



Meeting Minutes Nevada Public Safety Communications Committee (NPSCC) Grants Subcommittee

Attendance	DATE	Thursday, May 10, 2018	
	TIME	9:00 A.M.	
	LOCATION	Nevada Division of Emergency Management Executive Conference Room 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, Nevada 89701 Las Vegas Valley Emergency Management Center Executive Conference Room 7551 Sauer Drive Las Vegas, Nevada 89128	
	METHOD	Teleconference and Videoconference	
	RECORDER	Shealyne Schultz	
Committee Members	Present	Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	Present
Scott Taylor	X	Shea Schultz (NDEM Staff)	X
Sandi Barfield	X	Samantha Ladich (DAG Rep)	X
Vinnie Puglia	X	Kelli Anderson (NDEM Staff)	X
Dane Mattoon		Melissa Friend (NDEM Staff)	X
William Olsen	X		

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Chair, Scott Taylor called the meeting to order and Shealyne Schultz called roll. A quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair, Scott Taylor opened the meeting for public comment. There was none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair, Scott Taylor opened this agenda item for approval of the minutes from the April 26, 2017, NPSCC Grants Subcommittee meeting. William Olsen made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Sandi Barfield seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

4. FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2018 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) PROJECT PROPOSAL REVIEW

Chair, Scott Taylor opened this agenda item requesting clarification on the process. Shealyne Schultz and Kelli Anderson provided a brief overview of the ranking process. Projects will be presented to the members and then Subcommittee members will rank the projects by funding stream (Statewide Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)) according to the ranking form provided. A total of ten projects were

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reviewed; seven SHSP and three UASI. Presenters were asked to provide an overview of their projects.

Project F: Emergency Management Operational Coordination – UASI

This request is to sustain the ability to maintain the cloud based software for the videoconference equipment purchased and for additional WebEOC software applications. These software applications increase the ability to exchange information and collaborate with the State, Local, and Federal partners.

Questions:

William Olsen asked if the videoconferencing equipment is dependent on this software.

Answer: Karen Taylor with Clark County Office of Emergency Management advised that it is as it requires the cloud based software.

William Olsen asked if they are dependent on this funding year after year.

Answer: Karen Taylor confirmed that they are.

Project J: North Central Nevada Mobile Repeater and Tow Vehicle – SHSP

This request is for funding to build and equip a mobile digital radio repeater and a one-ton towing capacity pickup to tow the trailer to locations where the use is deemed necessary. This mobile repeater can be taken into remote and mountainous areas to expand radio communications or be used as an emergency replacement for an existing radio repeater in the event it is rendered inoperable. These capabilities would benefit several agencies.

Questions:

Kelli Anderson noted this was discussed during the Homeland Security Working Group (HSWG) as there is a challenge with buying a truck that is double the price of the communications. She explained that when procured it would need to be for this piece of equipment. Additionally, the truck is on a restricted equipment list for command vehicles and would need to be outfitted properly, have policies and procedures in place, and would need to be used strictly for this repeater.

Answer: Lieutenant Sean Wilkin, Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, advised they have had discussions within the agency regarding this. The vehicle would remain under his control as he is the emergency manager for them. Additionally, they have determined other roles the vehicle can be used for emergency management. He added that they are not looking to put it out as a patrol vehicle.

Kelli added that by grant guidelines this would need to be very deployable and would be subject to other areas within Nevada or neighboring states that may need it. This would be for the repeater and the vehicle. It was noted that they cannot choose a brand and it would need to go out to bid properly.

William Olsen questioned if there was a possibility of building the repeater into the truck itself to eliminate the concern of using it for other purposes.

Answer: Lt. Wilkins advised they would like to be able to use the repeater with the mobile command center vehicle they have as well, and would like to avoid deploying two vehicles if it's not necessary.

Kelli asked if the mobile command center would be able to tow the repeater.

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Answer: Lt. Wilkins stated it can.

Kelli provided more information on the restricted equipment list process ensuring Subcommittee members understood this is an additional step they would need to take.

