the grant is not meant for equipment. Kelly asked for Francisco to send her the communication from SERC on the grant before voting.

Brian asked Wade for clarification on whether they can wait to vote on the first application while Kelly seeks more information on the HMEP grant. Wade said it would be best to wait on voting on any of the grants until they can all be voted on.

Francisco moved on to the United We Stand (UWS) grant which had two applicants: REMSA and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD). Francisco began with REMSA's application for the UWS grant. The application was for \$29,800 to purchase 40 ballistic vests which cost \$745 each. Brian Taylor offered to present more on the application to the group. He explained that the application from REMSA was put in by the Safety Supervisor. He said that ballistic vests are important to protect responders, especially those who may be in the line of fire. Ballistic vests also have expiration dates and there are a number already in possession which are coming up on their expiration dates. He added that a greater number of vests are also needed. There were no questions from the committee members.

Francisco then moved on to the UWS application from Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. He asked if Zebulon Nomura would like to present on the grant. Zeb explained that the application is for Cyanokits for the region which includes TMFPD, Reno Fire District, Sparks Fire District, as well as some hospitals. Regionally, many of the existing kits are starting to expire. Cyanokits are needed when there is smoke, fire or cyanide which can lead to exposure or poisoning. This needs to be administered as soon as possible to reduce cyanide in the system. The application was submitted with three different levels. The first would allow Cyanokits to be placed in each station within the region as well as hospitals. Plan B would mean placing kits in areas with longer response times in outer regions, as well as centrally located kits. Plan C would mean having enough kits to place on some response vehicles throughout the region. The application was for \$31,894.

Wade said that he noticed Shyanne Schull left the meeting and he needed to clarify that quorum is still met. Kelly Echeverria said Shyanne is her backup so quorum is still met.

Brian Taylor clarified with Zeb that the different plans he presented are based on the number of vests they are able to get. Zeb agreed. Brian Taylor asked how many vests are associated with each plan. Zeb Nomura said Plan A is for 29 kits, Plan B is for 14, Plan C is for 6 or 7. Brian asked if Francisco could quickly calculate how much money that would be for each plan. Brian also asked if the Cyanokits could be part of an OPTE grant if need be. Kelly Echeverria explained that OPTE is for Operations, Planning, Training, and Equipment. She added that LEPC has purchased Cyanokits in the past and suggested researching what grant those were previously purchased under. Kelly asked Francisco to look that information up in the database. Brian Taylor wanted to see if there was a way to get additional funding through another grant if all the kits can't be purchased through UWS. Andy Ancho confirmed that previous Cyanokits were purchased through UWS as well.

Brian opened the floor for discussion of the grants presented. Brian explained that he feels that ballistic vests and Cyanokits are equally important for the region. Jason Woodard asked if there was potential to open up the request for vests to other agencies as well. Brian explained that United We Stand is capped at \$30,000 and the committee can only discuss the applications already presented. Kelly Echeverria added that vests have been purchased for REMSA in the past. Brian affirmed that this is true and more recently REMSA also received ballistic helmets through LEPC as well. He clarified that it is to replace vests that are about to expire. Kelly asked how many vests REMSA is looking for. Brian clarified that this application is to purchase 40 vests even though more are needed. Brian said he is willing to cut the number requested to 20 if it allows TMFPD to receive funding as well. Zeb Nomura said the protection of first responders is really important. He added that the Cyanokits are one kit per patient so if the number is reduced, it reduces directly the number of people that can be treated. He added that in any one situation where people are exposed to smoke, Cyanokits may be needed and there are usually more than 29 people on scene which is the max number of kits requested in the application.

Ryan Rizzuto said he fully recognizes the need for ballistic vests, but from the TRIAD and Tox-Medic side of the conversation, there can easily be a situation where more than one Cyanokit is needed, especially in terms of smoke exposure. Hospitals also often do not have enough kits. Having Tox-Medics trained to use these kits would benefit the entire region instead of a single entity.

Andy Ancho asked for clarification on the expiration of ballistic vests. He asked when the vests expire and what part expires. Brian said he doesn't have an exact date for expiration, but it is close to when they would potentially receive new vests. The part that expires is the ballistic panels. Jason Woodard said the soft panels usually last five years and plates can last up to 15 years. Andy clarified then that REMSA has soft paneled vests. Brian agreed.

