



Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Grants and Finance Committee

Minutes

March 16, 2023, 11:00 A.M.

Regional Emergency Operations Center
5195 Spectrum Boulevard, Reno, Nevada

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

Chair Andy Ancho called the meeting to order at 11:00a.m. A quorum was established:

PRESENT: Becky Josten – SPD; Jason Woodard – SPD; Noah Boyer – WCSO; Elizabeth Kunz – RPD; Roy Anderson – WCSD; Andy Ancho – RFD; Ryan Rizzuto - TMFPD; Nick Klaich – SFD; Kevin Jakubos – SFD; Kelly Echeverria – WCEM; Zebulon Nomura – TMFPD; Andrea Esp – WCHD; Brian Taylor – REMSA; and Ian Dasmann – TMWA

ABSENT: Tracy Moore – RTAA ; Jon McNamara – RFD; Shyanne Schull – WCRAS; Jim Nelligan – NLTFPD;

Also present: Joe Kammann – TMFPD; Wade Carner - Legal; Francisco Ceballos - Secretary/Treasurer.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT –

There was no public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF January 19, 2023, GRANTS & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) – Andy Ancho, Chair

It was moved by Brian Taylor, seconded by Kevin Jakubos to approve the minutes as written.

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 Operations, Planning, Training,

and Equipment (OPTE) and United We Stand (UWS) grant applications submissions from LEPC disciplines. Approved applications will be submitted to SERC. – Francisco Ceballos – LEPC Secretary\Treasurer

Francisco Ceballos began by discussing the OPTE grant applications. He explained that there are two submissions for the grant. The first application came from City of Reno Fire Department. Francisco asked if Paul Patocka would like to present on their application.

Paul Patocka introduced himself. He explained that the application is to replace 10 old radios for the TRIAD team. He explained that the old radios will soon be incompatible with new radio systems. The new radios will enable TRIAD to maintain communication with Washoe County, Quad Counties, and Carson City.

Brian Taylor asked if the radios will be used for regular communication or can be used for decon as well. Paul explained that they can be used throughout the process. They would be replacement radios for the Harris radios and would be used in the same manner. He said the new radios, XL200s, are compatible with newer radios that are already in use in the region or soon will be. He said they only need 10 radios, for communication on a HAZMAT incident. Brian thanked him for the explanation and said he supports the application from Reno Fire Department.

Noah Boyer asked if the radios include the encryption package. Paul said to his knowledge, it does. Kevin Jakubos asked if the 10 radios encompasses the entire TRIAD or just the Reno side. Paul said it includes the entire TRIAD. Francisco asked on behalf of Ryan Rizzuto what the distribution would be of the radios. Paul said it would be 5 for Sparks and 5 for Truckee Meadows. He explained that it is more cost-effective to buy new radios already formatted with necessary updates than to update the existing radios. Kelly Echeverria asked if the current radios they have were grant-purchased. Paul said he believes to, but is not sure. Kelly explained that they are also working to replace their radios but have to do so with Homeland Security funds because the original ones were purchased this way. She said this may be an issue for them as well depending on where the radios came from. Nick Klaich clarified that the old radios were purchased with grant money, but he will need to research which grant funded them.

Francisco explained that the second application came from Washoe County Community Services Department to be used for drones. He asked if anyone was present to speak to the application. Kelly Echeverria said she could speak to the application. She explained that a gap was found within Washoe County's Program Damages Assessment where drones are concerned. The Community Services department said they only have access to an employee's drone. A drone could be used in a hazardous materials incident, a large-scale incident, to provide partner support. Kelly explained that City of Reno used their drone to take some pictures of Steamboat Ditch. This drone would assist in situational awareness and livestream footage in the EOC. The one quoted has infrared and is an army model. It has cyber security and is not produced in China.

Noah Boyer asked if training is included in the purchase. Kelly said that it is. She added that the quote is for \$7,000 which they recognize is over the amount available if the other grant is also funded. She explained that Washoe County would cover the overage costs needed for purchase.

Francisco explained that next they would move on to the UWS grant. He said the first application was from Sparks Police Department. Becky Josten explained that the grant is to purchase 10 new Colt rifles. The department recently replaced 25 of these guns but this grant would help replace more of these rifles which are 10 to 15 years old and nearing the end of their service lives. The new ones are lighter weight, they have more safety features, and they have longer-lasting accessories. These would be used for training for the SWAT team and other situations.