Project KK: Quad County/NSRS Integration and Capability/Interoperability Enhancement – SHSP

This request is for enhancements and integration of the Quad County's (Carson City, Douglas County, Lyon County, and Storey County) VHF and LMR radio systems into the Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS) via interoperability gateways. The applicant will be re-submitting three different options for this project to allow for scalability, however for ranking, the project that will be ranked is the second option overviewed. This option would allow for the installation of interoperability cards at each dispatch center in order to connect existing resources, provide 6 all-band radios to each agency, and provide a single VIP portable NSRS native console to each agency. The total for the project would be \$395,000.

Questions:

William Olsen asked if this extends NSRS to other participants so they would have coverage within these four counties.

Answer: James Jacklett, Carson City Public Works, advised that this would allow for individuals to turn to the set channel to communicate. It would extend the range and coverage that is currently present on NSRS.

Kelli Anderson spoke to some discussions that were had at the HSWG. She noted her concern with enough work being done on the project between the Quad Counties. She wants to ensure they are having open and transparent conversations, and planning is done properly. She added that when using Homeland Security dollars for communications projects they need to ensure they are using this for the nexus to terrorism. She questioned why the individual counties aren't procuring the equipment for themselves.

Mr. Jacklett spoke to the coordination that is being done with the communications individuals within the specific counties.

Project DDD: Elko County Multi-Agency Communications Center – SHSP

This request is to improve their current, outdated, 9-1-1 system. There are three public safety access points (PSAPs) in the county. They are located in Elko, West Wendover, and the Duck Valley Indian Reservation. This project would replace the current system with Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911), and would fall in line with the Governor's decision to opt-in to the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). This would allow them to work collaboratively with other jurisdictions.

Ben Reed, Elko County Police Chief, spoke to their current system and advised they don't currently have Basic 9-1-1 they have call forwarding which is initiated by the phone company. He commented on the nexus to terrorism and the large concentration of mines in the area. Currently, they face problems with theft of explosives, movement of explosives, and Hazmat incidents. Chief Reed added that this project is tied into Project FFF for the Owyhee Dispatch Center.

Questions:

William Olsen noted the proposal outlines two phases and asked if the first one was completed.

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Answer: Annette Kerr, Elko County Emergency Manager, advised it has.

William Olsen commented on NG911 being IP based. He asked if these IP-based services are available in Elko and adequate to support this or will upgrades need to be completed.

Answer: Chief Reed noted that they are available in some areas. For those areas that are supported they are working with a consultant to determine a solution.

William Olsen asked if Project DDD and Project FFF can operate independently if one or the other is not approved.

Answer: They can operate independently if only one is funded.

Kelli Anderson asked how many people this project impacts.

Answer: Ms. Kerr advised the entire population would be affected. This is approximately 52,000 residents. For the tribal nation alone it would be approximately 1,000 residents. Ms. Kerr added that Owyhee only handles law enforcement and fire calls. Anything related to emergency medical services (EMS) is dispatched out of Elko, which is 1-2 hours away.

Kelli spoke to a discussion at the HSWG meeting related to prior funding for this and when it was implemented. The current system was launched in 1980. She added that if this project is funded they would need to focus heavily on the terrorism piece when writing the investment justification.

Project EEE: FAO Alternate Facility and Dispatch Training Center Enhancements – UASI

This project is to enhance a prior grant-funded project. It will continue the work on providing an alternative dispatch center as an upgrade to an existing facility at the Veteran's Tribute Career Technical Academy (VTCTA) in the event the primary dispatch center is compromised. This alternate facility is in close proximity to the primary operating office. The funding would allow for additional call taking a dispatch consoles.

Questions:

William Olsen requested clarification on if this is the expansion of the existing facility to add additional capabilities.

Answer: Jeff Buchanan, Clark County Fire Department, advised it is.

William Olsen questioned if the close proximity to the primary office is a sufficient distance for geographic dispersity in the event of a regional incident.

Answer: Mr. Buchanan advised it would be dependent on the incident and would vary largely. However, they believe the location is ideal.

Kelli Anderson commented on the proposal and the need for more definition needed in the project implementation section. She is concerned that if the project is funded it would be difficult to write an investment justification with how it is currently written. She recommended resubmitting the proposal with more detail.

