

Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee

Grants & Finance Subcommittee

Minutes

Thursday, February 11, 2016 ~ 10:00 A.M.

REGIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

5195 SPECTRUM BOULEVARD, RENO, NEVADA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL - (Non-action item)

Chair Gitmed called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A quorum was established.

PRESENT: Jerry Baldrige – Washoe County Sheriff's Office; Michelle Gitmed – Reno Police Department; Bob Leighton - Reno Fire Department; Eric Millette – Sparks Fire Department; Tracy Moore – Washoe County School District; Jim Reid – Sparks Fire Department; Bob Sack – Washoe County District Health; Bobby Smith – Washoe County Animal Services; and Brian Taylor – REMSA. Jack Byrom – TMWA, joined the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

ABSENT: Jim Bolton – Reno Fire Department; Kent Choma – Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center; Bruce – Hicks – North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District; Aaron Kenneston – Washoe County Emergency Management; Tim Leighton – Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District; Tom Miller – Sparks Police Department; Tim Spencer – Reno Fire Department;

Nathan Edwards – Deputy District Attorney, was also present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Non-action item)

There were no public comments.

3. GRANT APPLICATION APPROVAL (For possible action) – *Prioritization and approval by the LEPC Grants & Finance Subcommittee membership on the 2017 State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Planning, Training, Equipment and Operations grant application submissions from LEPC disciplines.*

Chair Gitmed opened the agenda item and drew attention to the copies of the grant spreadsheet (copy on file) pointing out that the requests totaled \$89,502.34 with only \$25,000.00 available. Therefore, it will be necessary to reduce the total grant request significant to meet the allotted funding.

Jack Byrom - TMWA joined meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Cathy Ludwig – Grants Coordinator, outlined the requirements of the grant which must focus on hazardous materials planning, training, equipment and operations. It is Ms. Ludwig's belief that all the applications meet that requirement. The Operations portion of the grant will be handled separately from the planning, training and equipment requests. Ms. Ludwig noted that the grants requests were listed in the order received.

Reno Fire Department - Niosh Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards and Bushnell Binocular Bundle - Request \$6,198.04

Bob Leighton – Reno Fire Department provided an overview of the request noting the Niosh Pocket Guides would be used to replaced outdated guides and provide updated guides and binoculars as needed. Mr. Leighton explained that there are other important requests and that he may reduce the request as the discussion moves forward.

Washoe County Emergency Management – Rad Light Reader – Request \$17,773.30

Cathy Ludwig – Grants Coordinator explained that the request had also been heard as part of the HMEP grant process and had been removed and resubmitted. If approved the additional Rad Light Reader will be used as an additional reader and could be deployed as needed.

Eric Millette – Sparks Fire Department, explained that the region has been allotted a number of Rad Watches which will be deployed once the policies and procedures are in place.

Responding Jerry Baldrige’s inquiry about how often the current device is utilized, Mr. Millette explained that the policy and procedures had not yet been completed and that all Hazmat team members will receive the watches once the guidelines are established. Mr. Millette noted that additional funding sources are being sought to provide Rad Watches for all first responder police and fire personnel.

Reno Police Department – Tychem F Coveralls and CBRN Canisters – Request \$24,158.00

Trenton Johnson – Reno Police Department, provided an overview of the request noting that existing suits are reaching their end of life and are stored in a climate controlled storage area. The additional canisters will be held for deployment as needed. Mr. Johnson noted that the suits are designed with a 20-year life expectancy and that some of the older suits are still in use using a triple tape technique.

Washoe County Animal Services – Animal Decontamination System – Request \$9,731.52

Bobby Smith – Washoe County Animal Services, recalled instances in which Washoe County Animals Services are called in to assist in decontamination of service and other animals during hazardous materials incident. Mr. Smith noted that the animals, especially K-9 units involved in the incident need to be decontaminated as quickly as possible to avoid ingesting the contamination or spreading it due to their fur. Mr. Smith emphasized that the decontamination would be used on any animal including K-9 units.

Bob Sack – Washoe County District Health, commented that there have been instances, specifically Sierra Chemical where search and reduce dogs were used and that there were significant issues in contaminations that the handlers might not know how to address.

Mr. Smith noted that Washoe County Animal Services will work with K-9 handlers in the training of the K-9 units so that they are more comfortable with the decontamination process.

TRIAD – Kappler Fully Encapsulating Level A Suits – Request \$19,900.00

Eric Millette – Sparks Fire, summarized the request noting that the grant specifically targets Hazardous Materials. Mr. Millette pointed out that these are a must have item for hazardous materials responders and that while he has been able to adjust requests in the past this is a critical need as the existing suits must be replaced.