Kelly Echeverria asked if REMSA and TMFPD supplied two quotes in their applications. Zeb said that there is only one distributor who sells Cyanokits now. There is only one quote included in the TMFPD application for that reason. Brian said he was not aware that two quote were required for the application but that another quote can be procured. He said that the current quote has a quantity discount included because REMSA will be purchasing some on their own.

Kelly Echeverria asked Zeb if REMSA cut their proposal in half, if TMFPD would be able to still benefit from that amount of money and what that would look like. Zeb Nomura said that would place them within Plan B of their proposal. He would need to speak with Sparks and Reno on where they would like to place their kits. It would be a smaller distribution between the districts.

Brian Taylor asked Francisco for the calculation of half the Cyanokit proposal. Francisco said that for 15 Cyanokits it would cost \$15,924. For 20 ballistic vests it would cost \$14,900. He explained that the UWS grant is for \$32,000 and the proposals cut in half comes to \$30,824. Brian asked if one more Cyanokit could be added in to utilize the remainder in the fund. Francisco said that would come to \$31,886 with 16 Cyanokits and 20 vests. Brian Taylor confirmed with Zeb Nomura that they would be receiving 2 more kits than their Plan B proposal.

Andy Ancho asked whether the ballistic vests could fit under the OPTE grant. Brian said that they have been told before that they could not get the vests through OPTE. Francisco and Andy said that the vests likely can't be funded through OPTE because they are not connected to hazardous material. Brian suggested that Francisco look into whether the Cyanokits could be funded through OPTE as they may fit there.

It was moved by Brian Taylor, seconded by Zebulon Nomura to approve that Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) receive funding to purchase 20 ballistic vests and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) receive funding to purchase 16 Cyanokits through the United We Stand (UWS) grant.

There was no public comment.

The motion passed unanimously.

Brian Taylor directed the discussion back to the HMEP Mid Cycle grant and asked Kelly Echeverria to share her findings. Francisco went to check her office to ask her back to the meeting. Andy Ancho read an email from Tammy Beauregard stating that the fund could be used for, “masks, gloves, and sanitizers”. Brian Taylor said that it sounds like the application from the City of Reno Fire Department is admissible therefore. Francisco clarified that Kelly had to leave and was trying to call into the meeting to speak. He clarified that they still have quorum. Kelly joined the call and agreed with Andy’s findings that RFD is within the bounds of the grant.

It was moved by Kelly Echeverria, seconded by Andy Ancho to approve the City of Reno Fire Department application for HMEP Mid Cycle funding.

There was no public comment.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF CURRENT LEPC GRANTS AND FINANCES – Status of active grants and acceptance of awards – Francisco Ceballos, LEPC Secretary\Treasurer

Francisco said that for the FY 22 HMEP Mid Cycle grant, the backfill for Reno Fire Department has gone through both the Board of County Commissioners and Reno City Council. Francisco said he would continue to work to get this grant completed.

The FY22 OPTE grant is currently at \$17,204 which expires at the end of June. This is for operations and equipment. The Toxic Vapor Analyzers still need to be purchased.

For FY22 UWS, the funding for ballistic helmets for REMSA has been spent and they should be receiving a payment voucher soon. The lasers for Washoe County Sheriff’s Office have been purchased as well. There is \$15,226 left in the fund. Francisco spoke with Zeb recently about the ballistic plates for TMFPD; the claim for that purchase can be completed soon as well. The UWS funds are almost all spent down.

The FY20 HSGP COOP are almost all spent with \$779.69 left. The FY20 HSGP Program Assistant grant has \$28,225.09 left. Once the FY20 grants are complete, they will move on to the FY21 grants.

The FY23 UWS grant was approved earlier in the meeting.

The FY23 OPTE grant was approved by the state and will continue to the Board of County Commissioners.

Brian Taylor asked if Francisco could reach out to SERC to see if more Cyanokits could be purchased with other grants such as HMEP or OPTE. Francisco clarified that this would be to use leftover funds already received but not awarded to an applicant yet. Kelly Echeverria suggested that it would be best to keep the same materials under the same grant. Brian clarified that he just wanted to make sure that everyone is getting as much out of the funding as possible.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS. No discussion among Committee members will take place on this item.

There was no comment on this item.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT –

There was no public comment.

8. Brian Taylor adjourned meeting at 11:23am.