

AMENDED Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting

Meeting Date: 07/23/2024

Homeland Security Grant Program Award to provide partial funding to purchase ballistic helmets for the Cochise County SWAT Team

Submitted By: Curtis Wilkins, County Sheriff

Department: County Sheriff

Presentation: No A/V Presentation **Recommendation:** Approve

Document Signatures: BOS Signature **# of ORIGINALS** 2

Required **Submitted for Signature:**

NAME Curtis Wilkins **TITLE** Lieutenant

of PRESENTER: **of PRESENTER:**

Mandated Function?: Not Mandated **Source of Mandate or Basis for Support?:**

You will use this Agenda Item template if your item involves a Grant (whether a new or renewal grant). You also must attach the Grant Approval Form to the item before Finance will approve it. Select the SPECIAL LINKS on your left-hand menu and Click on "Grant Approval Form". Then complete the form, save it and attach it to your item (on the Attachments tab).

Information

Agenda Item Text:

Approve Homeland Security Grant Program Award Reallocation, Grant 220400-02 between the Department of Homeland Security and the Cochise County Sheriff's Office, to purchase ballistic helmets, in the amount of \$1,541, effective May 1, 2024, through April 30, 2025.

Background:

This project, SWAT Regionalization and Undercover Officer Protection, provides tactical resources and personnel for high-risk situations that go beyond the abilities of a normal police response, and provides protection for undercover officers conducting investigations into drug and human smuggling related to the Mexican border. The Cochise County Sheriff's Office currently sustains a SWAT team allocated for twenty (20) tactical personnel, five (5) Medics from Fry Fire Department, and five (5) crisis negotiators. This year we have two (2) signed agreements, one with the Benson Police Department and one with the Bisbee Police Department to allow their personnel to become members of the SWAT team as operators and crisis negotiators. Additionally, this year (2024) we are working to expand this regionalization concept to the Willcox Police Department and the Sierra Vista Police Department in an effort to establish a tier 1 SWAT team mirrored after National Tactical Officers Association standards (NTOA). Furthermore, investigations into drug and human smuggling have led to a 17 undercover officer (UC) involved investigations requiring a Personnel Rescue Team (PRT). This unforeseen increase in UC investigations, due to increased smuggling and drug activity, has strained our operator's ability to cover operations demonstrating another reason to increase the SWAT team's size to cover the needs of our investigative units. The purchase of additional SWAT equipment and specialized training is a necessity to increase the capabilities of the team. The regionalized team is and will continue to be available to all adjoining counties to Cochise County, seven (7) municipalities in Cochise County, the Department of Public Safety, US Customs and Border Patrol, the Drug Enforcement Agency and all federal partners.

Department's Next Steps (if approved):

If approved, the Sheriff's Department will move forward with the purchase of 2 ballistic helmets.

Impact of NOT Approving/Alternatives:

We will not purchase the 2 ballistic helmets and continue our search for other funding sources.

To BOS Staff: Document Disposition/Follow-Up:

Please complete/sign two original documents (220400-02 Cochise CO SO SRA) and we will send them to the Arizona Department of Homeland Security.

Budget Information

Information about available funds

Budgeted:

Funds Available:

Amount Available:

Unbudgeted:

Funds NOT Available:

Amendment:

Account Code(s) for Available Funds

1:

Fund Transfers

Attachments

Award letter

Budget Details

Project Administrator

Grant Agreement