Jim Reid - Sparks Fire, commented that there is one manufacturer that states the suits do not expire in 5-years if proper stored and pass an annual inspection.

Responding to Bob Sack's inquiry about whether the request could be reduced, Mr. Millette stated that the request is for the minimum number of suits needed before July 2016. Mr. Millette explained that the TRIAD operates solely on grant funds and that he is unsure of what other grant fund might be available to cover the cost of the suits. Mr. Millette explained that he had reviewed other fire related grants and found that none were hazmat response related.

UNR – Outfit a Training Laboratory for Lab Safety, Hazmat Handling and Spill Clean-up Request \$11,741.48

Spencer Lewis – UNR, outlined the request pointing out that there are ±500 laboratories on the UNR campus with some 85,000 chemicals in storage. Mr. Lewis noted that the current training process is perhaps not the most effective means of training as there is limited hand-on training in the handling of the various chemicals. Mr. Lewis noted that UCF (University of Central Florida) has implemented such a program and has significantly reduced the number of spills being reported. Mr. Lewis explained that he is not familiar with the funding sources used by UCF and recalled an incident where a student that had attended the training had mixed materials that exploded and injured the student.

Responding to Chair Gitmed's question about whether the request would qualify for the UWS grant, Ms. Ludwig noted that the UWS grant targets law enforcement and that the UWS funding level had also been reduced to \$25,000.00. Ms. Ludwig also explained that the Washoe County Animal Services request would qualify for the UWS grant as well.

During the discussion it was pointed out that a number of agencies would be competing for UWS funding and that the grant, if pulled, would have to be revised to meet UWS criteria and how it relates to terrorism.

Trent Johnson pulled the Reno Police Department request and explained it would be resubmitted for the UWS grant.

Ms. Ludwig explained that this particular grant focuses Hazmat response and has traditionally been awarded to TRIAD as the first responder to hazardous materials incidents.

During the discussion it was suggested that perhaps the Reno Police Department request could be reduced to provide some funding for a lesser number of suits.

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Mr. Smith stated the he would pull the trailer from the request reducing the request to \$6,092.27.

Mr. Taylor concurred with Mr. Sack's recommendation that TRIAD be fully funded given the need for the Level A suits.

Mr. Johnson removed the CBRN canisters from the Reno Police request leaving the Tychem F Coveralls.

Bob Leighton pulled the Reno Fire Department request stating that Reno Police and TRIAD are top priorities.

Mr. Spencer removed the Jerome Mercury Vapor Analyzer reducing the request to \$3,866.40.

Cathy Ludwig stated that Washoe County Emergency Management would pull the Rad Light Reader request.

Mr. Millette stated he would take ownership of the removal of the Rad Light Reader request.

It was moved by Jerry Baldrige, seconded by Brian Taylor, to prioritize the funding requests as follows; 1) TRIAD; 2) Reno Police Department; and 3) Washoe County Animal Services. MOTION CARRIED.

During the discussion it was explained that the quoted cost for the Tychem F Coveralls did not change if the number of units was reduced. As the discussion continued it was suggested that Reno Police Department could find additional funding it was explained that the additional paperwork to allow an agency to cover additional costs was time consuming and not recommended.

Mr. Smith reduced the Animal Services request to a wash rack mat, tarp and zip tie.

It was moved by Chair Gitmed, seconded by Bob Leighton, to recommend that the LEPC General Membership approve the 2017 State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Planning, Training, Equipment and Operations grant application submissions from LEPC disciplines in the following priority: 1) TRIAD 8 Kappler Fully Encapsulating Suits: 8 Size XL \$12,800.00, 4 Size XXL \$7,100.00, total request \$19,900.00; 2) Reno Police Department: 21 Tychem F Coveralls \$4,942.56 and 2 CBRN Canisters \$118.00, total request 5,060.56; and 3) Washoe County Animal Services; Wash Rack Mat \$18.99, 1 zip tie \$4.99 and 8'x10'tarp \$14.48, total request \$38.46, for a total grant request of \$24,999.02. MOTION CARRIED.

It was moved by Chair Gitmed, seconded by Brian Taylor, to recommend that the LEPC General Membership approve the operations grant as follows 1) \$2,000.00 for operations; and 2) \$2,000.00 for recording services, total grant request \$4,000.00. MOTION CARRIED.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-action item)

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Cathy Ludwig – Grants Coordinator, stated that she would explain how the Washoe County Animal Services grant request approved for a tarp, zip tie and mat met the criteria of the grant since not everything associated with the decontamination request had been approved.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gitmed adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.