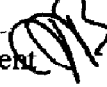


**ACTION ITEM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

DATE June 17, 2008

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: J Robert Brown, Jr, CFC 
Fire and Rescue Department

ISSUE Accept Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program
Award and Budget and Appropriate Funds

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval

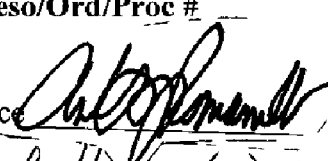
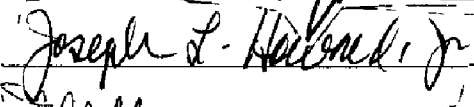

BUDGET IMPACT: See background report

ATTACHMENTS (2)

[1] Background Report [2] Reso/Ord/Proc # R08-317

[] [] Reso/Ord/Proc #

[] [] Reso/Ord/Proc #

REVIEW: [X] County Administrator's Office 
[X] Legal 
[X] Budget 

[X] **Consent Agenda** [] **Other Business** [] **Public Hearing**
[] **Discussion Item** [] **Presentation** [] **Unfinished Business**
[] **New Business**

PRESENTATION BY. N/A

ELECTION DISTRICT N/A

BACKGROUND REPORT

The PSIC Grant Program provides funding to enable and enhance public safety agencies' interoperable communications capabilities. The PSIC Grant Program is a one-time grant opportunity to enhance interoperable capabilities with respect to voice, data, and/or video and encourage the use of innovative cost- and spectrum-efficient technology solutions.

The PSIC Grant Program will assist public safety agencies in the acquisition of, deployment of, or training for the use of interoperable communications systems that utilize or enable interoperability with communications. The grant will assist public safety agencies in exploring and encouraging the use of all available technologies to advance overall public safety radio interoperability, so long as those frequencies will enable first responders to interoperate with the 700 MHz bands in the future.

Each public safety agency receiving PSIC funds is required to meet and document the 20 percent statutory match requirement for each project.

The Stafford County Public Safety Team, which consists of the Fire and Rescue Department and the Sheriff's Office staff applied for and successfully received confirmation in May, 2008 of the award of the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant (PSIC). **The total amount of the grant funding to be budgeted and appropriated is \$165,000.** This is a Federal grant and was just awarded to Stafford County for the full technology refresh of our Public Safety Unified Command Unit. With this money we will purchase and install a high-speed satellite data system, public safety radios, all new computers and software to support emergency communications and resource management from this mobile command vehicle.

We recently used this vehicle on-site for over nine days during the tornado emergency situation in the England Run area of Stafford County. With these technology enhancements, the vehicle will have increased communication flexibility for our locality as well as our neighboring localities for additional years with minimal financial cost to Stafford County. The financial award comes with a mandate that Stafford County will assist neighboring localities with this resource if the need arises as long as we are not in need of the unit. We have always assisted our neighboring public safety officials during emergency situations in the past when we have been in a position to do so.

This grant is an 80/20 percent split, which means the federal government is contributing 80 percent of the total project cost and the locality will fund the additional 20 percent. The awarded amount of \$165,000 with Stafford County contributing \$33,000 to this amount makes the total project cost \$198,000. Our 20 percent contribution will include staff's hourly salaries as well as some small equipment procurement. The County Sheriff and County Fire Chief have agreed to support the 20 percent contribution match on the technology refresh for this communication platform out of their approved 2009 budget.

PROPOSED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

At an annual meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the 17th day of June, 2008

MEMBERS

VOTE

George H Schwartz, Chairman
M S "Joe" Brito, Vice Chairman
Harry E Crisp II
Mark Dudenhefer
Paul V Milde III
Cord A Sterling
Robert "Bob" Woodson

On motion of , seconded by , which carried by a vote of , the following was adopted

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL
AND STATE GRANT FUNDING FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANT PROGRAM (PSIC)

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) has awarded the Public Safety Team a grant in the amount of \$165,000, and

WHEREAS, these funds would be used in partnership with the Sheriff's Office and the Fire and Rescue Department for the enhancement of updated interoperability communication hardware and software for the Stafford County Unified Command/Communication Unit, and

WHEREAS, the command unit has the capability to be used as a mobile 911 center, unified command post, multi-agency communication unit as well as a multi jurisdictional interoperability radio program, which would enhance public safety communications within the County and the region,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 17th day of June, 2008, that the County Administrator be and he hereby is authorized to budget and appropriate grant funding in the amount of One Hundred Sixty-five Thousand Dollars (\$165,000) from VDEM to the General Fund, Fire and Rescue Department

AJR JRBjr scw