Elizabeth Kunz asked if these rifles are to replace grant-purchased rifles. Becky explained that she believes these rifles were purchased with department funds, not grant funds. Elizabeth suggested emphasizing that the rifles are better and different to show that the funds are being used to improve equipment instead of simply replacing. Kelly Echeverria said it would be helpful if Becky could make that clarification on their application and the same for the Reno radio request. Noah Boyer added that in terms of the rifles, one important difference to highlight are the pounds of difference between the old and new rifles. The fatigue from holding a heavier rifle is much higher. Brian Taylor clarified that the application does mention this difference.

Noah Boyer asked Paul Patocka if the radios they currently have are multi-band or just 800. Paul said they are just 800. Noah said that is a huge difference to be highlighted about the upgraded equipment.

Francisco said the next application was from Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. Francisco asked if anyone from TMFPD was present and would like to discuss the application. Joe Kammann explained that the application is part of the expansion at TM and to replace outdated equipment. There are several new ambulances as well as staff to man them who need protective gear. This would replace and upgrade safety equipment at TM. Francisco said the total amount of the grant is \$37,411.60. Noah Boyer said there are 12 sets of plates requested and 25 carriers. He asked if they would need one more plate. Joe Kammann said they were able to purchase some new plates already but the remainder is seeking funding through UWS. Brian Taylor asked if some of the protective gear was previously purchased with UWS funds. Joe said he believes they received an additional set of plates which explains the disparity between plate carriers and plates.

Andy Ancho asked if the carriers are more important at this point. Joe said the plates and carriers are highest priority, helmets a lower priority. Kelly Echeverria asked to see the price breakdowns.

Zeb Nomura explained that the pricing for the helmets does not include any discounts the distributor might have. They have not received a quote yet. Kelly asked if the helmets were removed, to allow both applicants to receive money, if the remaining \$2,000 dollars could be covered by the department. Joe Kammann said something like that could work. Brian Taylor said he supports doing something like that. Andy Ancho said he also agrees that it is a good idea. Brian Taylor asked if there is a way to approve the UWS to give more time for OPTE. Andy said to assist in this, the wording needs to be changed to show upgrade instead of replacement.

Francisco clarified that for OPTE, RFD gets \$23,775.81, Washoe County Community Services Department gets \$6,224.19 and \$4,000 for operation. SPD would get \$17,762.50 from UWS and TM would receive \$20,237.50.

It was moved by Brian Taylor, seconded by Roy Anderson, to approve funding from OPTE of \$23,775.81 for City of Reno Fire Department for upgraded radios and to fund Washoe County Community Services for \$6,224.19 for drones, the remainder to be covered by Washoe County with the aforementioned language adjustments made to each application.

There was no public comment.

The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Kelly Echeverria, seconded by Noah Boyer, to approve funding from UWS of \$17,762.50 for Sparks Police Department for upgraded rifles and to fund Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for \$20,237.50 for plates and carriers with the aforementioned language adjustments made to each application.

There was no public comment.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

Francisco Ceballos explained that for the FY 23 OPTE grant, \$26,872.66 remains. He said he is waiting on RFD to order the Mobile Air Supply in order to submit for reimbursement. He said they are also going to go through the operations budget and restock.

For FY 23 UWS, REMSA and TMFPD have submitted to the County and been reimbursed. They are just waiting on the State to reimburse LEPC.

FY 23 HMEP was approved on February 21st for \$69,121. RTAA will submit reimbursements once that is complete. That does not expire until September.

For FY 20 HSGP Program Assistant, there is \$15,663 remaining. Eight radios have been purchased with these funds.

For FY 21 COOP there are \$51,503.03 remaining.

FY 21 Program Assistant has \$15,000 remaining. These have been approved to be used to purchase a Situational Awareness and Communication software with Perimeter.

FY 22 COOP will start being used as soon as FY 21 is complete.

FY 22 Animal Trailers have been purchased and it will be another four months before those are available.

- 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.

Andy Ancho added that the Nevada Preparedness Summit is on the 20th. April 5th there is a Bombing Prevention Training Course at RTC. There are also CMER and MERC trainings April 4th – 7th. The RTA tabletop is April 12th and May 12th. May 10th is the Anthrax tabletop. May 24th is the RTA Tri-Annual full-scale exercise.

Noah Boyer added that the Bombing Prevention Training is used by all four squads in the State. It is put on by the Office of Bombing Prevention through the Department of Homeland Security.

- 7. PUBLIC COMMENT –**

Brian Taylor asked about the motion made earlier pertaining to grant funding, if the motion was correct as he left out the need for changes to wording related to upgraded equipment. Wade Carner said they do not need to go back.

- 8. Andy Ancho adjourned meeting at 11:43am.**