Project FFF: Owyhee Dispatch Multi-Discipline Center – SHSP

This project ties into Project DDD. It will update the existing and outdated 9-1-1 system to the NG9-1-1 system for the Duck Valley Reservation and the surrounding communities. This project will enhance public safety, protect critical infrastructure, and improve adjacent agencies interoperability capabilities.

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Questions: There were none.

Project GGG: Radio Interoperability – SHSP

This project will establish the capability of radio interoperability between tribal police officers and other first responder agencies as well as state and federal agencies. It would allow for each police vehicle to be outfitted with a P-25 compliant radio as well as additional radios for their police dispatch center. This will allow direct communication between tribal police, other first responders, and different agency dispatch centers.

Questions:

William Olsen noted the initial Southern Nevada Area Communications Council (SNACC) fee and how that will be sustained through the years.

Answer: James Owens, Chief of Police for the Las Vegas Paiute Police Department, advised this will be paid by the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe.

Sandi Barfield asked what radios are currently being used.

Answer: Chief Owens advised they are using SNACC, but the radios are outdated.

Kelli Anderson clarified that Projects GGG and HHH are duplicate projects with one utilizing SHSP and UASI. If one project is funded the other will not be.

Project HHH: Radio Interoperability – UASI

This project is a duplication of Project GGG, but for the UASI funding stream.

Questions: There were none.

Project III: Radio Upgrade – SHSP

This project is for radio equipment to improve mobile communications for vehicles that are used for dignitary protection and transport of Nevada Legislators within the state. The radios will allow them to communicate with other public safety agencies that utilize the 800MHZ radio system. Additionally, the project will allow for the installation of a bi-directional antenna in the Nevada Legislative building in Carson City. This will allow for enhanced communications for law enforcement personnel deployed within the interior of the building.

Questions: There were none.

Kelli Anderson noted prior discussion at the HSWG meeting on why the legislature was not procuring these. It was noted at the prior meeting that funding was not available at this time.

Project JJJ: Statewide Interoperability Coordinator – SHSP

This project provides sustainment for the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC). This position is responsible for statewide communications governance, coordination, outreach and support. This request is for 15% of funding for the SWIC position. The position is funded 60% by other grants and 25% through the state. Additionally, the request contains funding for interoperability travel, assistance with a Clark County exercise, and supplies.

Questions: There were none.

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Kelli Anderson noted that the SWIC is a requirement for Homeland Security grant funding. She added that the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) is leveraging funding streams to allow them to be more self-sustaining.

Following the project presentations the ranking process took place. Instruction was provided. Each member was advised to read their ranking into the record and Shea Schultz would feed the ranking into a spreadsheet. Results would be provided for the final ranking.

Scott Taylor, Sandi Barfield, Vinnie Puglia and William Olsen all read their rankings into the record. The SHSP funding resulted in one numerical tie for 4th place between Projects FFF and GGG. The Subcommittee attempted to take majority ranking to break the tie; however that resulted in a tie as well. The Subcommittee decided to send forward as a tie, but noting that there are multiple funding streams available for Project GGG.

Shea read into record the final results as follows:

SHSP Projects:

1. JJJ – Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)
2. DDD – Elko County Multi-Agency Communications Center
3. III – Radio Upgrade
4. FFF – Owyhee Dispatch Multi-Discipline Center
4. GGG – Radio Interoperability
5. J – North Central Nevada Mobile Repeater and Tow Vehicle
6. Quad County/NSRS Integration and Capability/Interoperability Enhancement

UASI Projects:

1. HHH – Radio Interoperability
2. F – Emergency Management Operational Coordination
3. EEE – FAO Alternate Facility and Dispatch Training Center

William Olson made a motion to approve the rankings as read with the notification that Project GGG has multiple funding streams available. Sandi Barfield seconded. All were in favor with no opposition and the motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chair, Scott Taylor opened the meeting up once again for public comment.

Mike Wilson, Emergency Manager for Clark County School District, thanked the Subcommittee as last year they were able to get funding. He provided a brief update on the project that was approved.

6. ADJOURN.

Chair, Scott Taylor called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandi Barfield made the motion for adjournment. William Olsen seconded. All were in favor with no opposition and the meeting adjourned.