



**County Fire Department
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ALLEN ISHIDA
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

PHILLIP A. COX
District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four

MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: November 17, 2015

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT PERSON: Steven Murch PHONE: 559-622-7604				

SUBJECT: Authorize the submission of a grant application

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize the submission of a grant application from Firefighters Support Foundation, Inc. grant to purchase emergency fire and personnel protective equipment in the amount of \$10,000.
2. Authorize the Fire Chief, or his designee, to sign and submit the online grant application.

SUMMARY:

The Tulare County Fire Department (TCFD) is proposing to request grant funding from the Firefighters Support Foundation, Inc. (FSF) for the purchase of fire suppression equipment (FSE).

The purpose of this grant request is to assist the department in its effort to provide first with responders with effective purchase of suppression equipment. This FSE is for use by all full time and extra help firefighting personnel throughout Tulare County. Additionally this purchase of the FSE will provide equipment that meets current industry standards assisting in the reduction of maintenance and repair costs.

Obtaining this award will allow the Fire Department to purchase emergency fire and personal protective equipment resulting in improved service to disadvantaged communities and improved firefighter safety. Additionally, the purchase of first responder equipment will reduce maintenance and repair costs, providing a cost

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savings to the Fire Department.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The award request is \$10,000 and no match is required. The grant award and related expenditures are included in the Fire Department's Fiscal Year 2015/16 requested budget.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Safety and Security initiative, which calls for planning and coordinating emergency preparedness and response. Approval of this request will support efforts to provide necessary emergency equipment for support personnel and first responders throughout Tulare County.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Joe M. Garcia
Fire Chief

Cc: Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
County Administrative Office (2)

Attachment(s) Online Grant Application

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZE THE)
SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION) Resolution No. _____
)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA, INTERIM
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

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Firefighters Support Foundation (FSF) Equipment Donation Request Form

RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO: FSF, 40 School Street, Suite 8, Greenfield, MA 01301

We prefer to receive a hard copy, **single sided only**, rather than an electronic version.

What will happen after you mail this application in:

- You can assume we received it
- We will keep it on file for a year
- We make grants on a rolling basis (funds allowing) and will email you if you are selected
- Please note that we receive many more grant applications than we can fund

Section I Requesting Agency

1. Agency Name: Tulare County Fire Department
2. Agency Head: Joe M Garcia, Fire Chief
3. Agency Mailing Address: 907 W Visalia Road
Farmersville Ca 93223

Section II Contact Information

1. Name: Steven Murch
2. E-mail address: sdmurch@co.tulare.ca.us
3. Phone with area code: 559.622.7604
4. Best hours to call: Time zone: Pacific Time – 9am-5pm

Section III Agency Profile

1. Number of total firefighters or EMTs in agency:
 - 47 EMT's
 - 317 Extra-Help Firefighters
 - 49 Lieutenants
 - 24 Captains
 - 9 Battalion Chiefs
2. Number of full-time firefighters or EMTs: 82
3. Number of part-time or volunteer firefighters or EMTs: 317
4. Size of population served by agency (number): 158,950
5. Approximate square miles of primary responsibility: 4,824
6. Annual revenue for the political jurisdiction that you serve: \$15,074,820

Section IV Equipment Requested

1. List the requested items here or on a separate sheet.
 - Item 1/Qty/price: Twenty (20) Pro-Bars - \$5,000
 - Item 2/Qty/price: Twenty (20) New York Hooks - \$5,000
 - Item 3/Qty/price:
2. On a separate page:
 - Describe the agency's need for these items.
 - Explain how the requested equipment will increase officer safety.
 - Discuss why the items are not available through federal or state grants.
3. We have a preference for funding items that can be shared on a regional basis. On a separate sheet, please explain how you plan to do that.

If Your Application is Fulfilled

Should FSF fulfill your grant application, here's what will happen:

- 1) We will let you know you have been selected.
- 2) We will ask for a quote from a vendor for the funded item(s).
- 3) After we receive the quote we will email you an agreement to sign in which you agree to:
 - Use the funds for your stated purpose within 90 days
 - Provide us with copies of the receipts for the purchased items
 - Send us a digital picture of the items, preferably with FFs/EMTs using them
 - Give us permission to post the grant information and picture on our website.
- 4) After we receive the signed agreement, we will mail you the check.

Tulare County Fire Department

RURAL COMMUNITY FIRE EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Tulare County Fire Department is submitting this grant application in an effort to purchase first responder emergency equipment. The Department operates on an annual budget of \$16,892,240, which is only 1.6% of the County's total budget. Sixty-nine percent of this amount is dedicated to staff salaries and benefits leaving 31% for day-to-day operations. When you take into consideration the mandatory inter-department charges from other departments, we only have 12% allocated for Department needs. Consequently, very little is left to update existing and/or purchase new equipment for the 27 active fire stations. For an economically disadvantaged County such as Tulare, with demands on its limited financial resources far greater than its revenues, this grant presents a fortuitous opportunity to leverage grant funding to replace its aging equipment inventory for the Tulare County service areas.

A diminishing operational budget means that funding is not available for this need and the department must rely on grant funding to upgrade and replace its first responder equipment. In the current fiscal year 88% of the department's budget is dedicated to mandatory costs with the remaining 12% to be spent on firefighter training and equipment along with other operational costs; \$65k per station. Reducing funding for personnel in order to purchase and replace equipment would severely impact the department's response capabilities.

Since the Tulare County Fire Department is a combination staffed department, a bulk of our work load is dependent on "Paid-On-Call" firefighters who are issued their own set of equipment. Much of what we use in regards to equipment has extensive wear damage and consists of sub-standard integrity which can critically impact firefighter safety. Due to the lack of available purchasing funds for emergency equipment, a critical firefighter safety issue of deteriorating equipment has come to light. It would be extremely beneficial to the fire fighters of Tulare County to upgrade and replace the requested emergency equipment.

Firefighters face an ever-increasing number of hazards in their work environment and it is the department's responsibility to provide them with resources to protect themselves from those hazards. Obtaining this grant will allow the department to help our firefighters not only protect themselves but also protect those who trust their safety in the firefighters. If awarded, this grant will have a direct impact on the daily operations of the Terra Bella Fire Station for the following reasons:

- Improve the safety and the welfare of the firefighters and the citizens which they serve
- Firefighters will be safer with proper emergency equipment, which will be current by industry standards in design and safety
- Reduce maintenance and repair costs of the outdated equipment

The Department is consistently applying for grants to provide funding to our equipment replacement program. With the increased competition successful awards are limited and often not existent. We have applied for FEMA, USDA, CDBG, and other local grants and we will continue to be proactive in our grant applications.

If awarded, the purchase of this equipment will also provide regional support. Through mutual aid, the department regularly supports municipal fire departments in the cities of Visalia, Tulare, Porterville, Exeter, Tule Indian Tribe, National Forest lands, and the city of Dinuba. Additionally, the County also provided mutual aid throughout the State for those incidents requested through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Division.

Attachments:

- Tulare County Demographics

Tulare County Demographics

Local Demographics	Tulare	%	CA
Total Population	362,142		
Child Population (0-18)	121,948		
Population in Poverty	86,572	23.9%	14.2%
Children in Poverty (0-18)	40,271	33%	19.5%
Food Insecure Adults with and Without Hunger	50,000	41.4%	28.3%
Food Insecure Adults with Hunger	13,000	10.6%	8.3%

Population By Races		
Race	Population	% of Total
Total Population	442,179	100
Hispanic or Latino	268,065	60
White	265,618	60
Some Other Race	128,263	29
Two or More Races	18,424	4
Asian	15,176	3
Black or African American	7,196	1
American Indian	6,993	1
Three or more races	993	Below 1%
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	509	Below 1%
Native Hawaiian	114	Below 1%

Tulare County Food Assistance Programs	# Eligible	# Eligible Not Served	% Eligible Not Served	County Rank (1= least utilized)
Food Stamp Program*	86,572	39,569	45.7%	52
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)*	28,615	5,292	18.5%	40
National School Lunch Program*	93,126	51,344	55.1%	52
School Breakfast Program*	93,126	74,757	80.3%	33
Summer Food Service Program*	93,126	79,242	85.1%	33
Child Care Food Program	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available

Household Income and Average Income in Tulare County

Median Income Under 25	\$30,609
Median Income 25-44	\$39,388
Median Income 45-64	\$53,629
Median Income Over 65	\$43,308

Tulare County Education Statistics

No High School	54,334
Some High School	31,204
Some College	57,556
Associate Degree	20,147
Bachelors Degree	22,942
Graduate Degree	10,911